

MINUTES
ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 18, 2019
7:00 PM

- Attendance*** Present: Chairman Kraut, Mr. Cap, Ms. Riccio, Mr. Ziman, Mrs. Browe, Mr. Flynn, Mrs. Welander, Mr. Young, Mrs. Hadlock, Mr. Vitelli
- The meeting was taped by OGAT
- Also present: Dr. Scarpetti, Dr. Russo, Ms. Koch, Mrs. Edo, Members of the Bunnell Family, Shannan Carlson
- Call to Order*** The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Kraut at 7:15 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Mission Statement was read by Mr. Ziman.
- Public Participation*** There was no public participation.
- Correspondence*** There was no correspondence.
- Consent Agenda*** A motion was made by Mrs. Riccio and seconded by Mrs. Hadlock to approve the minutes from the October 21st 2019 BOE meeting. Unanimously approved.
- Presentation*** Chairmen Kraut introduced the newest member of the Board of Education, Ken Vitelli. He also took the time to thank all those who ran and didn't win during the election. Mr. Kraut acknowledged retiring Board member, Chantelle Bunnell. He spoke about her hard work while serving on the Board and how much her dedication was appreciated. Ms. Riccio, Mrs Browe thanked Chantelle for her many contributions and noted how she always put what was best for children first. Mr. Flynn personally thanked her for her help when he was a new member to the Board. Dr. Scarpetti recognized Chantelle efforts as a Board member and as an active PTA member. He introduced her family and thanked them as well. He present Mrs. Bunnell with a gift & flowers. Mrs. Bunnell addressed the Board thanking them for all the support over the past few years and what a positive experience it was to serve on the BOE. Cake was served during a reception to honor Chantelle and her family at the conclusion of this presentation.
- Superintendent's Report*** Dr. Scarpetti highlighted school events that took place since the October BOE meeting such as Halloween events, Parent/Teacher Conferences and that Report Cards are due out on 11/22. RBS, THS and PPS held their annual Veterans Day Assemblies which are always well attended. He continued to report that budgets

have been submitted and individual meetings with Ms. Koch will take place to review them with Department Heads and Principals in the near future. Dr. Scarpetti shared that he attend the CABA/CAPSS Conference held on November 15th. He interacted with many colleagues while attending this event which made him reflected on how well our Board works together. American Education Week took place from November 11 - 15. Specific visitation days were arranged for Board Members, Elected Officials and parents to visit. He gave mention about the Town of Orange Annual Holiday Festival taking place on December 1st from 3-6 PM. Also on December 1st, the Lions Club will host Thanksgiving Dinner taking place at 12:30 PM at HPCC. Dr. Scarpett concluded his report with a current listing of the open positions at the OBOE

***Business
Administrator
Report***

Ms. Koch reported that the Finance Committee met this evening. During their discussion, nothing exceptional was noted for October expenditures and there were no concerns on staying within budget. She stated that our auditors are back this week to work on the state reporting. She explained that they have been reviewing our financial, personnel, special education and payroll records along with our procedures and systems and are pleased with our established systems and have confidence in our procedures. Ms. Koch continued to share that cafeteria numbers are looking good for October. October is up from September, though slightly down from the prior year. Total lunch counts year to date are higher than at this time last year. Ms. Koch reported that training continued in October/November in the Munis financial modules – Purchasing, Accounts Payable, and General Ledger. She announced that they started using the newly developed chart of accounts in the “sandbox” test environment last week. The aim is to go live by April 1st for financial modules and July 1st for payroll. Ms. Koch stated that capital budgets were submitted on Friday and all departments have submitted budgets to central office. Meetings to discuss budgets with all department heads and principals will be scheduled in the very near future.

***Director of
Curriculum Report***

Dr. Russo began her report with an update on Professional Learning that took place on Election Day. She explained one of the focuses was to shift the way we approach our classrooms from adult storage spaces to more contemporary learning environments and engaging more opportunities to create 4.0 items and events with a different group teachers with prioritize standards. Dr. Russo was excited to share the continued work on Social - Emotional - Intelligence. Charters are being developed at each school by the staff to help recognize and accurately label emotions using a mood meter. She went on to explain what a mood meter is which uses words and colors help identify and labeling emotions which all come before expression and regulating. Dr Russo went on to explain working with Dr. Scarpetti to make sure parents have the resources needed for the electronic report cards. The prioritized standards were updated and will be shared with parents in a letter going home on November 22nd. Dr. Russo reported that the Math and Science Specialists are busy preparing for the December workshops that are scheduled. She concluded her report by sharing some information on upcoming Context Embedded Professional Learning with symbol imagery that will begin after Thanksgiving at MLT.

