

OUUSD BOARD MEETING
Newbury Elementary School

October 16, 2019

Present:

Board Members: Angela Colbeth, Danielle Corti, Melissa Gordon

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Jean Wheeler, Robin Wozny, Morgan Moore, Kate Paxton

Others: Angela Conrad-Schlager, Ted Pogacar, Marla Ianello, and other members of the public

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Danielle Corti, Chair
- II. Board Business
 - A. Agenda Review/Approved
 1. Those present were welcomed, and the agenda was reviewed
 2. Change Executive Session from Student Request to Personnel and Negotiations
 3. Look at addendum to contract for collective bargaining unit.
 4. Discuss meeting date and time for committee looking at Articles of Agreement.
 5. Table first read of Policy C26.
 6. Look at Inter District Policy next month.
 - B. Approval of Minutes
 1. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to approve the Board minutes of September 16, 2019. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - C. Contracts—None
 - D. Other
 1. Overnight trips—Historically Oxbow School Board had approved any overnight field trips.
 - a. It was agreed by consensus to leave it to the judgment of the building principal to approve overnight field trips.
 2. VSBIT & VEHI Annual Meeting.
 - a. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Danielle Corti to let Angela Colbeth vote on behalf of the Board at the VEHI annual meeting. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 3. Board Work Plan
 - A. To Do List that was started this summer.
 - i. November 20th: continue work around policy; Oxbow and River Bend will give an overview of their program; Continue work around having properties transferred from old school districts to OUUSD; Look at Intradistrict choice policy; community engagement on goals and mission and use as a guide when developing budget

- ii. December: rough draft of budget; quarterly financial report; finalize intradistrict choice policy
 - iii. January: policy; budget draft one; articles of agreement work; curricular and programmatic needs; overview of preschool and after school programs;
 - 4. Addendum to merged teachers' contract.
 - a. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to approve the addendum and have the Board Chair sign. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - 5. Articles of Agreement meeting.
 - A. Scheduled for Monday, Oct. 28th at 5:30 PM
 - 6. Negotiations—Working to get support staff from Newbury and those who weren't in the bargaining unit from Bradford into the bargaining unit.
 - A. OESU Chair Angeline Alley will be present.
 - i. Melissa Gordon expressed a desire to have a bigger voice from OUUSD on the Negotiating team.
- III. Public Comments
 - A. Angela Conrad-Schlager: When the leadership team gets together, she requested that they consider an issue at Bradford Elementary—a no homework policy through 6th grade, so they are not prepared for Oxbow with time management, etc. Angela suggested an incremental increase in homework each year.
 - 1. Bradford Youth Sports, in the past, has had a BYS scholarship for graduating seniors. Angela wonders if that scholarship still exists. Jean Wheeler will look into it and get back to her.
 - B. Ted Pogacar: He stated that it seems unorthodox that Board members without direct affiliation with OUUSD are on the negotiating team.
- IV. Watch Them Grow—Marla Ianello, Student Services Coordinator for Early Education Services, spoke on Publicly Funded Prekindergarten.
 - A. Working on quality and equity.
 - B. Children are assessed twice a year in 38 areas.
 - 1. The Data is shared with kindergarten teachers when they go on to kindergarten.
 - 2. The Data is also shared with Agency of Education and with the State Legislature.
 - 3. We are reaching a higher percentage of children since the enactment of Act 166.
 - 4. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to let Watch Them Grow rent out the space at Newbury free of charge. Motion voted on and approved unanimously. The lease will be revised. Danielle Corti would like to revisit this program with a 6-month and 1-year check-in.
- V. Principals reports
 - A. Jean Wheeler, Oxbow Principal—doing pretty much the same as last month
 - B. Morgan Moore, Newbury Elementary Principal—shared her written report, giving details on several points

C. Kate Paxton, Bradford Elementary Principal—There are currently 250 students enrolled, with 15-22 students per class.

1. She reviewed new staff; specials; the Outdoor Classrooms; after school program; challenge with staffing; public preschool; new initiatives; looking ahead to the budget and beyond, and focusing on Building Positive Culture and Climate

VI. Policy

A. Adoption

1. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to adopt the following Policies. Motion voted on and approved unanimously. (Policy C24 Interscholastic Sports was tabled)

- a. D3 Responsible Computer Internet & Network
- b. A20 Board Meetings, Agenda Preparation & Distribution
- c. A21 Public Participation at Board Meetings
- d. A22 Notice of Non-Discrimination
- e. B20 Personnel Recruitment, Selection, Appointment & Background Checks
- f. B22 Complaints about Personnel & Instructional Materials
- g. HB1 Low Forest Advisory Committee & HB1-P Use of Facilities

VII. B. First Read of Policies

- 1. C20 Student Conduct & Discipline
- 2. C21 Search & Seizure of Students by School Personnel
- 3. C22 Student Activities
- 4. C23 Student Clubs & Activities (Secondary)
- 5. C25 Admission of Non-Resident Tuition Students
- 6. C26 Tuition Payment –(Tabled)
- 7. C27 Student Self-Expression & Student Distribution of Literature
- 8. D21 Educational Support Team
- 9. Inter-District Policy—(will be dealt with later)

VIII. Property Transfer Document (Merger Result)

A. For informational purposes only

IX. Follow-up—Tax Rate Issue

A. Supt. Knisley reviewed the tax rate. 14 versions of the equalized pupil count were submitted to the school district. Students were dropped or added incorrectly through errors at the clearing house. When all was said and done, the final equalized pupil rate was lower, but more accurate, than what was used when developing the budget. It seems that students in the SU from other towns, who were sent to Oxbow, were credited incorrectly to Oxbow rather than to their school or origin. It now seems to be correct. The original pupil number projection for OUUSD was 736 and actually came in just under 700.

X. Items for Next Month's Agenda

- A. Board Work
- B. Inter-district choice
- C. Oxbow and River Bend Overview

- XI. Public Comment--None
- XII. Executive Session: Personnel
 - A. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to enter Executive Session at 8:23 PM to consider a personnel matter, the premature dissemination of which may place the Board at a substantial disadvantage. Motion voted on and approved unanimously. Accompanying the Board were Emilie Knisley and Morgan Moore.
 - B. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:45 PM. No action taken
- XIII. Executive Session: Negotiations
 - A. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to enter Executive Session at 8:46 PM for a discussion regarding negotiations, the premature dissemination of which may place the Board at a substantial disadvantage. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.
 - B. The Board exited Executive Session at 9:05 PM. No action taken
- XIV. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to adjourn at 9:06 PM. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Perkins, Minutes Clerk

The minutes are in draft format and are unofficial until formally approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting.