

Oyster River Cooperative School Board

Regular Meeting

Draft

March 30, 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, Dennis Harrington, and Sue Caswell

There were twenty-seven visitors present

This meeting was not taped.

Ann Lane moved to enter into public session at 7:05 p.m., 2nd by Krista Butts. Motion approved unanimously.

III PUBLIC COMMENTS: Julie Reese of Lee is a member of the Principal Search Committee. She gave an update to the Board on the Committee search. She detailed the list of attributes they were looking for in a principal and how the position was advertised. They received 44 applicants and invited 9 people (8 accepted) for first round interviews. There were three second round candidates. There are two finalists and the site visits will be conducted tomorrow. There will be a community reception on April 7th at the library for the candidates.

Kathy Pearce, a Librarian at the High School, spoke to the Board. She is a member of the Principal Search Committee. This Committee has been very comprehensive and thorough through this process.

Dennis Harrington spoke about the Poetry and Fiction collaboration that was held today at the high school. Marjke Yatsevitch had both Mast Way and Moharimet students today at the high school to attend storytelling workshops. The multi-purpose room and library had been divided into mini-stations with one high school student to 10 – 15 elementary students. Each station offered a different activity that challenged the children to use their creative energy and

imagination. Len Cabral emceed a show of high school storytelling performances. Dennis commended Kathy Pearce, the Librarian at the High School and Marjke Yatsevitch for all their planning and organization that went into this event to provide an excellent experience for the younger children of the District.

Henry Brackett, Megan Turnbull, and Ann Lane all attended today's workshop. It was a very well done and successful event. Student Representative Cody Jacobsen was involved in the project and did a great job.

Kay Morgan, a Durham resident, noted that Artists in Residency Programs are very important in the District. The current proposed state budget has defunded the National Endowment for the Arts. She urged people to contact their state representatives and their support of this worthwhile cause.

IV REPORTS

A Curriculum/Instruction: How our Faculty and Staff respond to disengaged learners: Danielle Bolduc went through the Opportunities for Student Engagement Presentation to the Board She noted that this presentation is available online. They are identifying disengaged students in a variety of ways: child study teams, nurses, and teachers. Trevor Garmon, an English Teacher at the High School, feels that small class sizes help them to know students rather quickly and to see when they are not performing to the best of their abilities. Matt Pappas, a Social Studies Teacher at the High School, described to the Board the Power of One. This is a way to engage students. The main purpose is to raise awareness that there is life beyond Oyster River.

B. Special Education Programs: Meredith Nadeau presented to the Board on the Special Education Programs and Services in the District. In NH the average percentage of identified student is 15.4%. The District has 16.6% or 340 special education students.

Staffing:

There are 27.5 special education teachers with an average caseload of 12.36 students.

There are 90.5 special education paraprofessionals with an average caseload of 3.76 students.

There are Speech Language Therapists and assistants, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Behavioral Consultants, Psychologists, Interpreters, Teachers of Deaf and Hearing Disabilities, and Vision Specialists.

Funding:

In the overall budget of 2008-09 special education was 17.8% of the total operating budget.

V DISCUSSION ITEMS

A Sustainability Committee Update – Warrant Article #7: Paul Gasowski of Lee presented the warrant article on the Sustainability Study Committee to the Board. They had a discussion on the committee composition. Jocelyn O’Quinn will be serving as the ex-officio member from the School Board. There will be one member from the SAU, ORMS or HS administration, Moharimet or Mast Way Administration, Moharimet teacher, Mast Way teacher, Middle School teacher, High School teacher, Middle School student, High School Student, Durham, Madbury, and Lee community members, and two members from UNH. The Board agreed by consensus to approve the committee composition.

Clarify Charge: Jim Kach moved to clarify their charge. After a Board discussion, **Jim Kach withdrew his motion.**

Authorization to Begin Study: Henry Brackett moved to authorize the beginning of this study, 2nd by Ann Wright. Motion approved 7 – 0.

B. Review Policy/Procedure GCC and GCC-R: Megan Turnbull moved to remove this item from the agenda, 2nd by Ann Lane. Motion passed 7 – 0.

Megan does not see any reason to change the process for the high school principal search. She feels that the Policy Committee should review these policies and bring their findings and recommendations to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

VI ACTION ITEMS

A Committee Assignments:

Academic Affairs:	Ann Wright, Ann Lane, Megan Turnbull
Operations:	Jim Kach, Jocelyn O’Quinn, Henry Brackett
Policy:	Krista Butts, Jim Kach, Megan Turnbull

Communications: Ann Lane, Megan Turnbull, Jocelyn O’Quinn
Negotiations: Krista Butts, Ann Wright, Henry Brackett
Superintendent’s Evaluation:
Strategic Planning: Krista Butts, Ann Wright, Jocelyn O’Quinn
Staff Development: Megan Turnbull
District Technology: Jim Kach
Long Range Planning: Ann Lane
NHSBA Delegate: Krista Butts
Regional Vocational: Jim Kach
Strafford Learning: Henry Brackett
Warrant Article 7: Jocelyn O’Quinn
Wellness: Ann Lane

Henry Brackett moved to accept the proposed committee assignments, 2nd by Jim Kach. Motion approved 7 – 0.

The Board had a brief dialogue about the possibility of the School Board member sitting on the Advisory Budget Committee. This will be a continuing discussion moving forward.

Jocelyn O’Quinn cannot attend tomorrow’s site visit for the Principal Search. Ann Lane has offered to attend in her place.

Henry Brackett moved to accept Jocelyn’s resignation on the Principal Search Committee, 2nd by Ann Wright. Superintendent Colter does not think that a committee resignation is necessary as Jocelyn has participated in the other steps of the Search Committee process.

Henry Brackett withdrew his motion and Ann Wright withdrew her 2nd of the motion.

B. Possible Expenditures of Fund Balance: This will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

C. Afterschool Participation of Students Enrolled in Charter Schools: The Board agreed by consensus to authorize the Policy Committee to research this and report back to the Board.

Henry Brackett moved to enter into nonpublic session upon roll call vote, 2nd by Jim Kach. Motion approved 7 – 0.

Respectfully yours,

Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary