

**Oxford Academy & Central School Board of Education
Regular Meeting
February 3, 2021**

Mr. O'Brien called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. **Call to Order**

Mr. O'Brien led those present in the flag salute. **Flag Salute**

Additions: 10.2 Approve District/School Participation in Higher-risk Sport(s), 16.1
Executive Session - Personnel **Additions/
Deletions**
Deletions: None

Present were Trustees: Timothy O'Brien, Julie Gates, John Godfrey, Nathaniel Emerson and
Betsy Locke. **Present**

Superintendent	John Hillis
Business Administrator	Joseph Gugino
District Clerk	Michele Rice
High School Principal	Dawn Hover (<i>via remote</i>)
Middle School Principal	Gregory Lehr (<i>via remote</i>)
Primary School Principal	Brian Collier (<i>via remote</i>)

Visitors

Timothy Davis, Jennifer Davis, Sarah Locke (*via remote*), Sandra Acavedo (*via remote*) **Visitors**

Approve Minutes

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Emerson to approve the meeting minutes of
January 4, 2021. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried. **Meeting
Minutes**

Reports/Presentations

Spanish Teachers – Mrs. Palmer and Ms. Acevedo reported on the importance of world
language and its proven benefits. They proposed working with primary school students and
implementing a NYS Seal of Biliteracy Program. Mrs. Palmer and Ms. Acevedo advocated
to fill the Spanish department vacancy for the 2021-2022 school year. **Spanish
Teachers**

Leadership Team Updates

Ms. Hover commented on the virtual National Honor Society induction and the Fred Akshar
award presented to Natalie Barrows. The 2021 valedictorian and salutatorian will be
announced soon. All students/parents will receive the course catalog electronically. New
offerings will include business and science courses. Ms. Hover reported a long-term certified
substitute will be hired to fill the Spanish vacancy for the remainder of the school year. **HS Update**

Mr. Lehr reported the LINKS team met and will begin working on goals that have not yet
been addressed. Mr. Lehr and Mr. Holmquist have conducted home visits and will continue
to do so to improve school attendance. Fifth grade students are being introduced to
instruments. The MS has been conducting afternoon activities with students and will start
offering intramural basketball after school. **MS Update**

Mr. Collier reported Martin Luther King and Valentine's Day activities have been occurring
in the PS. RTI awards were presented and second quarter report cards will be sent home. A
UPK information video will be released soon and applications will be mailed. A Morning
Program video will be posted this week. Phase III has begun with Wednesday's being
virtual learning for all PS students. **PS Update**

Public Comment

None

Superintendent's Report

Fiscal Outlook – Mr. Hillis reported the executive budget was released last week. Mr. Gugino stated although not finalized, the district budget appears to be financially better than last year. The district continues to look for savings and will have more accurate numbers by the end of February.

**Fiscal
Outlook**

Digital Fabrication Laboratory – Mr. Hillis reported 32 people attended the January 20 meeting, all had positive feedback. The February 17 meeting will focus on the specifics of the lab and include additional contacts. Mr. Hillis noted there seems to be positive buy in from organizations around us. The importance of manning the makerspace was discussed.

**Digital
Fabrication
Laboratory**

Sports Update – Mr. Hillis reported the Chenango County Health Department recently approved participation in high-risk sports with strict requirements. Mr. Davis spoke about the requirements and the obstacles because of various leagues. After surveying parents and students he reported 70% were in favor of offering sports. Currently the district is only looking at offering JV and Varsity, not modified. If approved the basketball/wrestling season will begin February 8 and run through March 7. March 8 will begin the fall season and after April 23 will start the spring season. Chenango County requires testing prior to competitions if the county COVID positivity rate is over 4%. Testing is another hurdle because the testing kits are not free and could cost districts up to \$15,000. Parents and students are required to sign a SARS-CoV-2 informed consent form outlining the risks. Mr. Davis is working on a required sport-specific preparedness plan and will provide updates as they become available. Mr. Davis noted the district is not classifying athletes (moving modified level to JV or Varsity) for indoor track because no other school in our league is offering the sport, therefore there's no competition.

**Sports
Update**

Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gates to approve resolution G1.5: Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

2-21(1) G1.5

BE IT RESOLVED: Effective February 1, 2021, and until otherwise indicated, student-athletes are permitted to participate in K-12 sponsored higher-risk school sports in Chenango County. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve participation in each specific higher-risk sport, effective February 8, 2021, as noted below excluding the modified level.

