

Oyster River Cooperative School District

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DRAFT

August 17, 2011

Oyster River High School C-124

7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Krista Butts, Ann Wright,
Jim Kach, Megan Turnbull, Jocelyn
O'Quinn, Henry Brackett
Student Representative: Cody
Jacobsen
Not Present: Ann Lane

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Interim Superintendent Leon
Levesque, Sue Caswell, Danielle
Bolduc, Jay Richard, Dennis
Harrington, Kris Gallo, and
Todd Allen

There were 52 member of the public
present.

I Call to Order: Henry Brackett called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Ann Wright suggested adding the subject of the public petition to discussion item section of this agenda. The Board agreed to add this topic to the Discussion Items by consensus.

Henry Brackett announced that the items under closed session will be discussed in public session.

II PRELIMINARY ACTION ITEMS:

A Superintendent Nominations:

Name	Activity	Years	Stipend	Longevity	Total
<u>Advisors:</u>					
Lauren Gaylord	Yearbook	2	\$1853	\$0	\$1853
Ruth Gehling	Math Counts	11	\$1853	\$375	\$2228
David Ervin	Jazz Band	14	\$2224	\$375	\$2599

Julia Widelski	Musical/Drama	7	\$464	\$113	\$576
Cindy Douglass	Musical/Drama	2	\$464	\$0	\$464
Jennifer Snow	MS News	1	\$927	\$0	\$927
Michelle Martin	Science Club	1	\$556	\$0	\$556
Sunny Sadana	Outing Club	1	\$556	\$0	\$556

Coaches:

William Sullivan	Athletic Director	2	\$5596	\$0	\$5596
Nate Grove	B Grade 8 Soccer	0	\$1853	\$0	\$1853
Janice O'Brien	G Grade 8 Soccer	12	\$1853	\$375	\$2228
Jason Duff	B Grade 7 Soccer	5	\$1853	\$150	\$2003
Lauren Tebbetts	G Grade 7 Soccer	4	\$1853	\$75	\$1928
Chris Hall	MS Cross Country	2	\$2224	\$0	\$2224
Stephanie Ward	MS Cross Country	7	\$2224	\$225	\$2449
Kim Wesson	MS Cross Country	0	\$2224	\$0	\$2224
Emma Hewson	Volleyball 7/8	2	\$1853	\$0	\$1853
Todd Cain	Coed Vball 5/6	11	\$556	\$375	\$931
Colette Malerba	Coed Vball 5/6	11	\$556	\$375	\$931
Cline Berkley	Field Hockey 7/8	0	\$1853	\$0	\$1853

Krista Butts moved to approve the above nominations, 2nd by Jim Kach. Motion approved 6 – 0.

ORHS Physical Education Teacher: Ann Wright moved to elect Don Maynard to the Physical Education teaching position at the high school, 2nd by Krista Butts. Don Maynard will no longer be the Athletic Director at the high school and this vacancy will be posted.

The motion passed 5-1 with Jim Kach opposing.

Director of Curriculum: Interim Superintendent Levesque nominated that the Board hire Phyllis Schlichter as the Director of Curriculum.

Ann Wright moved to hire Phyllis Schlichter as the Director of Curriculum in the District, 2nd by Krista Butts. Motion passed 6 – 0. She will begin her position on August 26th.

B. District Announcements: Jay Richard of the Middle School announced that 8/25 from 9 – 12 will be new student orientation. We welcome the new students. Next Thursday at 5:00 – 6:30 will be the 5th grade picnic. This is for

incoming fifth graders to the middle school. The school wide open house will be Tuesday September 20th. The supply lists are on the website under the team section. Please email him with any questions.

Todd Allen announced that the high school Freshman Orientation will be August 30th 9:30 – 12:30. The Durham Police will provide a pizza lunch. Fall sports started on Monday. There are approximately 190 students in fall sports.

We mailed out the user names and login information for the school parent portal. The student portal is not working that well and they are in the process of fixing it. It will be up and running before school begins.

He commended the custodial staff for all their work at the high school This school is in use all the time and they have done a great job and will be ready to go when school starts.

Danielle Bolduc announced that the bus routes are up on the website.

Board Announcements: Krista Butts announced that there will be a training at the NHSBA on October 6th from 8:45 to 3:15 on collective bargaining. If other Board members are interested in attending they can register online.

Megan Turnbull announced that there are play dates for Moharimet and Mast Way Kindergarten students and they are posted online. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and children.

Correspondence: Megan Turnbull reviewed the Board correspondence on: letters regarding Jim Kach's tweets, correspondence urging School Board members not to resign, lawsuit from a Durham resident, understanding the right to know law, and four inquiries on status of right to know requests.

D. Commendations: Megan Turnbull commended Danielle Bolduc and Sonya Gonzales for upgrading their email. She really appreciates it.

