

**Oyster River Cooperative School Board**

**Regular Meeting**

**Draft**

**March 16, 2011      Oyster River High School Room C124      7:00 p.m.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:      Henry Brackett, Jocelyn O'Quinn, Ann Wright, Jim Kach, Krista Butts, Megan Turnbull, and Ann Lane  
Student Representative: Cody Jacobsen

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:      Superintendent Colter, Meredith Nadeau, Danielle Bolduc, Kris Gallo, Jay Richard, Laura Rogers, Dennis Harrington, and Sue Caswell

There were twenty-five visitors present

**Henry Brackett moved to enter into public session at 7:10 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Kach. Motion approved 7 – 0.**

**II CALL TO ORDER BY SUPERINTENDENT**

**A Election of Chair and Vice Chair:** Superintendent Colter called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. He congratulated Jim Kach, Megan Turnbull, and Ann Lane for their election to the Board and he is looking forward to working with them.

Superintendent Colter acknowledged the unfolding tragedy in Japan. His thoughts, prayers, and best wishes are with them.

He mentioned that the Board Code of Ethics was distributed for Board members. Please sign and return it at your earliest convenience.

Board Chair Nominations:

Jim Kach nominated Henry Brackett as Chair.

Ann Wright suggested that the Board have two co-chairs instead of a Chair and a Vice-Chair. The Policy would need to be changed accordingly if the Board moved in this direction. Superintendent Colter feels that the Board could make this change and reword the policy accordingly.

**Megan Turnbull moved to move forward with the current model of a Board Chair and Vice-Chair for the upcoming year, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Kach. Motion approved 4 – 3 with Krista Butts, Jocelyn O’Quinn and Ann Wright voting against the motion.**

**The nomination for Henry Brackett as Board Chair passed 7 – 0.**

Nominations for Vice Chair:

Ann Lane nominated Ann Wright for Vice-Chair.

Jim Kach nominated Krista Butts for Vice-Chair.

**The nomination for Ann Wright passed 6 – 1 with Jim Kach voting against.**

### **III PRELIMINARY ACTION ITEMS**

**A District Announcements:** Laura Rogers announced that the Girls Hockey Team are the State runner-ups and that the Boys Hockey Team made it to the semi-finals. The Boys and Girls Basketball Teams both made it to the semi-finals. She also announced that Poetry Out Loud will be held tomorrow evening.

Jay Richard announced that Destination Imagination won the Regional Championships for their division. He also reported that the gym safety work has been completed and the bleacher work will be done during April vacation.

Kris Gallo announced that the third grade invention convention is coming up. The book fair will also be held at Mast Way next week. The phone system should be complete by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Board Announcements:** Jocelyn O’Quinn announced that the high school drama department will be performing their one act play at Portsmouth High School on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Henry Brackett thanked all candidates who ran and the voters who turned out. There are two spots from the town of Lee open on the Advisory Budget Committee. Interested candidates in filling those positions should send a letter of interested to the SAU.

**B. Correspondence:** The Board received correspondence regarding AP classes, high school course changes, a request that the Board publish the ballot before voting, a request for DVD copies of the Board meetings from the Durham library, and comments on the warrant articles.

**C. Commendations:** Ann Wright commended the teachers and committee members who are serving on the Principal Search Committee. It is a time consuming process. Krista Butts commended all the athletes who participated in the winter sports season.

**D. Approval of March 2<sup>nd</sup> Minutes:** Page 4 change “Byer” to “Biron”.  
**Jocelyn O’Quinn moved to approve the minutes of March 2<sup>nd</sup> with the above revision, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ann Lane. Motion approved 4-0-3 with Krista Butts, Megan Turnbull and Ann Lane abstaining.**

**E. Approval of Manifests:**

VM#35=\$96,603.71 – 3/3/31

VM#36=\$628,564.14 – 3/10/11

VM#37=\$127.66 – 3/14/11

VM#18=\$734,175.16 – 3/4/11

**IV REPORTS**

**A Superintendent’s Reports:** Superintendent Colter spoke regarding feedback on the NHSBA legislations. There are some amendments under consideration that are quite alarming and he urged people to look into these.

**B. Business Administrator’s Report:** Sue Caswell reported that the revenue shortfall and retirement outcome won’t be known until June. She also reported that the interviews for the Food Service Director will be next week.

**C. Student Senate Report:** Student Representative Cody Jacobsen reported that they have received a \$500 grant to construct a new bridge. The Guidance Department had a meeting with juniors on the college process.

He also reported that next month they are entering into a contest with Portsmouth and St. Thomas on reducing the effects on the environment. He will keep the Board updated on the results.

**D. Communication Audit Recommendations:** Ann Wright reviewed the Communication Audit recommendations with the Board. She also presented to the Board the proposed Board Public Correspondence Process. The Board agreed by consensus to approve the Communications Audit Recommendations.

**E. Curriculum Instruction:** This item has been moved to the 3/30 meeting.

**F. Adjustment to the 2011-12 High School Course Schedule:** Laura Rogers gave a presentation on the scheduling of courses at the high school.

