

**Oxford Academy & Central School Board of Education  
BOCES Budget and Regular Meeting  
April 16, 2025**

Mrs. Gates called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Call to Order**

Mrs. Gates led those present in the flag salute.

**Flag Salute**

Additions: 10.14 Approve the Cooperative Labor Relations Specialist Agreement, 11.9  
Letter of Intent to Retire  
Deletions: None

**Additions  
Deletions**

Present were Trustees: Julie Gates, Nathaniel Emerson, Matthew Leach, John Godfrey, and  
Brian Sheridan.

**Present**

Superintendent

Nicholas A. Colosi

School Business Manager

Erin Gramstad

District Clerk

Michele Rice

High School Principal

Jonathan Cooley

Middle School Principal

Greg Lehr

Primary School Principal

Michelle Hardler

**Visitors**

Clayton Kappauf and students

**Visitors**

**Approve Minutes**

Mr. Godfrey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Emerson to approve the meeting minutes of  
March 31, 2025. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**Minutes**

**Reports/Presentations**

Acknowledge Valedictorian and Salutatorian - Mr. Cooley introduced Evelyn Emerson as  
the senior class valedictorian and Gabriella Hill as the senior class salutatorian. Both Evelyn  
and Gabriella were present and congratulated on their accomplishments.

**Valedictorian  
&  
Salutatorian**

PS STEAM – Mr. Kappauf stated the FUSE program starts in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Most items include  
3D printing (key chains, cookie cutters, etc.) In 4<sup>th</sup> grade students usually advance through  
the program. The PS students shared a presentation on how they made a video game and the  
controller to make it run. The students have been working on the project since October. The  
BOE thanked them for their presentation.

**PS STEAM**

2025-2026 Budget Update – Ms. Gramstad reviewed the proposed budget items, noting the  
state has not yet approved the state budget. Working with the known details the proposed  
\$24,032,771 budget is a 4.8% tax levy increase, which will be presented to the tax payers on  
May 20, 2025.

**2025-2026  
Budget  
Update**

**Leadership Team Updates**

HS Update – Mr. Cooley noted a 93% average attendance at the HS. The safety team  
continues to meet, parent/teacher conferences were held, teams were developed to create  
best practice plans to help students succeed, a Vaping Me Crazy assembly convinced four  
students to turn in their vapes, the musical was fantastic, Odyssey of the Mind took 6<sup>th</sup> place  
and Mock Trial competed and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the regional camp.

**HS Update**

MS Update – Mr. Lehr noted holding the following events, 9<sup>th</sup> grade information night, 8<sup>th</sup>  
grade visit to BOCES CTE programs, 5<sup>th</sup> graders worked with Trout Unlimited, a theater  
presentation will occur tomorrow, a Vaping Me Crazy presentation was also shared with MS  
students. Modified sports have started with good participation numbers, the Blackhawk Café  
held another luncheon teaching life skills, students are reviewing solar power and  
calculations, ELA state exams are complete and attendance has improved from 93% to 97%  
in the last month.

**MS Update**

PS Update – Ms. Hardler noted the same assembly presenter talked with PS students about bullying which aligns with the PS Character Strong program. Only four students in grades 3 & 4 opted out of the state exams. A field trip to the Anderson Center to see *Charlotte's Web* for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders is upcoming as is Tri-cities Opera's presentation of *The Ugly Duckling*. The lower grades have planned fun stations while the other students are away.

**PS Update**

**Public Comment**

None

**Superintendent's Report**

Capital Project Update – Mr. Colosi stated the project is in full swing with bid openings for Phase I occurring earlier in the day. The BOE will need to schedule a special meeting to award bids so work can begin as soon as possible. Mr. Colosi noted again that the PS/HS campus will be off limits most of the summer. The district will work with construction crews to try to establish a path to the pool. All programs will be at the MS. He noted Phase II questions are being worked through with NYSED. Bids for that project will be sent out around September/October.

**Capital  
Project  
Update**

ASU & GSV Conference Update – Mr. Colosi reported on his San Diego technology conference. There was a tour of a charter school robot that enhances instruction through AI. He also experienced a virtual chemistry lesson that was highly engaging by DreamWorks. Areas of focus were how to leverage technology and find efficiency for staff and literacy. Literacy nationwide is horrible. The district needs to create a solid foundation for success. Through Strategic Planning and looking at how to utilize the grant funds will begin the process. Mr. Colosi noted AI is changing education.

**ASU & GSV  
Conference  
Update**

Lockdown Drill – Mr. Colosi noted the district has notified parents/guardians that there will be a lockdown drill on April 17.

**Lockdown  
Drill**

At 6:57 p.m., Mr. Sheridan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to enter into executive session for the purpose of other matters made confidential by state or federal law. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried. Mr. Lehr was invited to attend.

**Executive  
Session**

At 6:57 p.m., Mr. Cooley and Mrs. Hardler were excused.

**Excused**

Mr. Godfrey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sheridan to appoint Mr. Colosi Clerk Pro Tem. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**Clerk Pro  
Tem**

Mr. Godfrey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Leach to approve the CSE minutes. Yes-5, No-0, Motioned Carried.