Ann Wright commended the search committee for working on the Director of Instruction vacancy.

Krista Butts commended all of the teachers and staff who put time into the enrichment programs this summer. The kids had a great time! She also noticed that the custodians were doing an amazing amount of work and she appreciates all that they are doing.

Henry Brackett thanked the teachers and the administration for getting ready for the upcoming year. Things are coming together nicely.

D Approval of Minutes: Krista Butts moved to approve the July 6th minutes, 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Motion approved 6 – 0.

July 20th Minutes: Additions: Krista Butts moved to announce Interim Superintendent Leveseque’s contract for \$125,00 for one year, 2nd by Jim Kach. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 6 – 0.

Krista Butts moved to approve the resignation of Imion Powell Sr., 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 6 – 0.

Krista Butts moved to approve Brian Ryan as the golf coach at the High School, 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 6 - 0.

Megan Turnbull moved to approve the July 20th minutes with the above additions, 2nd by Ann Wright. Motion approved 5-1-0 with Henry Brackett abstaining.

August 5th: Krista Butts moved to approve the Board Workshop of August 5th, 2nd by Jim Kach. Motion approved 6 – 0.

E. Approval of Manifests:

PR#2=\$258,641.67 – 7/22/11

PR#2A=\$1061.83 – 7/22/11

PR#2B=\$660.90 – 7/25/11

PR#3=\$199,221.93 = 8/5/11

VM#3=\$19,471.00 – 7/29/11

VM#4=\$1,228.50 – 8/8/11

VM#5=\$1,589,489.60 – 8/5/11

VM#6=\$594.00 – 8/15/11

VM#7=\$130,807.72 – 8/17/11

IV REPORTS

A Superintendent's Reports: Dennis Harrington is here to discuss the Moharimet and Mast Way World Language Program that will begin in February 2012.

Interim Superintendent Levesque announced that RFP for facilities analysis for the facilities is posted online. This analysis will be looking at the lifespan of the major improvements for facilities as well as program needs. This will enable us to do short and long range planning for our facilities.

On August 8th vandalism at the high school that was on the building located on the high school grounds. The estimated cost of repairs is \$794.

The Town of Durham has invited the School Board to participate in a right-to-know law training session that will be conducted by the local government center on Monday October 31st at 7:00 p.m. Town officials from Lee and Madbury have also been invited. It will be held at the Durham Town Hall.

The upcoming Public Forums will be open to the public and Board members are invited if their schedules permit. Questions that will be addressed are: What do you value most in the public school system. What would you like to see improve; and what advice recommendations to you have for the Superintendent. This will allow the Board to have a good sense of where the community is at for budget season and also what they would like in a permanent Superintendent.

He is trying to establish an evening for proposals from search firms on September 19th at 5:30. Interim Superintendent Levesque is inviting three search firms and they will come and present their proposals to the Board. This will be an open process. It will give an idea of what services are available. This will give a good perspective on costs. He would like the Board to make their selection within two weeks after this meeting to allow them to begin their work.

Foreign Language Update: This spring Dennis Harrington was charged with forming a committee to interview for a 0.4 foreign language position to be shared between Mast Way and Moharimet. After the position was advertised

and candidates were reviewed, three candidates surfaced. Two of them withdrew and they declined to hire the third. Along with Barb Milliken, Barbara Nadori, Matt Van Ledtje and Berneen Bratt they designed the framework for the groundwork for advertising, hiring and providing support for the new position. There will be an established organization for the program by January 2012. A staff member will be hired who is qualified and suited to working with young children using developmentally appropriate methods. Communication among central administration, school staffs, parents and community will happen. Finally, support will be in place for the new position as indicated by defining supervision, articulating curriculum to the new staff member, and allocating funds where needed. They will hire a person to begin in February 2012. This is an exciting possibility for the children and the District. They still need to determine which language(s) will be taught. The Board thanked Dennis and the committee for all their due diligence on this matter.

B. Business Administrator's Report: None

C. Curriculum Report: None

D. Student Senate: Cody Jacobsen, Student Representative, noted that fall sports started today.

V SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEES

A Committee Assignment Draft:

2011-12 Revised Committee Assignments

Operations Committee: Henry Brackett, Jocelyn O'Quinn, Jim Kach

Communications Committee: Jocelyn O'Quinn, Ann Lane

Negotiations Committee: Henry Brackett, Ann Wright, Krista Butts

District Technology Committee: Jim Kach

NHSBA Delegate: Krista Butts

Regional Vocational Advisory: Jim Kach

Strafford Learning: Henry Brackett

Strategic Planning: Ann Wright, Jocelyn O'Quinn, Krista Butts

Sustainability: Jocelyn O'Quinn

Wellness: Ann Lane

Advisory Budget Committee: Henry Brackett

There will no longer be an Academic Affairs Committee, Policy Committee, Superintendent Evaluations Committee.

