

**ONEONTA CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 26, 2023**

The Oneonta City Board of Education met in regular session June 26, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Oneonta High School Library. Members present were Don Maples, Vice President, Ricky Hicks, Sharon Breaseale, and Matthew Taylor. Patrick Adams was absent.

**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. Taylor and a second from Mrs. Breaseale, the board unanimously approved the minutes of Regular Board Meeting May 15, 2023.

**RECOGNITION OF DELEGATIONS:**

Community members Dakey Elliott, Tim Alexander, Ralph Polk and Winston Scott addressed the Board to voice concerns about community involvement, open communication with the school system, the issue of racial diversity of staff members to reflect the student population, and a recent personnel decision regarding an assistant football coaching assignment. Mr. Maples and Mr. Sosebee stated their appreciation to the members for attending and voicing their concerns. Both parties engaged in a conversation to address questions about Board procedures and the OCS hiring process.

**MAY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS APPROVED:**

On a move from Mrs. Breaseale and a second from Mr. Taylor, the May financial statements were unanimously approved. The financial data and/or cash balances presented to the Board on June 26, 2023, are based on the reconciled bank statements to the general ledger as of May 31, 2023.

**SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS:**

On a move from Mr. Hicks and a second from Mrs. Breaseale, the board unanimously approved Superintendent Sosebee's recommendations 1A through 1I.

1. Students
  - A. Approved the continued enrollment of twenty-six (26) OES 3<sup>rd</sup> grade non-resident students and two (2) OES 3<sup>rd</sup> grade non-resident students on probation status for the 2023-2024 school year.
  - B. Approved the enrollment of thirty-nine (39) OES non-resident students for the 2023-2024 school year.
  - C. Approved the enrollment of four (4) OMS non-resident students for the 2023-2024 school year.
  - D. Approved the placement of nine (9) OES non-resident students on probation status for the 2023-2024 school year.
  - E. Approved the placement of seven (7) OMS non-resident students on probation status for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year.
  - F. Approved the placement of five (5) OHS non-resident students on probation status for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year.
  - G. Approved the non-resident student privilege be revoked for one (1) OMS student effective the 2023-2024 school year.
  - H. Approved the non-resident student privilege be revoked for two (2) OHS students effective the 2023-2024 school year.
  - I. Approved the field trip request to New York City for OHS Singers/Music & Drama/OMS Choir from March 22-27, 2024.

On a move from Mrs. Breaseale and a second from Mr. Taylor, the board unanimously approved Superintendent Sosebee's recommendations 2A through 2J.

2. Personnel
  - A. Accepted the resignation of Dillon Burton, OCS Maintenance/Tradesman, effective June 15, 2023.

- B. Approved the catastrophic leave request for Wendy Smithson, OMS Social Science Teacher, for the 2023-2024 academic school year.
- C. Approved the employment of Jennifer Fields as CNP Worker for the 2023-2024 school year, effective August 3, 2023.
- D. Approved David Bearden as Part-time Bus Driver for the 2023-2024 school year.
- E. Approved the employment of Lauren Haley Powell as Special Education Teacher Aide for the 2023-2024 school year, effective August 3, 2023.
- F. Approved the employment of Christy Brooks as Alternative Program Teacher Aide for the 2023-2024 school year, effective August 3, 2023.
- G. Approved the employment of Jarrod Jeffreys as OHS Social Science Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year, effective August 3, 2023.
- H. Approved the employment of Christian Cain as Maintenance Worker/Tradesman for the 2023-2024 school year, pending background clearance.
- I. Approved up to 5 additional contract days for Amanda Wood, OES Counselor, for the 2023-2024 school year to assist with summer testing, reporting and student needs.
- J. Approved Math and Science teachers 3-year TEAMS contracts.  
Teachers in their second year for 2023-2024 of the previously- approved contracts:
  - Rhonda Ford
  - Christy Bass
  - Nic Riley
  - Ashley Posey Brown
  - Erica WhitedTeachers that have completed STEM certification and professional development requirements for their first provisional contract and will begin a 3-year TEAMS contract for 2023-2024:
  - Michelle Patrick
  - Peyton Gilliland
  - Tiffany Jones
  - Kerri Reynolds
  - Jeremy Cox

On a move from Mr. Hicks and a second from Mr. Taylor, the board unanimously approved Superintendent Sosebee's recommendations 3 through 9.

