

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Ostrander Elementary School
Thursday, March 17, 2016
7:00 p.m.

*Walk-Through Tour
Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School @ 6:15 p.m.*

1. Commendations

The Board recognized the following who received recognition from Senator Bonacic for their accomplishments:

- John G. Borden Middle School for 95 years of service to students.
- The gymnastics team who won their first Section 9 Gymnastics Title (since 1994).
- Mike Fekishazy and Garrett Betcher who both won the Section 9 Division I Wrestling Championship.

2. Public Comment – Agenda #1

The book for signing up to speak has been placed in the audience, and each participant will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. At 7:12 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment.

A high school teacher thanked the Board for accepting his retirement letter and acknowledged and thanked Mr. Rydell for his support in making the IAA program (Skype with China) a success. A District resident addressed the Board with regards to use of reserves and parking at Plattekill Elementary School.

3. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – Agenda #2

At 7:22 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Vice-President Thomas McCullough in the Ostrander Elementary All-Purpose Room.

Members Present

Mrs. Anderson
Mrs. Crowley
Mr. Frisbie
Mr. McCullough
Mr. Steve Missale
Mr. O'Mara
Mr. Spencer
Ms. Natalie Matikiewicz [Student Rep]

Members Absent

Mr. LoCicero
Mr. Petroccelli

Also present were Superintendent Castle, Assistant Superintendents Devincenzi and Herrington, and Administrators Anderson, Becker, Brown, Dart, Earl, Pantaleone, and Rydell.

4. Approve Minutes – [2/18/16 Regular Board Meeting]

Mr. O'Mara moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the February 18, 2016, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Missale and carried 7 - 0.

5. Board Committee Reports

Audit:

Mrs. Crowley reported that the Audit Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The internal auditors completed their testing within the District. Once the District receives their draft report a meeting will be scheduled to review the report.

Budget:

Mr. Devincenzi reported that the Board met on March 10, 2016 to review the working 2016-2017 Budget, which currently reflects a 1.25 % increase, along with an estimated 0.9% increase in the tax levy (at the tax levy limit). These numbers may change based on final State Aid numbers. The next meeting to review the 2016-2017 budget will be on April 14, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library. PTO/PTA budget presentation meetings are all scheduled for 7:00 p.m., and will be held on May 2, 2016, at Ostrander Elementary School, May 3, 2016, at Leptondale Elementary School and May 10, 2016, at Plattekill Elementary School. The Public Budget Hearing will be at 7:00 p.m., on May 5, 2016, in the High School Library. Current budget Information can be found on the District's website and more detailed information will be provided in the May Budget issue of Learning At Wallkill (LAW).

Buildings & Grounds:

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. There was a building walk-through on March 17, 2016, at the Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School. Bids for the Capital Improvement Project are on the March 17, 2016 agenda for approval. Work for the Capital Project is projected to begin the first week in May. The next committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 25, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at District Office.

CDEP:

Mr. O'Mara reported that the CDEP Committee met on February 24, 2016. Mr. Castle discussed the Financial Report of Examination released by the Office of the State Comptroller's Division of Local Government and School Accountability. Mrs. Herrington discussed district updates, including technology, professional development and the proposed Academy Model for the high school. Mrs. Herrington led committee members through an activity using the Schoology learning management system (software program for creating digital curriculum). Emily Gilbert, Ulster BOCES Instructional Specialist, and Rebekah Leonardi, Leptondale teacher, presented on the SAMR (Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, Redefinition) model, which provides an integration model for technology in the classroom. Mrs. Herrington screened the documentary "Most Likely to Succeed" for the committee. Building teams met to discuss their building goals, including PBIS initiatives, using data to inform instruction, pinpointing problem areas such as student referrals and increasing parent engagement. The next meeting is scheduled with the Board of Education for March 31, 2016, at 7 p.m. in the High School Library Media Center. Building teams will present their 2016-2017 plans.

Curriculum/TAG:

Mrs. Anderson reported that the Curriculum Committee met on February 22, 2016. Mrs. Herrington advised the committee that the middle school (Grade 7 Math) will be doing State field testing online this year providing an opportunity to prepare for online testing in the future. In addition, all alternative assessments will be done online this year. In preparation, teachers have been attending training at BOCES with Mr. White. There was an update on elementary Math AIS program and the use of a software program called eSpark, which will assist students with math standards that they may be struggling with. There was also a presentation on a new software program called Naviance, which will be proposed for implementation at the high school and middle school for the 2016-2017 school year. The program will assist students with college and career readiness and provide parents with resources to help their child with researching careers and searching and applying to college. The next meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2016, at 7 p.m. in the High School Library Media Center.