The Superintendent's Evaluation will be done by the entire Board.

There will no longer be a representative on the Long Range Planning Committee.

The Operations Committee will continue the audit function.

Ann Wright moved to approve the above 2011-12 revised committee assignments, 2nd by Jocelyn O'Quinn. Motion approved 6 – 0.

Henry Brackett read a statement regarding the petition that is circulating in the District regarding Jim Kach. "Tonight we expect to hear from concerned citizens who will be presenting the Board with a petition asking for three actions. The first action is a request that Mr. Kach resign from the Oyster River School Board. That is his decision but it is my understanding that he has no intention of resigning. The petitions also requests that the School Board reprimand Mr. Kach for his Twitter comments. New Hampshire law does not provide for a School Board to reprimand or censure one of its members. The last request is that each Board member state his/her view of whether Mr. Kach's actions comply with the School District's policies and standards of the National School Board Association. Board members are free to state their views at any time but unless they believe this is a matter for the full Board to address now is not the time to do so. Furthermore, the Board's policy is that the Board does not answer questions or respond to comments during the public comment portion of its meetings."

Henry Brackett is setting public comments for thirty minutes this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Roger Spiedel of Durham distributed to the Board a list and description of the 2011 schools of excellence that was printed in *The Union Leader*. One of the items described the cost per pupil of each of the schools of excellence. They are all less cost per student than Oyster River. Our educational product is unreasonably priced and he urged the Board to get their budget under control.

Ruth Sample of Lee is one of the people who signed the petition. She thanked the Board for adding this to the agenda this evening.

Bonnie McDermott of Durham supports the School Board and it is unfortunate that there are frivolous lawsuits and petitions that detract from their work of taking care of our children.

David Taylor of Durham was surprised to hear the statement of the petition before Board discussion. He feels that the Board can censure or reprimand Jim Kach if they choose to do so. He would like them to have the discussion and is pleased to see the petition on the agenda.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Megan Turnbull would like to suggest to the Board that they examine their code of ethics policy and their use of verbiage of social media. At the last Policy Committee meeting this was brought up and she drafted some verbiage that she would like examine and discussed at their next meeting to hopefully be brought to the Board as a first read.

VII DISCUSSION ITEMS

A Solar Service Contract Proposal: Clay Mitchell of Revolution Energy presented their proposal to develop a solar air thermal system and 20 KW photovoltaic array at the high school.

Project Outline:

Reviewed high school property for suitable load and site conditions for solar
Working closely with administration studied several options for technical and economic pre-feasibility

Next step is final costing and final feasibility study.

Request for letter of intent to develop PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) and financing package.

What is a Power Purchase Agreement?

Agreement to purchase energy produced from the array for a fixed period of time.

There are minimal upfront costs.

No operation or maintenance expenses during the contract.

Educational outreach included.

What is a Power Purchase Agreement to Oyster River?

Stability – Agreement to purchase electricity for a fixed period at a fixed price.

Reliability - No operation or maintenance expenses.

Expandability – Can include other energy projects.

Affordability – Minimal upfront cost.

Community – Educational and outreach for citizens and schools.

He described solar hot air process technology to the Board.

Solar Hot Air Energy Purchase Agreement:

10 year escalated rate

\$0 down payment

MmBTU at near current rate escalated

The two solar walls are projected to produce 490 mmBTU annually.

System will also produce 268mmBTU in non-billed destratification savings.

This will prevent 19 tons of CO2 emissions annually.

It is projected to save \$50,000 during contract and over \$400,000 over the 25 year lifetime of the system.

Photovoltaic Power Purchase Agreement:

10 year escalated rate PPA.

\$0 down payment.

This is an escalated annual rate.

The 20kW array is projected to produce 25,000 kWh annually.

This will prevent 19 tons of CO2 emissions annually.

This is projected to save \$76,000 over the lifetime of the panels.

Interim Superintendent Levesque feels that any opportunity to reduce the carbon footprint is something to be taken seriously.

Jim Kach moved that the Sustainability Committee review this proposal and report back to the Board 2nd by Krista Butts. Jim Kach moved to amend his motion to include “the Board actions on this be tabled indefinitely.” There was no second to this amendment. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Paul Gasowski of the Sustainability Committee noted that they can ask some good questions on this. He noted that there are some members of the facility

committee that also serve on the Sustainability Committee. Paul added that they are a citizens group and not experts in this field.

There was a discussion on whether this proposal would need to have three bids.

The School Board had a question and answer period with Clay Mitchell and thanked him for his presentation.

