

MINUTES
ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 17, 2018

Minutes approved at the October 15th BOE meeting.

- Attendance*** Present: Chairman Kraut, Mr. Cap, Ms. Riccio, Mr. Ziman, Mrs. Browe, Mrs. Bunnell, Mr. Flynn, Mrs. Welander, Mr. Young, Mrs. Hadlock
Absent: -----
The meeting was taped by OGAT
Also present: Dr. Scarpetti, Dr. Russo, Ms. Sierakowski, Mrs. Slowik, Reporter Pamela McLoughlin, PTA BOE Representatives
- Call to Order*** The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Kraut at 7:07 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Mission Statement was read by Mr. Young.
- Public Participation*** There was no public participation.
- Correspondence*** In their packets, Board Members received a teacher thank you note and two teacher resignation letters. Mr. Bruni from Race Brook School and Mrs. Rogers-Roy from Turkey Hill resigned.
- Consent Agenda*** A motion was made by Mrs. Welander and seconded by Mrs. Hadlock to approve the minutes from the August 21st, 2018 BOE meeting. Unanimously approved.
- Presentation(s)*** Dr. Russo, Director of Curriculum/Instruction & Personnel presented the Smarter Balanced Trend Report to the Board through a PowerPoint presentation. Dr. Russo's presentation focused on examining academic achievement trends on the state level, district level, grade level, rough cohort changes, ELA, Math, school trends and a sneak preview of matched cohort growth. Orange students are performing above state averages in ELA & Math. Dr. Russo outlined the district priorities regarding student achievement data. Dr. Russo's presentation will be loaded on the district website (www.oess.org).
- Superintendent's Report*** Dr. Scarpetti began his report by thanking those Board Members who attended the convocation on Monday, August 27th. He also thanked those who were unable to attend but who sent their support. Dr. Scarpetti shared his convocation message to Board Members through PowerPoint slides. Dr. Scarpetti reported that the start of the school year is off to a great start. As in past years, there are adjustments with the bus routes, and this year the biggest concern was the heat and humidity. Superintendent Scarpetti thanked the students and faculty of Race Brook and Turkey Hill, both schools do not have air conditioning throughout the buildings. Additional fans were set-up in the schools and classes rotated into rooms where there was air conditioning. Two of the four schools have had their initial lockdown drills. The remaining two schools drills will take place by the end of the week. Dr. Scarpetti thanked Dr. Russo & Principal Arterbery, interviews to fill the Speech & Language Pathologist and Grade 5 Teacher

***Superintendent's
Report (cont.)***

position were held over a weekend. Both positions have been filled, start dates will be determined shortly; both hires are under contract with other districts.

Ms. Sierakowski reported that the schools are up and running and everything was in place for the first day. Ms. Sierakowski reminded everyone that bus routes are adjusted each year and it takes a few days for the drivers and parents to get the timing of the new stops. Ms. Sierakowski attended a meeting this morning regarding two buses that were arriving a bit later in the morning than the district would like. Changes will be made so that students will arrive on time. The ADA project at Turkey Hill School is mostly complete. The architect has a final checklist that is being addressed. The district is very grateful to the Town, the project was funded through Town bond funds. The School Security Monitors had a great professional learning day on August 27th; thanks to the Orange Police Department for their continued support and involvement in training the districts School Security Monitors.

Mr. Ziman, Chair of the Curriculum /Instruction/Technology Sub-Committee will provide an update during the Standing Reports.

Mrs. Slowik reported that Special Education Department staff enjoyed the professional development day, it was beneficial for everyone to collaborate, review legal updates, run through cases together and review new practices. As Dr. Scarpetti mentioned, a Speech & Language Pathologist has been hired, her start date will be determined shortly. Other district Speech & Language Pathologists are helping provide services to those students at Turkey Hill School.

