

**ONEONTA CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2021**

The Oneonta City Board of Education met in a special called meeting September 7, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. in the Oneonta High School Library. Members present were Don Maples, President, Patrick Adams, Ricky Hicks, Sharon Breaseale and Matthew Taylor.

President Maples adjusted the Agenda to add Public Comment under the Communications section.

AGENDA APPROVED:

On a move from Mr. Hicks and a second from Mr. Taylor, the board unanimously approved the agenda.

COMMUNICATIONS:

President Maples opened to floor to any comments from the public. No one responded.

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

On a move from Mrs. Breaseale and a second from Mr. Taylor the board unanimously approved Superintendent Smith's recommendations 1 and 2.

1. Approved the employment of Melanie Ruiz, EL Instructional Aide, for the 2021-2022 school year pending background clearance.
2. Approved the 2021 2022 Capital Plan.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

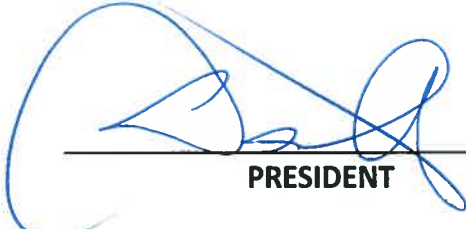
Superintendent Smith stated his appreciation for the board meeting this evening and approval of personnel and the capital plan.

From the prior board meeting, OCS is seeing an overall improvement and decline in the number of Covid cases. We are still concerned with the community being categorized as high risk by the public health department. He has spoken with administrators and employees, they understand the current situation. Guidance was sought from health officials, primarily from UAB, which sound a warning the next few weeks will be critical. We do have staff currently out with Covid. A comparison of infection and positive cases for elementary students this time last year 3, versus 25 this year. He feels mask are helping. Superintendent Smith made the recommendation to extend the mask mandate through September 27, 2021 and re-evaluate at that board meeting. Mr. Adams requested the percentage of students be added to the Covid test results document. President Maples stated we are clearly fortunate to be in a position to have the doors open to receive quality education. No one likes earning mask, but it is appropriate to accept the superintendent's recommendation through the next board meeting. Superintendent Smith stated our goal is to keep the school open. So far, we have been able to achieve this and are working daily to continue that way. The Board agreed to extend the current mask mandate through September 27, 2021.

On a move from Mr. Adams and a second from Mr. Taylor the meeting was adjourned.



SECRETARY



PRESIDENT