Public Petition Discussion: Ann Wright mentioned that there is little the Board can do in the state of New Hampshire. Henry Brackett noted that they have all seen the petition. Jocelyn supports Megan Turnbull's idea that the Policy Committee drafts a social media usage policy. Jocelyn added that they need to focus on the future. Ann Wright would like the Policy to include more than a social media policy such as a code of conduct policy.

Jim Kach mentioned that his tweets were not illegal and he has already apologized for them. He is not resigning from the Board.

Krista Butts moved to have the Policy look at BCA and look at the wording on social media, 2nd by Jocelyn O'Quinn. Motion approved 6 – 0.

VIII ACTION ITEMS

A Policy First Read: Krista Butts moved to approve Policies IMGGA, IJOA, IJOA-R, IMDA-R to recommend for adoption, 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Krista Butts moved to approve IGA, JJA and JJF to recommend for adoption, 2nd by Ann Wright. Revision: Policy JJA reinsert "Activities". Motion passed 5 – 1 – 0 with Jim Kach abstaining.

Krista Butts moved to approve IGD to recommend for adoption, 2nd by Jocelyn O'Quinn. Revision: delete "new courses". Motion approved 6 – 0.

Krista Butts moved to approved Policy BEDB to recommend for adoption, 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Ann Wright moved to table this motion. There was no second to her motion. Revisions: Page 1: change "two days" to

“72 hours”, insert “remove or change”, insert “deletions or changes”, insert “If possible”. Page 2: Insert Pledge of Allegiance, Superintendent Nominations and Changes to Staff. Motion passed 4-1-1 with Jim Kach abstaining and Ann Wright opposed to the motion.

B. Approve Advisory Budget Committee Composition and Charge: Henry Brackett moved to approve the proposed Advisory Budget Committee Composition and Charge, 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Krista Butts moved to amend the motion to include: Purpose Revision: To form an advisory committee that becomes educated about the ORCSD budget and provides budget recommendations to the School Board. These recommendations will meet the needs of the students, taxpayers and is fiscally responsible 2nd by Ann Wright. Motion approved 6 – 0.

C. Approve the Board Goals for 2011-12: Ann Wright moved to approve the Board Goals for 2011-12, 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Motion approved 6 – 0.

D. Approve FY2013 Budget Goal: Proposed Budget Goal: To develop a school budget, within school board policies that addresses the educational needs of students while giving due consideration to the recommendations of the Advisory Budget Committee and the fiscal restraints faced by the Oyster River Cooperative School District community. Ann Wright moved to accept the proposed budget goal. There was no second.

Krista Butts moved to approve the FY2013 Budget Goal: To develop a school budget within School Board policies that addresses the educational needs of students while giving due consideration of the fiscal restraints faced by the Oyster River Cooperative School District Community, 2nd by Jim Kach. Motion approved 5 – 1 with Ann Wright opposing.

Krista Butts moved to replace “restraints” with “constraints”, 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Motion approved 5 – 1 with Ann Wright opposing.

E. Authorize the Superintendent to Explore Tuition Options with the Rollinsford School District. Henry Brackett moved to authorize the Superintendent to explore tuition options with the Rollinsford School District, 2nd by Krista Butts. Motion approved 6 – 0.

F. Authorize ORHS Overnight Field Trip – August 22 and 23: Krista Butts moved to approve the Yearbook Clubs’ trip to Enfield CT on August 22 and 23rd, 2nd by Megan Turnbull. Motion approved 6 – 0.

IX PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Collins of Lee wants to know whose idea it was to have the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each Board meeting. He would like to know each members position on this. He also referenced the editorial in *Foster’s* urging the Board to “come clean”.

David Taylor is disappointed with the Board regarding the Jim Kach tweet discussion. He would like someone to make a motion and a second disapproving the tweets. He feels that they haven’t dealt with it and taken a stand.

Dean Rubine of Lee would like to know what happens to the Revolution Energy plan/equipment should they go out of business.

He does not think that Jim Kach’s apology was sincere.

Ruth Sample of Lee was disgusted with the tweet discussion. She is glad to hear about the proposed Board code of conduct. She feels that the Board has power to censure a Board member and wishes that it had been taken more seriously.

Nancy Kach of Madbury is highly offended that the petition which was brought to the Board had a signature was signed “get a life”.

Krista Butts, of Lee, speaking as a citizen, noted that while she does not agree with Jim Kach, she would like to see the Board move forward.

X CLOSING ACTIONS

A Agenda Planning: Long Range Planning Committee, Sustainability Committee Reports, the use of the Board’s \$15K funds, skateboarding on school property

B Future Meeting Dates: 9/7, 9/21 Regular Meetings. September 19th
Superintendent Search Firms Proposal

**Jim Kach moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m., 2nd by Megan
Turnbull. Motion passed 6 – 0.**

Respectfully yours,

Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary