

**Owen D. Young Central School District
Board of Education Meeting
August 27, 2012
Auditorium - 7 p.m.**

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.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Board Procedures
 - A. Approval of Meeting Agenda
 - B. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2012
 - b. Approve the resignation of Ms. Alicia Soper as Guidance Counselor effective September 14, 2012.
- III. District Presentation
 - a. Mr. Fahey and Ms. Soper will review the Discipline Code (Discussion for first revisions).
- IV. Public Participation

The items listed on the Agenda titled Public Participation are the time when the Board President will recognize a district resident that wishes to make a brief statement or express a viewpoint. Persons wanting to be part of a more thorough discussion of a topic may do so by giving advance written notice through the Office of the Superintendent to be placed on the Agenda.
- V. President's Report
 - a. VanHorne Scholarship Criteria
 - b. Board Meeting Room
- VI. Superintendent's Report
 - a. Opening Day (Staff/Students)
 - b. Current Enrollment Figures
 - c. Elementary Classroom Position
 - d. Guidance Position
 - e. Secretarial Position
 - f. Consultant Dates
 - g. House Repairs Update
 - h. Advocacy Alert Update
- VII. Business Administrator's Report
 - a. Tax Rate Discussion
 - b. Fire Inspection Report
 - c. Bus Bond Closing Schedule

- VIII. Action Items
- a. Approve Budgetary Transfer in the amounts of \$58,709, \$14,527 and \$5399
 - b. Approve Budgetary Transfer in the amount of \$10,474
 - c. Approve Pre-School Lease Agreement
 - d. Approve Tax Rates
 - e. Approve the Board Meeting Calendar
 - f. Resolved, Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent, Appoint Mr. Brennan Fahey as Dignity for All Students Coordinator.
- IX. Discussion Time
- X. Public Participation
- XI. Board Comments
- XII. Adjourn

Please be advised that our Board of Education Meetings are video taped and are available for viewing on the District's web page.

Proposed Code of Conduct revisions 8/20/12

(Relating to Dignity for All Act)

IV. Expected and Prohibited Student Conduct

The Board of Education and the school community expects all students to conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, district personnel and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment.

The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline.

The Board recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on school property or engaged in a school function specific and clear. The rules of conduct listed below are intended to do that and focus on safety and respect for the rights and property of others. Students who will not accept responsibility for their own behavior and who violate these school rules will be required to accept the penalties for their conduct.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they:

A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly. Examples of disorderly conduct include:

1. Running in hallways.
2. Making unreasonable noise.

3. Using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar or abusive.
4. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
5. Engaging in any willful act which disrupts the normal operation of the school community.
6. Students are not permitted to be in any area of our school building without supervision and permission from an administrator or staff member.
7. Computer/electronic communications misuse, including any unauthorized use of computers, software, or Internet/Intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites; or any other violation of the district's acceptable use policy.
8. Musical devices or cell phones are to be used only when permitted by faculty/administration.

B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate or disruptive. Examples of insubordinate conduct include:

1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators, chaperones or other school employees.
2. Lateness for classes, missing classes or leaving school without permission.
3. Skipping detention.

C. Engage in conduct that is violent. Examples of violent conduct include:

1. Committing an act of violence (physical, verbal or psychological) upon another student, a teacher, administrator or other school employee or any other person lawfully on school property..

2. Possessing a weapon. Authorized law enforcement officials are the only persons permitted to have a weapon in their possession while on school property or at a school function.

3. Displaying what appears to be a weapon.

4. Threatening to use any weapon.

5. Intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.

6. Intentionally damaging or destroying school district property.

D. Engage in any conduct that endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of students, staff or others. Examples of such conduct include:

1. Lying to school personnel.

2. Stealing the property of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.

3. Defamation, which includes making false or unprivileged statements or representations about an individual or identifiable group of individuals that harm the reputation of the person or the identifiable group by demeaning them.

4. Discrimination, which includes the use of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability as a basis for treating another in a negative manner.
5. ***Harassment, Means the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; or conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety; such conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse includes but is not limited to conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex (Education Law 11(7)).***
5. ***Intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily or emotional harm.***
 - a. ***Bullying and intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily harm and/or emotional discomfort; for example, "play" fighting, extortion of money, overt teasing, etc.***
 - b. ***"Internet bullying" (also referred to as "cyberbullying") including the use of instant messaging, email, websites, chat rooms, text messaging, or by other electronic means, when such use interferes with the operation of the school; or infringes upon the general health, safety and welfare of students or employees.***
 - c. ***Sexual harassment, which includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, taking, sending or receiving sexually explicit videos, pictures or auditory recordings and other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature.***
7. Hazing, which includes any intentional or reckless act directed against another for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with or maintaining membership in any school sponsored activity, organization, club or team.
8. Selling, using or possessing obscene material.
9. Using vulgar or abusive language, cursing or swearing.