Steps in Scheduling:

The Program of Studies is reviewed, revised and published. We consciously offer a large menu of courses and run those that are the most popular in order to better engage the student population.

Students attend the Electives Fair.

Guidance conducts information sessions.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents' Night.

Parents of current student are notified that course registration has begun.

Course requests are made.

Students meet with guidance counselors to discuss selections.

Tallies are calculated and sections are set.

Simple tallies go to the Department Heads.

Teachers in the department meet and work through how many sections of each course would yield optimum numbers.

If there are uncertainties, the Department Head and Principal meet to make a final decision.

Classes Not Running in 2012 (# of Students who Requested the Class):

Advanced Publications (2)

Journalism (6)

Advanced World Cultures (9)

AP US History (4)

Advanced Chemistry (1)

AP French (10)

AP Spanish (9)

Accelerated French I

Accelerated Spanish I

Intro to Art History (5)

Fashion Design (5)

Art of Communication (7)

Laura Rogers noted that there will be a summer AP test preparation course offered for AP French and AP Spanish.

Alternatives and Ameliorations:

UNH Courses

VLACs Courses

Summer options for test preparation

New Class – Advanced Biology

The Board had a question and answer period with Tom Haussman, World Language Department Head, on the AP Spanish and French Classes that will no longer be offered.

**V SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEES:**

**VI PUBLIC COMMENTS:** John Bromley, a teacher and a parent from Durham, spoke and commended Laura Rogers for the job she performs at the high school. He added that her leadership inspires him.

Roger Spiedel of Durham spoke to the Board regarding the teacher to student ratio as well as cost per student at the high school as compared to the top public schools in the country. He feels that this needs to be examined further. He also welcomed the new members to the School Board.

Barb Millican who is a teacher in the District spoke and feels that her children got a great education at Oyster River High School.

Marty Gooze of Durham noted that her three children have gotten a great education through the District. She feels that the communication from the Board is very important and would like to see the School Board News mailed to people's homes.

Paul Gasowski of Lee presented the Sustainability Student Committee Thoughts on Organization with Kay Morgan and Emma Rouse. They reviewed their recommended scope of work, committee process, communications and

recommended committee composition with the Board. After a brief discussion, Henry Brackett will act as the Board liaison with this Committee and will sit down with them and together will decide on how to move forward.

**BOARD COMMENTS:** Jocelyn O'Quinn reviewed that the results of the Strategic Oversight Committee Survey responders felt that the District's greatest asset is the teachers and the staff. The survey reflects that overall parents in the District are happy with the education their children are receiving.

Ann Wright noted that all the Warrant Articles passed and that demonstrates that the community supports education in this District.

Jim Kach noted that communication needs to be improved with the Board and the Administration.

Megan Turnbull would like to see the Student Representative's role be more substantial.

Ann Lane attended the Brown Bag Lunch today and would like to thank the Superintendent, Meredith Nadeau and Danielle Bolduc for a great experience.

Dennis Harrington mentioned that the District's Administrators have connected the schools together. The leadership and the Principals have a deep commitment to the District. He also noted that the Moharimet Pancake Breakfast will be on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **VII DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A Review Board Goals 2010-11:**

Advance the District Mission Statement: Working Together to Engage Every Learner

Review the Strategic Plan

Engender a Culture of Trust, Respect and Support

Streamline Board Operations

Maintain a course of fiscal discipline

Enhance Communication

The Board had a review of each Board Goal. At the next meeting, the School Board members will bring Board Goal suggestions as well as what they would do to advance current goals.

**B. Future Committee Assignments:** The Board Chair and Vice Chair will work on the committee assignments for nominations at the next meeting.

### **VIII ACTION ITEMS**

**A Accept New Scholarship – Ann Eble Murdoch Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund:** Krista Butts moved to authorize the creation of and deposit of funds in to the trust to be named the Ann Eble Murdoch Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ann Lane. Motion approved unanimously.

**B. Set The Date for School Board Orientation:** The Board set March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at the SAU building for their School Board Orientation.

**C. Consideration of Fund Balance Expenditures:** The Board had a continued discussion from the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting regarding a generator for servers. The Board gave a thumbs up consensus to put this item out to bid.

**D. Election of District Clerk, District Treasurer, School District Physician and DCAT Representative:**

Clerk: William Leslie

Treasurer: Lisa Harling

Physician: Katy Lilly, MD

DCAT Representative: Kathleen Young

**Jim Kach moved to approve the above appointments, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Krista Butts. Motion approved 7 – 0.**

**IX PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

### **X CLOSING ACTIONS**

**A Agenda Planning:** How our faculty/staff respond to disengaged learners, special education programs, committee assignments

**B. Future Meeting Dates:** 3/30, 4/6, 4/27 and 5/11

**Upon roll call vote, Henry Brackett moved to enter into nonpublic session at 10:40 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jocelyn O'Quinn. Motion approved 7-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Grasso Dobson  
Recording Secretary