Legislative:

Mr. Castle reported that the average budget increase over the last five (5) years is 2.2% and the average tax levy increase over the last five (5) years is 2.5% (these averages include the percent increases in the current working budget). The current tax levy cap with exemptions is 0.9%, which could be reduced dependent upon the amount the District receives in State Aid. The State Assembly is proposing an increase in State Aid of \$2.1 billion and the Senate is proposing an increase of \$1.6 billion. In addition, they are recommending the elimination of the Gap Elimination Adjustment. The Foundation Aid Formula, which was written in 2007, promised a minimum 3% increase in State Aid to districts; however, in 2009 the formula was frozen. This restriction in revenue has led the District to use fund balance and reserves to stabilize the tax levy.

Policy:

Mr. O'Mara reported that six (6) policies are on the March 17, 2016 agenda for second reading. The Policy Committee met with the Athletic Advisory Committee on March 8, 2016, to review the final draft of the athletic handbook, which will be presented to the Policy Committee in May to bring to the Board for first and second readings. The next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in District Office.

Technology:

Mrs. Herrington reported that the Technology Committee met on March 1, 2016. The committee reviewed the 2016-2017 Technology Pilot for middle and high school teachers and pilot applications submitted by 18 teachers. Training will begin in Spring/Summer 2016. Thomas Hein reviewed features of Office 365 (which was already launched in the District and will be introduced to students in the Fall), including the videos he has created for training purposes. The next meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2016, at 7 p.m. in the High School Library Media Center.

Wellness:

Mr. Spencer reported that the Wellness Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2016, at 3:15 p.m. in the High School Library to discuss Wellness Month, which is May and to review a wellness calendar that is to be posted on the District website.

Student Rep:

Natalie Matikiewicz reported the following:

- Mr. Rydell announced the Top 10 of the Senior class, including Valedictorian and Salutatorian.
- Seniors are finishing up scholarship applications and are very close to selecting their colleges.
- There was a blood drive, March 17th, at the Senior High School, which was organized by the SHAC/SADD club.
- NHS met and discussed the induction ceremony on May 4th, at 7:00 p.m., which will be inducting over 70 new members.
- Family Math Night took place on March 15th at Leptondale Elementary; NHS members volunteered their time to help students with their math skills.
- The Spanish Honor Society met to discuss a bake sale fundraiser.
- SGA is working on preparations for the Junior Prom and Senior Ball.
- AP review is underway in preparation for taking the tests in May.
- Spring sports are off to a great start as coaches and players are excited about the upcoming season.
- The SALT (Athletes Helping Athletes) team went to Molloy University on March 17th to receive training.
- A group of seniors visited SUNY New Paltz on March 15th in order to view the location for the Senior graduation ceremony.
- Expanded Horizons will be going on a Library Redesign Field Trip on April 7th to the New Canaan High School Media Center in New Canaan, CT and the Tappan Zee High School Library Media Center in Orangeburg, NY.
- On April 4, 2016, from 10:00 am – 1:00 p.m., there will be an assembly by the Holocaust Museum and Center for Tolerance and Education in the High School Auditorium.

6. Consent Agenda

Mr. O'Mara moved items 6A through 6F, 6H through 6L and 7A through 7H be taken as consent agenda.

Motion seconded by Mr. Frisbie and carried 7 - 0.

Create Temporary Position – Non-Instructional – Agenda #6.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and create the following temporary position:

Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Construction and Maintenance Coordinator assigned District-Wide*

**This position will be in connection with the District's Capital Improvement Project*

Accept Resignations – Non-Instructional – Agenda #6.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Michelle Earl** from the position of Part-Time [0.78 FTE] Supervisory Teacher Aide, assigned to Plattekill Elementary School, effective March 17, 2016, pending her appointment to the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Senior Account Clerk.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Barbara Gessner** from the position of Part-Time [0.94 FTE] Clerk, assigned to the Leptondale Elementary School, effective March 7, 2016.

Approve Appointments – Non-Instructional – Agenda #6.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **William Chesser** to the temporary position of Construction and Maintenance Coordinator, assigned District-Wide, effective April 4, 2016, at a salary of \$40.00 per hour, not to exceed \$20,000. This position will serve in the capacity of “Clerk of the Works” for the Capital Improvement Project.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Janine Daly** to a 26-Week Probationary Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide position, assigned to the Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School, effective March 31, 2016, at a salary of \$10.41 per hour (Step 3 of the CSEA Contract) [5.8 hours daily]. Ms. Daly replaces Megan Migliore, who resigned.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Michelle Earl** to a 90 Day Probationary Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Senior Account Clerk position, assigned to the District Office, effective March 18, 2016, at a salary of \$30,485 pro-rated (Step 6, Grade 12 of the CSEA Contract) [per Stipulation of Agreement on file]. Ms. Earl replaces Sandy Romero, who resigned.

Accept Resignation – Co-Curricular – Agenda #6.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Patricia Long** from the Co-Curricular position of Junior Class Co-Advisor, effective February 24, 2016.

Approve Appointment – Co-Curricular – Agenda #6.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of the following individual to the High School Co-Curricular position for the 2015-2016 school year.