**CSE Minutes**

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Lehr was excused.

**Excused**

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Godfrey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Leach to come out of executive session.

**Come out of  
Executive  
Session**

**Communications**

None

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Leach to approve resolutions G1-G4. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**04-25(1) G1**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby adopt the proposed budget for the Oxford Academy and Central School District in the amount of \$24,032,771 for the 2025-2026 school year.

**2025-2026  
Budget**

**04-25(1) G2**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the Oxford Academy and Central School District Property Tax Report Card.

**District  
Property Tax  
Report Card**

**04-25(1) G3**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the Parochial School Transportation requests for the following students for the 2025-2026 school year:

**Parochial  
School  
Transportati  
on Requests**

**Holy Family**

**Ava Bechtel**

**Gia Wilcox**

**Paysen Wildenstein**

**Wyatt Wildenstein**

**04-25(1) G4**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the 2025-2026 Board of Education Meeting Schedule as presented.

**2025-2026  
BOE  
Meeting  
Schedule**

**Business Office**

Warrants for March 2025 were shared for information only.

An Appropriation Status Report and Revenue Status Report for March 2025 were also shared.

**Warrants  
Appropriation  
Status &  
Revenue  
Status  
Reports**

Mr. Leach made a motion, seconded by Mr. Emerson to approve resolutions G5-G15. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**04-25(1) G5**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge receipt of the Internal Claims Auditor Report prepared by DCMO BOCES for March 2025.

**Internal  
Claims  
Auditor  
Report**

**04-25(1) G6**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the Treasurers Report for March 2025 as given.

**Treasurers  
Report**

**04-25(1) G7**

**BE IT RESOLVED:**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Oxford Academy & Central School District (the "School District") has determined it is in the best interest of the School District to accept a proposal from Toth's Sports dated March 28, 2025 (the "Proposal") for the purchase of scoreboard equipment and installation services for a total cost of \$65,975 in connection with the Capital Improvement Project ("Project"); and

**Toth's  
Sports/  
Sourcewell  
Daktronics  
Contract**

**WHEREAS**, the Proposal has been submitted pursuant to Sourcewell Daktronics Contract #030223-DAK pursuant to the piggyback exception to competitive bidding authorized in NYS General Municipal Law §103(16); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the

District's Administration and Architect and hereby accepts the Proposal shared with the Board;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the District's Administration and Architect, and hereby accepts the Proposal, and authorizes the President of the Board, the Superintendent of Schools, or their designee to enter into a contract with Toth's Sports on behalf of the Board of Education in a form approved by legal counsel, and take all actions necessary or convenient to proceed under the contract in connection with the Proposal and the Project.
2. Upon Board of Education approval, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

**04-25(1) G8**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the proposed Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Administrative Budget for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$3,197,409.

**DCMO  
BOCES  
2025-2026  
Admin  
Budget**

**04-25(1) G9**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Oxford Academy & Central School District Board of Education does hereby cast one vote for **Jeanne Shields**, one vote for **John Klockowski**, and one vote for **David Cruikshank** to fill the vacant seats for the position of board member of the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Board of Education.

**DCMO  
BOCES BOE  
Members**

**04-25(1) G10**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the appointment of Michele Rice as Chairperson for the Annual Meeting and Election to be held on May 20, 2025 from 12:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Oxford Academy High School Media Center, Oxford, New York.

**Annual  
Meeting  
Chairperson**

**04-25(1) G11**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge/accept the Oxford Employee Support Personnel Association Contract Agreement negotiated changes for the 2025-2029 Agreement as presented.

**OESPA  
2025-2029  
Agreement**

**04-25(1) G12**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge/approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Oxford Teachers' Association (Retirement Incentive Enhancement #1) as presented.

**OTA MOA  
Retirement  
Incentive  
Enhancement  
#1**

**04-25(1) G13 COOPERATIVE PURCHASING 2025-2026**

**WHEREAS**, The Cooperative Purchasing Service is a plan of a number of public school districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Area in New York, to bid jointly equipment, supplies and contract items, and

**WHEREAS**, The Oxford Academy & Central School is desirous of participating with other districts in the Delaware-Chenango- Madison-Otsego BOCES in the joint bidding of the items mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and

**WHEREAS**, The Oxford Academy & Central School wishes to appoint the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids and award bids on their behalf; therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Board of Education of Oxford Academy & Central School hereby appoints the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES to represent it in all

**Cooperative  
Purchasing**

matters relating above, and designates the Evening Sun Newspaper as the legal publication for all Cooperative Purchasing bid notifications, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board of Education of the Oxford Academy & Central School hereby authorizes the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned commodities, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board of Education of the Oxford Academy & Central School agrees to (1) assume it's equitable share of the cost of the Cooperative Bidding; (2) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts; (3) that it will award contracts based on information provided from the bid; (4) abide by the Award of the BOCES Board; (5) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

