

BOARD OF EDUCATION
OWEN D. YOUNG CENTRAL SCHOOL
Monday, November 26, 2012
Regular Meeting

The mission of the Owen D. Young Central School is to provide an excellent educational environment in which all students can achieve success and become contributing citizens.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cathy Mayton-Collins, George Mower, Natalia Rogers, Lawrence Snyder and Linda Tharp.

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: James Picolla, Superintendent; Jodie Rodriquez, Business Administrator; Brennan Fahey, Building Principal; Marilyn Kennerknecht, District Clerk and 6 guests.

President Mayton-Collins called the meeting to order 6:59 p.m. followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

In a motion by Vice President Mower, seconded by Trustee Tharp, the meeting agenda was approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In a motion by Trustee Rogers, seconded by Vice President Mower, the consent agenda was approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- a. Approval of Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2012
- b. Approval of Meeting Minutes of October 30, 2012
- c. Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2012
- d. Approval of October and November Treasurer's Report
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve CSE recommendations for two students dated October 22, 2012 and November 4, 2012.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

In a motion by Trustee Tharp, seconded by Trustee Rogers, the Board entered into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations as defined in section 105 (1F) of the public officer's law.

In a motion by Trustee Rogers, seconded by Vice President Mower, the Board exited Executive Session at 7:26 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. President Mayton-Collins reported on the VanHorne Scholarship Guidelines. Mrs. Rodriquez provided the fund balance summary. The District Clerk will look back to the minutes of February 1978 for more information. President Mayton-Collins is retyping the original guidelines outlining suggestions from the last meeting. President Mayton-Collins and Trustee Tharp will be meeting to go over the document and will provide a draft before the next meeting.

President Matyon-Collins announced that there will be a Water Meeting on November 27th at 7:00 p.m. at the Mill Pond Church. Mrs. Connie Young has requested having administrative and Board presence at this meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. Superintendent Picolla discussed consultant dates. Consultant, Mr. Paul Seversky, is available Thursday, January 3rd at 4:30 p.m. This will be a 2-2 1/2 hour workshop for questions and discussion.

- b. Superintendent Picolla also asked if anyone is interested in attending the workshop at Oneida BOCES on Monday, December 10th regarding building school district budgets. Trustee Tharp, Vice President Mower and Superintendent Picolla will be attending.
- c. The possibility of dissolving cheerleading was discussed if the number drops to three. Currently there are four girls.
- d. The yearbook issue has been resolved with the segregation of “natives and imports.”
- e. Policy updates from Erie I BOCES will be handed out at the end of the meeting. Superintendent Picolla suggested reviewing a couple of policies at each meeting.
- f. Code of Conduct Focus group. There will be a small group of stake holders, students, faculty and Board members meeting to do a final review of the Code of Conduct.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

- a. Mr. Fahey announced that the November 15th parent/teacher conferences were held and there were 188 scheduled conferences.
- b. The Art Club will be holding a pancake breakfast on December 8th from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00.
- c. On December 14th will be the Senior Citizen dinner at 1:00 p.m.
- d. Basketball and Volleyball have begun.
- e. Mr. Fahey met with Ms. Foster and Mr. Delaney and Mr. Gates regarding the nature trail.
- f. Mr. Fahey went over the class ranking. There was a discussion about Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Pertaining to class ranking, Superintendent Picolla suggested that the Board needs to decide on traditional class ranking or standards based ranking and how to calculate it. He feels this should be worked on this year and implemented next year.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

- a. Mrs. Rodriquez provided the current substitute rates for component districts. We are one of the higher certified teacher rates and one of the lowest for non-certified. Trustee Tharp questioned why we are paying a substitute cleaner \$10.00 an hour when we are only paying a little over \$8.00 an hour for a non-certified to substitute for our children. Trustee Tharp asked whether certified are being called first and how often do we have certified versus non-certified. Superintendent Picolla explained that the subfinder service is “viewable” first by certified substitutes. If no one accepts the position, it then goes out to non-certified. Trustee Snyder suggested decreasing the substitute cleaner rate to \$8.00 rather than \$10.00. Mrs. Rodriquez will figure different increment rates for substitutes and report on that at the next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

In a motion by Trustee Rogers, seconded by Trustee Tharp, the agenda is amended to include item “c”. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- a. In a motion by Trustee Rogers, seconded by Trustee Tharp, the tax collection report was approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- b. In a motion by Trustee Tharp, seconded by Vice President Mower, the fund balanced transfer from General Fund to Lunch Fund in the amount of \$48,526.94 was approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- c. In a motion by Trustee Rogers, seconded by Vice President Mower, the acceptance of a \$50.00 donation in memory of Dellephene Ferguson Woodruff from the New York State School Boards Association to the Robert Woodruff Outdoor Learning center was approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION TIME

Trustee Tharp inquired if the events calendar was published in the newsletter. She also asked how many newsletters will be going out throughout the year. There is still a concern that not every resident is receiving a newsletter. Trustee Tharp, Trustee Rogers, Mr. Fahey and Mr. Ron Smith met with Mr. Travis Bowman on November 20th to tour the hamlet of VanHornesville to identify buildings to consider for the national registry.

Superintendent Picolla mentioned that meetings are not being videotaped due to the inability to hear Board meetings. The possibility of obtaining microphones will be considered.

President Mayton-Collins said that the video was provided so that community members who couldn't make it to the meetings would have the ability to view it. She would like to discuss ways to communicate at the next meeting.

Vice President Mower commented on an article that was in the Observer-Dispatch telling that students are easily distracted due to digital technology.

President Mayton-Collins thanked Superintendent Picolla and the District Clerk for the well prepared Board packet. She also thanked Mrs. Rodriquez and Superintendent Picolla for their preliminary work on the budget.

There has been an account created for the NYSSBA 34th law book which can now be viewed on line.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs. Michelle Hula inquired about the CSE recommendations under the consent agenda.

President Mayton-Collins said that is confidential information and couldn't be commented on.

Mrs. Hula asked whether the physical fitness area can be opened up to the community to use. She stated that, as a substitute, she will travel to Mohawk for five hours at \$55.00 as an Aide rather than come here as a teacher since students don't always listen to a substitute. Mrs. Hula said that she thinks this is the only school that restricts non-certified substitutes to "sub" only forty days. Mrs. Rodriquez said that it is a state law.

In a motion by Trustee Tharp, seconded by Trustee Rogers, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Kennerknecht
District Clerk