Shane Regan	Spring Weight Lifting Intramurals Advisor	\$937
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Approve Appointments – Coaching – Agenda #6.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following appointments for the High School Fall 2016-2017 season:

Shane Regan	Varsity Football Coach	\$5,924
Christopher Valencia	Girls Varsity Soccer Coach	\$4,756

Award Tenure – Instructional – Agenda #6.H.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Russell Alger** in the area of Business effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Karen Bayer** in the area of Elementary Education effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Vanessa Byrne** in the area of Mathematics effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Irina Gales** in the area of Foreign Language effective September 23, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Joy Heeney** in the area of School Social Worker effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Marie Mazza** in the area of Speech effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Samrat Pathania** in the area of Mathematics effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **John Shanley** in the area of Social Studies effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Kailen Stemmler** in the area of Elementary Education effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **MaryKate Taliaferro** in the area of Elementary Education effective September 1, 2016.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Dean Wood** in the area of Technology effective September 1, 2016.

Approve Second Readings – Policy – Agenda #6.I.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the second reading of the following policies:

1. Policy #5620 Operation and Maintenance of Facilities
2. Policy #5622 Handling of Toxic Substance by Employees
3. Policy #5700 Transportation Program
4. Policy #7441 Law Enforcement Officials
5. Policy #7442 Interrogations
6. Policy #7521 Selection/Classification Process

Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #6.J.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the lists for individuals for teaching and non-teaching substitute positions.

Approve Pre-School Special Education Placements – Agenda #6.K.

The Board approve the placement of Pre-School Special Education students as recommended by the Committee on Special Education in its February minutes.

Approve Special Education Placements – Agenda #6.L.

The Board approve the placement of Special Education students as recommended by the Committee on Special Education in its February minutes.

Approve Use of Facilities – Agenda #7.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the John G. Borden Middle School by **Wallkill Area Youth Soccer** [for Practice and Games] as indicated below:

Mondays-Fridays:	April 6, 2016 - June 23, 2016	After 5:00 p.m.
Saturdays:		8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Accept Treasurer's Report – Agenda #7.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education has reviewed and accepts the Treasurer's Reports as of February 29, 2016 and Revenues as of February 29, 2016.

Approve Legal Fees [2016-2017 School Year] – Agenda # 7.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the hourly rate for legal fees to be \$200 per hour [for attorneys] effective July 1, 2016 and to be \$90 per hour [for paralegal services] effective July 1, 2016. These fees reflect no increase from the 2015-2016 school year.

Approve Change Order Resolution – Agenda #7.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Building and Grounds Committee, to review and approve Change Orders (changes to the contract sum) that do not exceed \$20,000, and which may delay construction as recommended by the school’s architect, and further resolve that the Board of Education authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Support Services to execute any such approved Change Orders.

Approve Allowance Access Authorization – Agenda #7.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Buildings and Grounds Committee to execute the Allowance Access Authorization Form (allowances that do not change the contract sum) for the Capital Improvement Project.

Approve New York State Comptroller Audit Report – Agenda #7.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the New York State Comptroller Audit Report for the period covering July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015, and the Corrective Action Plan.

Award Bids – Capital Improvement Project – Agenda #7.G.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award the following “Prime Contracts” for the Capital Improvement Project as indicated below to:

General Work:

***Transitional Builders, Inc.
85 Market Street, Suite 300
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601***

Base Bid Amount: \$98,276

SUGGESTED CONTRACT AWARD:

\$98,276

Electric Work:

***Stilsing Electric, Inc.
500 South Street
Rensselaer, NY 12144***

Base Bid Amount: \$2,070,000

Alternate No. EC-1: Middle School Generator Upgrade:

\$ 66,200

SUGGESTED CONTRACT AWARD:

\$2,136,200

Site Work:

***Landscape Unlimited, Inc.
PO Box 38
Somers, NY 10589***

Base Bid Amount: \$3,897,000

Alternate No. SC-1: Football Field End Zone Graphics:

\$ 27,000

Alternate No. SC-2: Synthetic Turf Resilient Underlayment

\$ 83,000

SUGGESTED CONTRACT AWARD:

\$4,007,000

Approve Proposal – Construction Inspection Testing Services – Agenda #7.H.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the proposal from **Atlantic Testing Laboratories** for construction inspection testing services as part of the Capital Improvement Project.

7. Award Tenure – Administration – Agenda #6.G.

Mr. O'Mara moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Brian Devincenzi** in the area of Assistant Superintendent for Support Services effective September 3, 2016.

Motion seconded by Mrs. Anderson and carried 7 - 0.

[Mr. Spencer thanked Mr. Devincenzi for his dedication to the District]

8. Public Comment – Agenda #8

The book for signing up to speak has been placed in the audience, and each participant will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. At 7:43 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment.

No comment.

9. Executive Session – Agenda #9

At 7:44 p.m. Mr. O'Mara moved the Board enter Executive Session to review litigation.

Motion seconded by Mr. Frisbie and carried 7 - 0.

The Board reconvened at 8:27 p.m.

10. Close Meeting – Agenda #10

At 8:28 p.m. Mr. Spencer moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. O'Mara and carried 7 - 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Corcoran
District Clerk