Director of Special Services Report

Mrs. Edo presented a playground update. She met with the company who designed and built the playgrounds at Racebrook and Turkey Hill Schools. She reported that he provided a plan and estimates for the poured in surface and inclusive equipment for MLT and Racebrook. Mrs. Edo continued to report that Individual Education Planner Viewer through PowerSchool is just days away from working. She thanked Matt Ullring from the IT department for all his help. She reminded the Board the benefits of this viewer is that all Individual Education Plans and 504 plans can be viewed through secure PowerSchool log on. Last month she reported that she was invited and attended two PTO/PTA meetings. This month she was invited and attended one more PTO meeting. She encouraged them to continue to reach out to her if they have questions. Mrs. Edo was excited to share that we just received the Primary Mental Health Grant for \$19,199.00. This will fit in well with our SRBI Tiered Behavioral Intervention which focuses on improving students' social, emotional and mental wellness as well as academic success for targeted at risk students.

**BOARD
BUSINESS**

Second Read Policies

The following policies are being presented as second read policies: Policy 4112.5/4212.5 Security Check/Fingerprinting, Policy 5144.4 Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students, Policy 6159 Individual Education Program/Special Education Program. These policies were presented as first read policies at the October 21st BOE meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Ziman, seconded by Mr. Young to adopt Policy 4112.5/4212.5 Security Check/Fingerprinting. Unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Riccio, seconded by Mrs. Hadlock to adopt Policy 5144.4 Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students. Unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Welander, seconded by Ms. Riccio to adopt Policy 6159 Individual Education Program/Special Education Program. The motion passed 9/0/1. All members vote aye, Mr. Vitelli abstained.

2020-2021 Student Calendar

The draft 2020/21 Student Calendar was shared at the October BOE meeting. A motion to adopt the 2020/21 Student Calendar as presented was made by Mr. Ziman, seconded by Mrs. Hadlock. Mrs. Riccio did state her continued position that school should begin after the Labor Day holiday. Motion passed unanimously.

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

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

Ms. Riccio gave Finance and Operations report. She mentioned that the Committee met prior to the BOE meeting. A short presentation took place regarding 21st Century which included information on the increased number of seats in the program, interesting and creative activities being conducted and some long range planning information was included. A full report on 21st Century will be presented in January. Ms. Riccio concluded her report with the mention of the October expenses that were discussed during the meeting and all seems to be in order.

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

Mrs. Browe presented a Personnel/Policy and Transportation report. She stated the Committee met on 10/28/19 and discussed the need to increase the number of substitute teachers in the district. A presentation was given by an outside service as a possible solution. The Committee will be looking to develop policies for the 21st Century Program. The Committee will be reviewing two new policies at their next meeting on 11/25/19 that will mostly likely be first reads at the December BOE meeting.

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

Mr. Young presented a Building & Grounds/Safety & Security report. He reported that the Committee met on 10/28/19 and reviewed tail end invoices from the THS ADA project. They also discussed a list of equipment in the district that has been identified as needing maintenance, repair or replacement. He concluded his report with the mention of whether or not this committee will need to meet this month. It will be discussed and decided upon in the next day or so.

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

Mr. Ziman presented a Curriculum/Instruction report. He gave an update on the Next Generation Science Assessment administered to 164 5th graders. 65% came in with a 3-4 level standard which is good but not what is expected from our students. He explained this new assessment and with the Smithsonian Science Program in place gains are expected to be noticeable in the Spring of 2021. He continued his report addressing the new report card system and the challenges it has brought to teachers. The October 23rd Professional Development Day focus on creating above standard 4.0 items to help students extend their knowledge. Mr. Ziman spoke about LEAP program which traditionally identifies gifted and talented students in academics. This program has recently been extended to help identify students gifted in music and art.

ACES

Ms. Riccio presented an ACES report. She reported attending the Governors Board Meeting on 11/14/19 and was pleased to share that they had their first audit prior to the deadline. Ms. Riccio shared some detailed information regarding tuition and service rates along with the acceptance process for ECA Schools that was presented at the meeting. She also reports that ACES has several open positions and to check their website for more details.

Adjourn

Mr. Ziman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Riccio. Unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

INFORMATIONAL – Next meeting – **Monday, December 16, 2019** at 7:00 p.m. in the Upstairs Conference Room located in the BOE Offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Shaw

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