Board Business

Second Read Policies

The following policies were presented as first read policies at the August 20th BOE meeting. They are being presented this evening as second reads; Chairman Kraut was looking for motions to adopt the policies. A motion was made/seconded by Ms. Riccio/Mr. Ziman to adopt Policy 5118.1 Children Who Are Homeless, unanimously approved. As motion was made/seconded by Ms. Riccio/Mrs. Hadlock to adopt Policy 5136.6 Alcohol Use, Drugs & Tobacco, unanimously approved. A motion was made/seconded by Mr. Flynn/Mr. Young, to adopt Policy 3323 Soliciting Prices/Bidding Requirements, unanimously approved. A motion was made/seconded Mrs. Hadlock/Mrs. Browe to adopt Policy 6153 Field Trips, unanimously approved.

***Out of State Field Trip
Requests - PP & RB***

Principal Carbone and Principal Gray submitted letters seeking permission for their fifth grade students to visit Old Sturbridge Village in Sturbridge, MA in October. Regulation 6153 (Field Trips) states "trips outside the state of Connecticut must have the approval of the Board of Education." A motion was made by Ms. Riccio and seconded by Mrs. Bunnell to approve both requests. Unanimously approved.

***2019 BOE Meeting
Dates***

In their packets, Board Members received the proposed (draft) 2019 Board of Education meeting dates. Board Members were asked to review the dates, Chairman Kraut will be looking for a motion to revise/approve the 2019 meeting dates at the October BOE meeting.

***Approval - Race Brook
School Landscaping
Project***

Board Members received a proposal from Hilltop Turf & Landscapes LLC. The Buildings & Grounds Sub-Committee met on August 22nd and would like to recommend that the BOE pay no more than \$700 toward the project. Hilltop Turf and Landscapes would be absorbing the cost of the topsoil, pick up and delivery and labor. A motion was made by Mrs. Browe and seconded by Mrs. Hadlock not to exceed \$700 for the Race Brook landscape project. Discussion followed about the warranty of the plants, should they fail and when the project would start. Unanimously approved.

***STANDING
COMMITTEES***

***Finance & Operations
Ms. Riccio***

Finance & Operations Sub-Committee met prior to tonight's BOE meeting and reviewed the expenditures. Some funds encumbered last year are starting to be used, all is going well. No report on cafeteria numbers since school just started.

***Personnel/Policy
Transportation – Mrs.
Browe***

The sub-committee will be meeting on September 24th. Mrs. Browe will select the policies to be reviewed. Agenda will follow shortly.

***Building & Grounds /
Safety & Security –
Mr. Young***

Mr. Young stated that a lot of work was accomplished over the summer to get our buildings ready for the start of the school year. Work at Turkey Hill (ADA project) is close to being complete and is on track. The Buildings & Grounds/Safety & Security sub-committee does not plan to meet on September 24th. Mr. Kraut thanked the contractors and the school custodians for all their help during the summer months.

***Curriculum /
Instruction /
Technology -
Mr. Ziman***

Sub-Committee will be meeting on September 24th. Mr. Ziman reported that there is a lot going on in the curriculum department under the direction of Drs. Scarpetti & Russo. Creating the Math & ELA curriculum, integrating a new science program, revising the report cards, new parent handbook that will be created soon. Teachers have been involved in sessions to improve crafting their lesson plans and bringing them in line with curriculum.

***Long-Range Planning
Ad-Hoc***

Mrs. Hadlock reported that the Long-Range Planning Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee met on September 6th. The Ad-Hoc Committee has decided (after a lengthy discussion) to continue with the current long-range plan and to update it with all the ongoing work that is going on with curriculum assessment and technology. The entire staff is very involved in the work, the sub-committee feels it is important to finish the current work before adding any new initiatives.

ACES

ACES met on September 13th. Ms. Riccio will be passing around ACES' Annual Report, ACES' audit for the 16/17 school year is complete and ACES ended with a surplus. The 16/17 audit took too long and the auditors will complete the 2017-18 audit in a reasonable amount of time. Leeder Hill project is on time even through the steel coming from China is delayed. ACES recognizes businesses in the area, the dinner will be on October 17th at Anthony's Ocean View restaurant.

ACES (cont.)

ARTS into Learning will be held on September 28th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Wintergreen School. ACES will also be updating some policies.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Riccio and seconded by Mr. Flynn. No discussion. Unanimous vote to adjourn 8:14 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL – Next meeting – **Monday, October 15, 2018** at 7:00 p.m. in the Upstairs Conference Room located in the BOE Offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Acampora