

**ONEONTA CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2021**

The Oneonta City Board of Education met in regular session January 25, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. in the Oneonta High School Library. Members present were Don Maples, President, Patrick Adams, Ricky Hicks, Steve Anderton and Sharon Breaseale.

AGENDA APPROVED:

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

MINUTES APPROVED:

On a move from Mr. Hicks and a second from Mrs. Breaseale the board unanimously approved the minutes of Regular Board Meeting November 30, 2020, and Special Called Board Meeting December 14, 2020.

RECOGNITION OF DELEGATIONS:

Richard Phillips, Mayor of Oneonta, stated his excitement with his role working with the school system. He applauded our efforts working with COVID and the exceptional job the system is doing. He congratulated the system on the building projects. Plans were mentioned for the city to revitalize several projects including the baseball fields, new soccer fields, aquatics center, an amphitheater and Woodland Park. He welcomed the boards input towards the park and athletic projects and stated his open line of communication.

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS APPROVED:

On a move from Mrs. Breaseale and a second from Mr. Anderton, the November and December financial statements were unanimously approved. The financial data and/or cash balances presented to the Board on January 25, 2021, are based on the reconciled bank statements to the general ledger as of November 30, 2020, and December 31, 2020.

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

On a move from Mr. Anderton and a second from Mr. Hicks the board unanimously approved Superintendent Smith's recommendations 1A through 1D.

1. Students
 - A. Approved the continued enrollment of two (2) OES non-resident students for the 2020-2021 school year.
 - B. Approved the placement of six (6) OES non-resident students on probation for the 2nd semester of the 2020-2021 school year.
 - C. Approved the placement of one (1) OMS non-resident student on probation for the 2nd semester of the 2020-2021 school year.
 - D. Approved the placement of four (4) OHS non-resident students on probation for the 2nd semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

On a move from Mrs. Breaseale and a second from Mr. Hicks the board unanimously approved Superintendent Smith's recommendations 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D.

2. Personnel
 - A. Approved the maternity leave of Sarah Whitley, OES Speech Pathologist, effective January 25, 2021 through March 19, 2021.
 - B. Approved Katie Wallace as maternity leave substitute teacher for Bethany Franklin, OHS Family and Consumer Science Teacher, January 25 through March 12, 2021.
 - C. Approved Jackson Devaney as a volunteer baseball coach for the 2021 baseball season.
 - D. Approved Eliza-Marie Zocher, CNP Worker, be placed on non-paid leave of absence for the remainder of the current school year ending on May 28, 2021.

On a move from Mr. Adams and a second from Mrs. Breaseale the board approved Superintendent Smith's recommendation 2E, Mr. Hicks abstained from voting.

- E. Approved the supplement of \$5,000 to Erica Whited to complete psychometry testing/screening for students effective January 4, 2021 to May 28, 2021.

On a move from Mrs. Breaseale and a second from Mr. Anderton the board unanimously approved Superintendent Smith's recommendation 3.

3. Approved COVID-19 Illness Leave for Employees effective January 4, 2021 through May 28, 2021.

On a move from Mr. Anderton and a second from Mrs. Breaseale the board unanimously approved Superintendent Smith's recommendation 4.

4. Approved Change Order Request, COR 11, by Williford Orman Construction in the amount of \$3,761.00 to bring existing fire wall up to code in part of the new Band Room Construction.

On a move from Mrs. Breaseale and a second from Mr. Hicks the board unanimously approved Superintendent Smith's recommendation 5.

5. Approved Change Order Request: COR2, by Coston Construction for \$2,680.59 minus the OH & P 10% of \$243.69 for a total amount of \$2,436.90 to change the 12' Drive Gate to 24' Drive Gate to accommodate moving the rolling batting cage onto and off of the playing field. The 20 Days Required (additional days added for completion) will not be accepted as part of COR2.

On a move from Mr. Adams and a second from Mr. Hicks the board unanimously approved Superintendent Smith's recommendation 6.

6. Approved Budget Amendment #1 for FY21.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Superintendent Smith thanked Ms. Green, Principal Whited and Assistant Principal Jones for the Tomahawk Pageant and looks forward to the musical in the spring. The boys and girls did an outstanding job. The middle school pageant will be this weekend. He received compliments for having the pageant and providing as much normalcy as possible.

Construction project updates: The Band Room is nearing completion and could be completed any day. Work has started on the maintenance building. Progress has slowed at the baseball field due to weather. Repairs were made to the softball field due to standing water and field resurfaced; looking into replacing the fence.

We are three weeks into the second semester, Mrs. Wilson sent board members information on the number of failing students from the first semester. Administrators and teachers are working with students for credit recovery. Mr. Smith requested board members come in early before next meeting to discuss learning loss, what will be happening in the spring academically, and spring/summer credit recovery. Mrs. Wilson stated there is a significant increase in the number of failures in the middle and high schools, which is comparable to the increase in the failure rate and mental health referrals seen in other systems and across the nation. We are waiting on final detail and guidelines regarding additional federal funding; Mr. Smith feels part will be targeted toward learning loss. OHS Principal Whited stated credit recovery started today with over 110 students. It runs much like summer school, being held on Mondays from 8 until 11 in the auditorium. Once the student completes the coursework, they will continue to work and stay on track for second semester work. OMS Principal Rogers stated the middle school uses a yearly average grading scale, 70 students failed one or more subjects. She met with the RTI team today and plans to run a program similar to high school with students meeting on Mondays from 8 until 11 utilizing Study Island to apply the specific standards from 1st semester. Mr. Smith stated an in-depth explanation will be presented at the next meeting, and requested a work session before the February 22 board meeting. He appreciates the teachers; they are facing a compound challenge.

High school spring assessments require 3 days of testing throughout the building. Due to the number of grade level teachers required and to avoid combining classes, the school requested students not involved in testing be remote learners on those testing days. Principal Whited

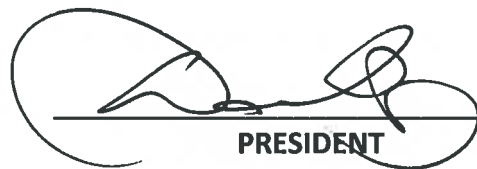
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reported preliminary testing conducted in the gym went well and helped with social distancing. This would be beneficial to the students and give an optimal chance for success for those being tested.

Board members were presented various posters and cards from the schools to show their appreciation for School Board Appreciation month. Mr. Smith thanked the board for their work and leadership in putting students and the school first.

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


SECRETARY


PRESIDENT