

**Oxford Academy & Central School Board of Education  
Special Meeting – Via Zoom  
March 15, 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: 4.1 Approve Notice of Appeal Inter-Municipal Agreement Between Costello, Cooney & Fearson, PLLC, 6.3 Acknowledge PT Head Bus Driver Resignation, 6.4 Create a Temporary/Independent Position of Transportation Advisor, 6.5 Appoint Independent Transportation Advisor, 6.6 Approve Independent Transportation Advisor Contract, 6.7 Acknowledge Bus Driver Resignation, 6.8 Appoint Head Bus Driver, 6.9 Approve Head Bus Driver, 6.10 Approve Substitute Support Staff

**Additions/  
Deletions**

Deletions: None

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

**Present**

Superintendent  
Business Administrator  
District Clerk

John Hillis  
Joseph Gugino  
Michele Rice

**Visitors**

**Visitors**

None

**Public Comment**

None

**Board Committee Reports**

Finance – Scheduled to meet March 15 following BOE meeting.

Policy – Will schedule to meet via Zoom.

Buildings & Grounds – Scheduled to conduct a walkthrough April 12 at 5 pm. *(Meet at new bus facility)*

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. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to approve resolution G05. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**03-21(2) G05**

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Education adopted a resolution dated January 17, 2018, authorizing the commencement of litigation against the NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust (“the Trust”) and any other parties necessary to such litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, A Complaint was filed in New York State Supreme Court, Erie County, on April 12, 2018 under Index Number 805785/2018 naming the Oxford Academy and Central School District/BOCES as a Plaintiff and the Trust, its individual trustees and Erie 1 BOCES as Defendants; and

**WHEREAS**, By motion dated December 18, 2020, the Trust and individual trustees moved for summary judgment dismissing the First, Third and Eight Causes of Action set forth in the Complaint filed under Index Number 805785/2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Plaintiffs also moved on December 18, 2020, for partial summary judgment on the First Cause of Action in the Complaint, and opposed the Trust’s motion; and

**NY44 Health  
Benefits Plan  
Trust  
Authorization  
of Appeal**

**WHEREAS**, after oral argument held on February 26, 2021, the court denied Plaintiffs' motion for partial summary judgment, granted the Trust's motion for summary judgment and dismissed the Complaint;

**WHEREAS**, counsel to the District has recommended that Plaintiffs file a Notice of Appeal from each and every part of the Court's February 26, 2021 decision and subsequent Order, in order to preserve the right to pursue an appeal of the Court's decision and order, and;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education authorizes Costello, Cooney & Fearon, PLLC, as counsel to the Board and District in the above-referenced proceeding under Index Number 805785/2018, to file a Notice of Appeal of each and every part of the Court's February 26, 2021 decision.

**New Business**

Mrs. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mr. Emerson to approve resolutions G1-G3. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**03-21(2) G1**

**BE IT RESOLVED: WHEREAS**, the Oxford Academy and Central School District, Chenango County, New York (the "School District") is considering undertaking the financing of an Energy Performance Contract whereby an energy service company will make energy improvements to various School District operations at a total estimated maximum cost not to exceed \$2,900,000 (the "Project"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (the "SEQR Act") and regulations adopted pursuant thereto by the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State of New York, being 6 NYCRR Part 617, as amended (the "Regulations"), the School District is obliged to comply with the SEQR Act and regulations with respect to the Project;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the Board of Education of the District as follows:

Section 1. The Project constitutes a "Type II Action" pursuant to NYCRR Part 617.5(c)(1), (2) and (10) and no further action under the SEQR Act and Regulations is required.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**03-21(2) G2**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the Notice of Public Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting and Election as given and attached.

**03-21(2) G3**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby nominate **John Godfrey** as a candidate for the 2021 annual election of members of the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

**Personnel**

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Godfrey to approve resolutions C1 - C2. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**03-21(2) 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.*)

**SEQR  
Energy  
Performance  
Contract**

**Notice of  
Public  
Budget  
Hearing and  
Annual  
Meeting and  
Election**

**DCMO  
BOCES BOE  
Nomination  
J. Godfrey**

**Fall "2"  
Coaches**

**SPORT**

Varsity Football Assistant  
Varsity Football Assistant  
Modified Football  
Modified Boys Soccer

**COACH**

**Garett Sylstra**  
**Damon Maricle**  
**Mitch Cluff**  
**Corey Endress**

**SALARY**

\$2,487 - Step 1  
Volunteer  
\$1,953 - Step 2  
\$1,747 - Step 1

**03-21(2) C2**

**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 2020-2021 school year.

**Substitute  
Teacher**

**Margaret Buhl - Certified**

Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke to approve resolutions UC1 – UC8. Yes-5, No-0, Motion carried.

**03-21(2) UC1**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge **Dennis Carey**'s letter of resignation from his position of PT Head Bus Driver, effective April 30, 2021.

**Letter of  
Resignation  
PT Head Bus  
Driver  
D. Carey**

**03-21(2) UC2**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the creation of a temporary/independent position of Transportation Advisor, effective May 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021.

**Create  
Transportation  
Advisor  
Position**

**03-21(2) UC3**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the appointment of **Dennis Carey** to the temporary/independent position of Transportation Advisor, effective May 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021.

**Appoint  
Transportation  
Advisor  
D. Carey**

**03-21(2) UC4**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the temporary/independent Transportation Advisor contract with **Dennis Carey**.

**Approve  
Transportation  
Advisor  
Contract**

**03-21(2) UC5**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby acknowledge **Clifton Ketchum Jr**'s letter of resignation from his position of Bus Driver, effective April 30, 2021.

**Letter of  
Resignation  
Bus Driver  
C. Ketchum**

**03-21(2) UC6**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the appointment of **Clifton Ketchum, Jr.**, as Head Bus Driver, effective May 1, 2021, salary of \$37,500.00, prorated to \$6,719.00. (Vice: Dennis Carey)

**Appoint  
Head Bus  
Driver  
C. Ketchum**

**03-21(2) UC7**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that this Board does hereby approve the non-represented Head Bus Driver contract with **Clifton Ketchum, Jr.**

**Approve  
Head Bus  
Driver  
Contract**

**03-21(2) UC8**

**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 2020-2021 school year.

**Substitute  
Support Staff**

**Brandon Barrows - Custodial Worker PT Sub**

**Planning**

Mr. O'Brien noted the following reminders.

- March 26 & 29 – ½ Day of Instruction PS/MS/HS Parent Teacher Conferences
- April 2 – No School, Good Friday
- April 5-9 – No School, Spring Break
- April 12 – BOE Members will meet at the new bus facility at 5:00 pm to conduct a walkthrough of buildings.
- April 12 – BOE Meeting, MS Conference Room, 6 pm

**Reminders**

**Public Comment**

None

**BOE Member Comments/Concerns**

Mr. Godfrey requested a walkthrough of the buildings. *(Scheduled for April 12 at 5 pm.)*

Mr. Emerson noted, while walking behind the high school, Mrs. Johnson was boiling sap and she invited him to take a tour. He stated he was impressed with the program.

**BOE  
Comments**

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

**Meeting  
Adjourned**



Michele D. Rice  
District Clerk