

December 5, 2013

The Oneida Special School District Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, December 5, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the Oneida High School Library. The following members were present: Mrs. Dorothy Watson, Dr. Danny Cross, Mr. Tommy Bell and Dr. Nancy Williamson. Also in attendance were Mr. Gavin Webb, student representative, Director Ann Sexton and Lori Marcum.

Chairperson Williamson called the meeting to order. Madison Baird led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance. Dr. Cross opened with prayer.

Chairperson Williamson recognized Mr. Wayne King from the Scott County Chamber of Commerce. STAND and the Scott County Chamber of Commerce are once again this year recognizing an outstanding senior student nominated by the OHS staff who exemplifies character and citizenship. The December student of the month is Zach Watson.

Chairperson Williamson then recognized the district's Maxwell Sexton Oratorical Contest Winners. The winners from Oneida High were in 1st place Brittany May, 2nd place Kayla King and 3rd place Noah Hiatt. Oneida Middle School winners were 1st place Madison Baird, 2nd place Taylor Hicks and 3rd place Hannah Martin. Ms. Madison Baird gave her speech titled, "What a Good Child Home Life Means to Me" to those attending the meeting.

Chairperson Williamson presented the board agenda for consideration. Dr. Cross made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Watson, to approve the board agenda as presented. Vote was taken and motion carried.

Chairperson Williamson then presented the consent agenda for board approval. Mrs. Watson made a motion, with a second by Dr. Cross, to approve the consent agenda as follows. Vote was taken and motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Board minutes from the November 7, 2013 meeting.

Under business before the board, Chairperson Williamson presented a fundraiser requests for board consideration. Mr. Bell made a motion, with a second by Dr. Cross, to approve the following fundraiser request as presented. Vote was taken and motion carried.

Fundraiser Requests:

- a. OMS Baseball (D. Marcum): Selling of signs

Chairperson Williamson then presented the 2014-2015 district calendar for consideration. The district calendar mirrors the Scott County Schools calendar. It was noted that the draft calendar was sent to all staff with only three responses which were all positive. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Watson made a motion, with a second by Mr. Bell, to approve the 2014-2015 district calendar. Vote was taken and motion carried.

Chairperson Williamson then presented board policy 6.314 Corporal Punishment for board consideration on first reading. Dr. Williamson noted that wording should be added to the policy to state that "*Corporal punishment shall **not** be used as a disciplinary measure in any of the three schools in the Oneida Special School District.*" Dr. Cross made a motion, with a second by Mr. Bell, to approve the policy on first reading as amended. Vote was taken and motion carried.

In the final order of business, Chairperson Williamson presented a school bus resolution for board consideration. The resolution would give systems more freedom on keeping buses which pass all safety inspections but may be nearing or exceed years of service. Mrs. Watson made a motion, with a second by Dr. Cross, to approve the resolution as follows. Vote was taken and motion carried.

SCHOOL BUS RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to student safety at every sector of the school system including its transportation service; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation, school buses are the safest mode of transportation for getting children to and from school; and

WHEREAS, the district's employees work diligently to maintain school buses and provide timely service consistent with the manufacturers' recommendations and the Department of Safety's guidelines; and

WHEREAS, state law requires school districts to retire conventional school buses from their fleets upon seventeen years of service or 200,000 miles of recorded travel regardless of how mechanically sound they may be or the results of mandatory inspections performed by the Department of Safety; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is in the minority of states with these limits as most states do not have hard caps for years of service or miles of recorded travel; and

WHEREAS, there are hundreds of buses retired every year by school districts that are safe and capable of transporting students; and

WHEREAS, retiring buses forces districts to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on new buses which would be much better spent on student services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ONEIDA SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS: The ONEIDA Board of Education urges the General Assembly to eliminate or at the very least increase the caps on school buses to enable districts to run them as long as they are safe and passing inspections conducted by the Department of Safety.

With no other business before the board, Chairperson Williamson then recognized Ms. Ann Sexton, for the Superintendent's Report.

1. Director Sexton announced the Star Fish Awards winners. The award honors those who make a difference in the lives of others in the school system. Star Fish winners for December are Sharon Ellis, Tasha Walker, and Erin Laxton.

2. Director Sexton showed a presentation including pictures and videos of classes she has visited over the last few weeks. Highlighted classes included, Jennifer Harris, Lora Wilson, Vanessa Burchfield and Lisa Delk.
3. Mr. Allen Hill, from Upland Design, gave a presentation on security upgrades that could be added to the schools including vestibules and public access. The vestibules would slow down an intruder from accessing the office or lobby area. He presented different options that had been implemented in other schools and asked for direction on what type of entrances the schools were looking for. With that direction, a more exact price and plan could be delivered to the board.
4. Mrs. Denise May gave an update to the board on the ELGIN program and how the district is doing relative to ELGIN as whole and other individual schools in the program.
5. Mrs. Melinda McCartt, School Health Coordinator, gave a report. Dental sealants are now underway at the schools. ELGIN requires 90% response rate from the dental screening forms sent home to parents so, please return these forms as soon as possible. Mrs. McCartt attended the Rural Health Conference November 19-22 which focused on the new health laws, after school physical activities, as well as mental and physical wellness. Health Rocks was presented at OMS for grades 6-8. Healthy Kids and Teens Foundation met to develop an after school nutrition and fitness program. Partners for Health will be doing biometric screening for staff. Biggest Loser will begin next semester. Obesity rates for our students have went down which is a great compliment to the programs established at the schools.

Chairperson Williamson then recognized Mr. Rick Harper, Oneida Elementary School Principal for a report.

1. Mr. Harper reiterated how well the ELGIN program is going at OES and the gains the students are making in the program.
2. Kevin Terry, OES/OMS Art teacher, is decorating the computer lab windows at OES with student work to cut down on distractions during testing.
3. Mrs. McCartt has been a great asset assisting with attendance.
4. Mr. Harper stated that he is very excited about the communication with the staff and the community in parents meetings, conferences and IEPs.

Chairperson Williamson then recognized Mr. Kevin Byrd, Oneida Middle and High School Principal for a report.

1. The RTI program is in its second year at OMS and they are currently looking at new tools to aide in this.
2. OMS is currently piloting a math program in 8th grade and after school which, if beneficial, will assist in RTI math next year as well as in the high school.
3. The high school has an RTI reading program for freshmen based on TCAP reading scores.
4. EOC testing will begin next week.
5. Final exams will be December 16 and 17 with make-ups on December 18.
6. Evaluations are completed for this term.
7. Christmas break will begin December 20.
8. Thanks to Stacy Love, Mary Ross, Andrew Bernard and all of the cast and crew for a great OZ production. Also, thanks to Debbie Mullins and Lisa Barbara for volunteering.
9. OMS basketball is hosting Lake City tonight and OHS will be hosting Oakdale tomorrow.
10. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are underway with staff.
11. The auditorium is continual being used by the school and the community.

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With no further business to come before the board, Chairperson Williamson called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bell made a motion, with a second by Dr. Cross, to adjourn. Vote was taken and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Dr. Nancy Williamson
Chairman of the Board

Ann Sexton
Director of Schools