

**Oxford Academy & Central School Board of Education
Regular Meeting
March 1, 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: 9.1 Approve District/School Participation in Higher-risk Sport(s)

Additions/

Deletions: None

Deletions

Present were Trustees: Timothy O'Brien, John Godfrey, Nathaniel Emerson and Betsy Locke. (*Julie Gates was unable to attend.*)

Present

Superintendent

John Hillis

Business Administrator

Joseph Gugino

District Clerk

Michele Rice

High School Principal

Dawn Hover

Middle School Principal

Gregory Lehr

Primary School Principal

Brian Collier

Visitors

Margo Barrows, Natalie Barrows, Lilie Horton, Daniel Horton, Jackie Brunschmid, Jodi Carey

Visitors

Valedictorian and Salutatorian Introduction – Mrs. Carey introduced Natalie Barrows as the senior class valedictorian and Lilie Horton as the senior class salutatorian. Natalie and Lilie were presented with a plaque, flowers and a small gift for their accomplishments.

**Valedictorian
Salutatorian**

Reports/Presentations

Oxford Fabrication Lab – Ms. Hasfjord from TIES shared a presentation on the status of the fab lab. Meetings have compiled a set of design principles. Those principles included establishing an environment of engagement for transformative skill-based and competency-based learning with entrepreneurial experiences, while making connections to the local agriculture industry and technology programs to provide continuous learning opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and disciplines including a public relations component where students are engaged in authentic STEAM/STEM experiences with a UPK-12 initiative. A key component to the fab lab is a lab coordinator. Next steps include creating a fab lab advisory board, putting trajectories identified into action and support for the lab layout, procurement, installation and professional development.

**Oxford
Fabrication
Lab**

Leadership Team Updates

Ms. Hover announced Mrs. Johnson's Golden Owl Award of \$500. She announced Mrs. Barrows' retirement after 21 years of service and Mrs. Hall's relocation to Florida. Regents exams and sports are moving forward. Ms. Hover noted 400 people received COVID shots at a vaccine clinic held at Oxford Academy. This Friday will be an in-service day. A first STEAM academy will be held this summer for 7-12 graders and will run the same dates/times as the Summer Reading and Math Program.

HS Update

Mr. Lehr announced the school store will open on March 2. MS students reviewed wellness as 4H shared a snow shoeing and saving an egg activities. Intramural sports are occurring with great participation numbers. Mr. Lehr reported home visits are occurring and shared that 58% of MS students GPA's are 85% or higher.

MS Update

Mr. Collier stated Phase III of the reopening plan was working well and the district will begin inviting PS students to attend five days a week starting March 8. A preschool information presentation was posted on Facebook and the webpage. Applications for the UPK program have been mailed. PS events include St. Patrick's Day, parent/teacher conferences and Read Across America which will be a video of readers this year.

PS Update

Public Comment

None

Superintendent's Report

In-person Enrollment Numbers – Mr. Hillis shared the below data.

- Primary School – 270 total students; 252 are in-person; 18 are remote
- Middle School – 216 total students; 192 are in-person; 24 are remote
- High School – 191 total students; 157 are in-person; 34 are remote

He reported primary school students will be invited to attend 5 days a week starting March 8. Conversations about bringing all students back have been occurring, however, the required social distancing of 6 feet is impossible to obtain under the current MS and HS schedules during lunches. Conversations about the CDC changing 6 feet to 3 feet have been occurring, if that changes, the district will be able to accommodate all students. Mr. Hillis noted the district continues to have conversations of possible scenarios and stated teachers obtaining the vaccine is a very positive step in the right direction.

In-person Student Enrollment Numbers

At 6:42 p.m., Mrs. Locke 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-4, No-0, Motion carried. Mr. Lehr was invited to attend.

Executive Session

At 6:42 p.m., Mr. Collier and Ms. Hover were excused from the meeting.

Excused

Mr. Godfrey made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke to appoint Mr. Hillis Clerk Pro Tem. Yes-4, No-0, Motion carried.

Clerk Pro Tem

Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to approve the CSE minutes. Yes-4, No-0, Motion Carried.

CSE Minutes

At 7:09 p.m., Mr. Lehr was excused.

Excused

At 7:09 p.m., Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke to come out of executive session.

Come out of Executive Session

Communications

None

Board Committee Reports

Finance – Scheduled to meet March 15 at 5:30 pm.

Policy – Will schedule to meet via Zoom.

Buildings & Grounds – Scheduled to meet April 12 at 5:30 pm.

Transportation – Scheduled to meet April 27 at 5:30 pm.

Personnel – Scheduled to meet May 5 at 5:30 pm.

BOE Committees

Old Business

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to approve resolution G05. Yes-4, No-0, Motion carried.

03-21(1) G05

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 noted below, effective March 8, 2021.

Higher-risk Sports Authorization

- Football
- Volleyball

New Business

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to approve resolution G1. Yes-4, No-0, Motion carried.

03-21(1) G1

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the Oxford Academy & Central School Instructional Calendar for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

**2021-2022
Instructional
Calendar**

Business Office

Mr. Gugino stated an estimated 6% increase on health insurance costs for the 2021-2022 budget has been reduced to 3.6%. Due to considerably lower claims he reported the district has requested that BlueCross BlueShield consider an even lower percent increase.

**Estimated
Health
Insurance
Increase**

Personnel

Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to approve resolution C1. Yes-4, No-0, Motion carried.

03-21(1) C1

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the appointment of the following Fall Coaches for the 2020-2021 Fall "2" athletic season, pending coaching certification requirements. *(Salaries will be prorated with the shortened season.)*

**Fall "2"
Coaches**

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>COACH</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Varsity Football	Jeremy Tompkins	\$ 3,442 - Step 1
Varsity Volleyball	Kimberly Martin	\$ 4,770 - Step 5
JV Volleyball	Renee Johnson	\$ 2,916 - Step 3
Modified Volleyball	Margo Barrows	\$ 2,409 - Step 5
Varsity Girls Soccer	Sierra Badger	\$ 2,916 - Step 1
Modified Girls Soccer	Katie Palmatier	\$ 1,747 - Step 1
Modified Boys Soccer	Joao Ferreira	\$ 2,161 - Step 3 Resigned 3/2/21

Planning

Mr. O'Brien noted the following reminders.

- March 5 – Staff Development Day, No School
- March 15 – BOE Finance Committee Meeting, 5:30 pm, District Office
- March 15 – BOE Meeting, 6 pm, MS Conference Room

Reminders

Public Comment

None

BOE Member Comments/Concerns

Mr. Godfrey stated he is impressed with the fab lab and how everything seems to be falling in place.

**BOE
Comments**

At 7:21 p.m., Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey 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-4, No-0, Motion carried. Ms. Morris and Mrs. Rice were invited to attend.

**Executive
Session**

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Emerson to appoint Mr. Hillis Clerk Pro Tem. Yes-4, No-0, Motion carried.

**Clerk Pro
Tem**

At 8:00 p.m., Ms. Morris was excused from executive session.

Excused

At 8:15 p.m., Mrs. Rice was excused from executive session.

Excused

At 8:32 p.m., Mr. Godfrey 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 Mrs. Locke to adjourn. Yes-4, No-0, Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

**Meeting
Adjourned**



Michele D. Rice
District Clerk