**Approve
Participation
of Higher-
risk
Sports**

- Boys and Girls Basketball
- Wrestling

At 7:05 p.m., Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke 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 7:05 p.m., Ms. Hover, Mr. Collier and Mr. Gugino were excused.

Excused

Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke to appoint Mr. Hillis Clerk Pro Tem. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**Clerk Pro
Tem**

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

CSE Minutes

At 7:22 p.m., Mr. Lehr was excused.

Excused

At 7:22 p.m., Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to come out of executive session.

**Come out of
Executive
Session**

Communications

None

Board Committee Reports

Finance – Met November 2 at 5:30 pm
Policy – Will be scheduled via Zoom
Buildings & Grounds – Met December 7 at 4:30 pm
Transportation – Met January 4 at 5:30 pm
Personnel – Met February 3 at 5:30 pm

**BOE
Committees**

Old Business

None

New Business

Mr. Godfrey made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke to approve resolution G1. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

2-21(1) G1

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the Occupational Therapy Contract with United Developmental Therapeutics effective September 1, 2021 through August 30, 2022.

**Occupational
Therapy
Contract
2021-2022**

Business Office

Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke to approve resolutions G2-G7. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

2-21(1) G2

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the Treasurer’s Report for November 2020 as given.

**Treasurers
Report**

2-21(1) G3

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the General Ledger Report for Extracurricular Account for the following month:

**Extracurricular
Account**

November 2020 \$52,580.23

2-21(1) G4

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the General Ledger Report for Extracurricular Account for the following month:

**Extracurricular
Account**

December 2020 \$52,227.32

2-21(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 December 2020.

**Internal
Claims
Auditor
Report**

2-21(1) G6

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the DCMO BOCES billings (contract invoices) for services rendered for October 2020 AS7, November 2020 AS7, December 2020 AS7 and January 2021 AS7, NY44 Opinion Letter Legal Services, September Special COVID Printing, PPE N95 Masks, 10/13/20 PPE Bulk Order, 11/24/20 PPE Bulk Order and Summer School totaling \$1,403,427.78.

**BOCES
Invoices**

2-21(1) G7

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and Board of Education Recommended Policy #8 Disposal of District Property, that this Board does hereby approve the disposal of the following surplus equipment: 2015 Desktop Computers (as attached) in such a way as to maximize the net proceeds of sale via public auction and/or eBay.

**Surplus
Desktop
Computers**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: All proceeds from the sale(s) will be deposited in the General Fund.

Personnel

Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke to approve resolutions UC1-UC4. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

2-21(1) UC1

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge, with regret, **Charmaine Barrows'** letter of retirement from her position of Clerk, with a retirement effective date of March 2, 2021.

**Clerk
Letter of
Retirement
C. Barrows**

2-21(1) UC2

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge, with regret, **Joyce Moore's** letter of retirement from her position of Custodian, with a retirement effective date of July 19, 2021.

**Custodian
Letter of
Retirement
J. Moore**

2-21(1) UC3

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge, with regret, **Karen Green's** letter of retirement from her position of Teacher Aide, with a retirement effective date of February 2, 2021.

**Teacher Aide
Letter of
Retirement
K. Green**

2-21(1) UC4

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge, with regret, **Audrey Clinton's** letter of retirement from her position of Registered Nurse (School), with a retirement effective date of May 1, 2021.

**RN
Letter of
Retirement
A. Clinton**

Planning

Mr. O'Brien noted the following reminders.

- February 12 & 15 – No School, Presidents' Day & Recess
- February 17 – Digital Fabrication Laboratory Design Studio Session II, 9 am via Zoom
- February 22 – Budget Meeting, 6 pm, MS Conference Room
- February 25 – School Board Institute Virtual Training, 6 pm
- February 27 – Virtual Legislative Breakfast Meeting, 10 am

Reminders

Public Comment

None

BOE Member Comments/Concerns

Mr. Godfrey suggested scheduling a tour of the capital project updates. *(This will be scheduled.)* Mr. Godfrey shared reading material on the Boston Red Sox.

Mrs. Locke complemented the National Honor Society induction and commended Mr. Branham and Ms. Conner on going over and above with reading lessons.

Mr. O'Brien agreed.

**BOE
Comments**

At 7:32 p.m., Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mr. Emerson 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,

**Executive
Session**

promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke to appoint Mr. Hillis Clerk Pro Tem. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**Clerk Pro
Tem**

At 8:15 p.m., Mrs. Gates 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, Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to adjourn. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**Meeting
Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.



Michele D. Rice
District Clerk