**04-25(1) G14 FOOD & CAFETERIA SUPPLIES**

**2025-2026**

**Food &  
Cafeteria  
Supplies**

**WHEREAS**, It is a plan of a number of public school districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Area in New York, to bid jointly Cafeteria supplies including, but not limited to, food and paper items, and

**WHEREAS**, The Oxford Academy & Central School is desirous of participating with other districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Area in the joint bidding of the items mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and

**WHEREAS**, The Oxford Academy & Central School wishes to appoint a committee made up of participating schools to assume the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids and providing the information to their Board of Education who will make the awards; therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Board of Education of the Oxford Academy & Central School hereby appoints the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES to represent it in all matters relating above, and designates the Evening Sun Newspaper as the legal publication for all Cooperative Purchasing bid notifications and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board of Education of the Oxford Academy & Central School authorizes the above committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned items, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board of Education of the Oxford Academy & Central School agrees to (1) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that it will award contracts based on information provided from the bid; (3) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder (s).

**04-25(1) G15**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the Cooperative Labor Relations Specialist (School Alliance) Agreement beginning July 1, 2025, as presented.

**Cooperative  
Labor  
Relations  
Specialist  
Agreement**

**Personnel**

Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to approve resolutions C1-C9 and UC1. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**04-25(1) C1**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the appointment of the following Substitute Teachers for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Substitute  
Teacher**

**Nathan Lehr**        Uncertified, *pending fingerprint clearance*

**04-25(1) C2**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve **Kyle Johnson** as an Oxford Academy Volunteer to help with modified baseball.

**Modified  
Baseball  
Volunteer  
K. Johnson**

**04-25(1) C3**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve **Jennifer Ryan** as an Oxford Academy Volunteer to help with track and field.

**Track &  
Field  
Volunteer  
J. Ryan**

**04-25(1) C4**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby accept **Holly Cirello's** letter of intent to retire from her position of Elementary Teacher, effective after the close of day June 30, 2025.

**Retirement  
Elementary  
Teacher  
H. Cirello**

**04-25(1) C5**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby accept **Margaret Cox's** letter of intent to retire from her position of School Media Specialist (Library), effective after the close of day June 30, 2025.

**Retirement  
School Media  
Specialist  
M. Cox**

**04-25(1) C6**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the 2025 Summer Theatre and Media Expressionism Camp Coordinator, at \$45.00 per hour.

**Melissa Gross**

**Summer  
Theatre &  
Media Camp  
Coordinator  
M. Gross**

**04-25(1) C7**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the following appointments for the 2025 Summer Bridge/Catalyst Program, per salary noted.

Teachers \$40 per hour

**Edward Holmquist**

**Summer  
Bridge/Catal  
yst Program  
Teacher  
E. Holmquist**

**04-25(1) C8**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the appointment of the following Fall Coach for the 2025-2026 school year, pending coaching certification requirements, stipend as per Oxford Teachers' Association Agreement.

**2025-2026  
Fall Coach**

**SPORT**

Varsity Football

**COACH**

**Jason Lyon**

**04-25(1) C9**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby accept **Bonnie Emerson's** letter of intent to retire from her position of Elementary Teacher, effective after the close of day June 30, 2025.

**Retirement  
Elementary  
Teacher  
B. Emerson**

**4-25(1) UC1**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the appointment of the following Substitute Support Staff for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Substitute  
Support Staff**

**Tiffany Warner**

-

**Food Service Helper – PT Sub**

**Planning**

Mrs. Gates noted the following reminders.

**Reminders**

- April 18, 2025 – No School/Offices Closed (Good Friday)
- April 21-25, 2025 – No School, Spring Recess
- May 1, 2025 – Special BOE Meeting, 7:15 am, MS Conference Room and Zoom
- May 6, 2025 – Strategic Planning, 4-8 pm, MS Conference Room
- May 13, 2025 – Annual Budget Meeting and BOE Meeting, MS Conference Room, 6 pm

### **Public Comment**

None

### **BOE Member Comments/Concerns**

Mr. Emerson thanked retiring teachers for their many years of service.  
 Mr. Roach agreed, adding a lot of good things are happening throughout the district.  
 Mr. Godfrey attended the Pathway program mock interviews and congratulated Mr. Lehr on his Section IV induction.  
 Mrs. Gates complimented the Blackhawk Café lunch.  
 Mr. Colosi enjoyed Annie, noting the cast prepared well.  
 Mrs. Gramstad is looking forward to the budget passing.  
 Mr. Sheridan congratulated the retirees, thanking them for their service.

**BOE  
Member  
Comments/  
Concerns**

At 7:28 p.m., Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sheridan to enter into executive session for the purpose of the medical, financial, credit and/or employment history of a particular person or corporation, and/or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**Executive  
Session**

Mr. Sheridan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Leach to appoint Mr. Colosi Clerk Pro Tem. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**Clerk Pro  
Tem**

At 9:38 p.m., Mr. Leach made a motion, seconded by Mr. Emerson to come out of executive session.

**Come out of  
Executive  
Session**

There being no further action to come before this Board, Mr. Godfrey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sheridan to adjourn. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

**Meeting  
Adjourned**

Michele D. Rice  
District Clerk