3. Approved the OCS Salary and Supplement Schedules for the 2023-2024 scholastic year.
4. Approved the 2023-2024 OCS Student Handbook.
5. Approved the 2023-2024 OCS Teacher Handbook.
6. Approved the 2023-2024 OCS Chromebook Policy.
7. Approved budget amendment #2 for FY23. CSFO Katie Bryant provided summary information regarding the revision.
8. Approved the proposal from Herff Jones for the 2023-2024 OHS Yearbook.
9. Approved the facility usage agreement with 2D Sports/Southeast Collegiate League to use the OHS Baseball field for four dates this summer.

**BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:**

On a move from Mr. Hicks and a second from Mrs. Breaseale, the board unanimously approved recommendations 1 and 2.

1. Approved the three-year contract for Katie Bryant, CSFO, effective July 1, 2023, for an annual compensation of \$70,000.
2. Approved an annual compensation of \$135,000 for Craig Sosebee, Superintendent, effective July 1, 2023.

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**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Superintendent Sosebee stated last Thursday, filming interviews continued of school and community stakeholders regarding Oneonta City Schools. We are excited to preview these videos prior to their release throughout next school year. Some of those helping with interviews were: Sharon Standridge, Stanley Moss, Beverly Anderson, Megan Hastings, Sara Towns, Stephanie Gonzalez, Ricky and Liz Hicks, Rogelio Arriaga, Edgar Nunez, Jim Kilgore, Phil Phillips, Justin Bryant, Lamonde Russell, Jim Williams, Richard Phillips, Lynn Lumpkin, Angela Henderson, James and Brittany McDonald, and all current administrators, coordinators and counselors.

Thanks were extended to the Board for approving the 2023-2024 Salary Schedule. This schedule includes a two percent raise for all employees and ensures a salary step for classified employees after 20 years of service.

The Cross Country trail routing is firming up, smoothing the trail more will begin and opening it up a little wider. Mr. Sosebee talked to our commissioner regarding adding a culvert on the top side of the OES playground for another entrance.

New lighting is planned for the softball field and on July 13, we will open bids for the softball lighting project. A new scoreboard is planned and we are receiving quotes for consideration. A survey was just completed marking all utilities to assist the architect in completing our designs for the new home dugout.

Mrs. Katie Wallace has resigned her OHS Math teaching/coaching position, and the position was posted this afternoon. A special called board meeting may be needed in July for action.

As we have just wrapped up a school year, some exciting preliminary data to share. OHS will have an estimated 99% graduation rate and a 99% CCRI. Recognition boards for student achievements are mounted in the lobby, there are about 50 students who made above a 25 on the ACT. OMS IReady spring data demonstrates a significant increase. OES Reading ACAP scores arrived early to help us with summer learning plans and 93.1% of 3rd grade students were on or above grade level (5th in state), 93.4% of 2nd grade students were on or above grade level (7th in state).

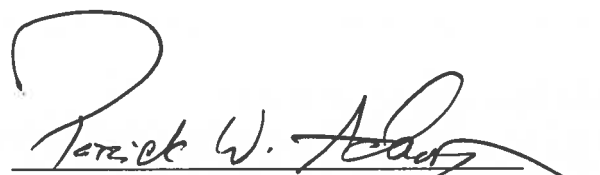
Last year, we made a local decision to provide teachers with early access to their classroom materials and supplies money and the state has actually done that for us this year. Teachers are to have access to a portion of their m/s money at the beginning of the year instead of until October 1.

On a move from Mr. Hicks and a second from Mrs. Breaseale, the meeting was adjourned.



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**SECRETARY**



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**PRESIDENT**