10. Use of any nicotine product.
11. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, or being under the influence of either or possessing drug paraphernalia. "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs."
12. Inappropriately using or sharing prescription and over-the-counter drugs.

12a. Possessing, consuming, selling, attempting to sell, distributing, or exchanging "look-alike drugs"; or, possessing or consuming (without authorization), selling, attempting to sell, distributing or exchanging other substances such as dietary supplements, weight loss pills, etc.

13. Gambling and *gaming*.

14. Indecent exposure, that is, exposure to sight of the private parts of the body in a lewd or indecent manner.

15. Initiating a report warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misuse of 911, or discharging a fire extinguisher.

16. Using or possessing laser lights or laser pens.

17. ***Violating gender privacy when using school restroom facilities.***

E. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus. It is crucial for students to behave appropriately while riding on district buses to ensure their safety and that of other passengers and to avoid distracting the bus driver. Students are required to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Excessive noise, pushing, shoving and fighting will not be tolerated.

F. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct include:

1. Plagiarism
2. Cheating
3. Copying
4. Altering records
5. Destruction or theft of another's honest work or academic effort
6. Assisting another student in any of the above actions

IVB. Dissemination of Code of Conduct

The Board of Education will work to ensure that the community is aware of this Code of Conduct by:

- 1. Providing a public hearing prior to approval***
- 2. Providing copies of a summary of the Code to all students, in age-appropriate, plain language version, at a general assembly held at the beginning of each school year.***
- 3. Making copies of the Code available to all parents at the beginning of the school year.***
- 4. Providing all current teachers and other staff members with a copy of the Code and a copy of any amendments to the code as soon as practicable after adoption.***
- 5. Providing all new employees with a copy of the current Code of Conduct when they are first hired.***
- 6. Making copies of the Code available for review by students, parents, and other community members and provide opportunities to review and discuss this Code with the appropriate personnel.***

The Board of Education will sponsor an in-service education program for all District staff members to ensure the effective implementation of the Code of Conduct. The Superintendent may solicit the recommendations of the District staff, particularly teachers and the building principal, regarding in service programs pertaining to the management and discipline of students.

The Board of Education, via a committee of representative stakeholders, will review this Code of Conduct and update it as necessary. In conducting the review, the Board will consider how effective the code's provisions have been and whether the Code has been applied fairly and consistently.

The Board of Education may appoint an advisory committee to assist in reviewing the Code of Conduct and the District's response to Code of Conduct violations. The committee will be made up of representatives of student, teacher, administrator, school safety personnel, other school personnel and parent representatives.

Before adopting any revisions to the Code, the Board will hold at least one public hearing at which school personnel, parents, students and any other interested party may participate.

The District shall post the completed Code of Conduct (with all amendments and annual updates) on the District's website. The District shall file a copy of its Code of Conduct and any amendments with the commissioner, in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner, no later than thirty (30) days after their respective adoptions.

V. Reporting Violations

All students are expected to promptly report violations of the Code of Conduct to a teacher, guidance counselor, the superintendent or his or her designee in order to maintain a safe environment for our school community. Any student observing a student acting in an unsafe manner on school property or at a school function shall report this information immediately to a teacher, the building principal, the principal's designee or the superintendent.

All district staff who are authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions are expected to do so in a prompt, fair and lawful manner. District staff who are not authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions are expected to promptly report violations of the Code of Conduct to their supervisor, who shall in turn impose an appropriate disciplinary sanction, if so authorized, or refer the matter to a staff member who is authorized to impose an appropriate sanction.

Any weapon, alcohol or illegal substance found shall be confiscated immediately, if possible, followed by notification to the parent of the student involved and the appropriate disciplinary sanction if warranted, which may include permanent suspension and referral for prosecution.

The superintendent or his or her designee must notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency of those code violations that constitute a crime and substantially affect the order or security of a school as soon as practical, but in no event later than the close of business the day the superintendent or his or her designee learns of the violation. The notification may be made by telephone, followed by a letter mailed on the same day as the telephone call is made. The notification must identify the student and explain the conduct that violated the code of conduct and constituted a crime.