

OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting Held on January 14, 2019

The Work Session of the Octorara Area School Board was held in the Octorara Area Jr./Sr. High School Multi-Purpose Room on January 14, 2019.

A moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance preceded the meeting.

The President, Ms. Bowman, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Other members present were Mr. Falgiatore, Mr. Fox, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Koennecker, Mr. Kloss, and Mr. Zimmerman. Mr. Ganow and Mr. Norris were absent. Also present were Mrs. Hardy, Secretary; Dr. Orner, Superintendent; Mr. Curtis, Business Manager; members of the administrative team; one reporter and one citizen.

Under presentations, Mr. Peticca gave an update on the Octorara Virtual Academy. Dr. Orner discussed enrollment, House Bill 935, school choice and the Needs Assessment Survey.

There were no visitors' comments for agenda items only or information items.

Ms. Bowman presented the following items for action at the January 21, 2019 Board meeting:

- A. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the 2018-2019 Octorara Area Homeland Security and Protective Services Academy Occupational Advisory Committee members.
- B. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the annual fiscal audit report of the District for the year ending June 30, 2018 as prepared by the auditing firm of Herbein & Company.
- C. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the calendar for the 2019-2020 school year.
- D. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Ms. Megan Clarke's request for unpaid Family Medical Leave for the purpose of child rearing from approximately April 25, 2019 through the end of the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Clarke is a second grade teacher at the Octorara Primary Learning Center.
- E. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Ms. Katherine Westervelt's request for unpaid Family Medical Leave for the purpose of child rearing from approximately April 16, 2019 through May 24, 2019. Ms. Westervelt is a math teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School.
- F. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the issuance of a diploma for student "A" effective December 2018.
- G. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following policies, second reading:
 - 108 Adoption of Textbooks
 - 246 Student Wellness

Resignation Approvals:

- H. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept, with regret, the resignation of Ms. Connie Rutter as an instructional assistant at the Octorara Intermediate School effective December 21, 2018. (Hired September 18, 2003)

- I. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Ms. Samantha Norris as an instructional assistant at the Octorara Elementary School effective January 10, 2019. (Hired August 17, 2015)
- J. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Ms. Kapri Johnson as a lunch/playground supervisor at the Octorara Primary Learning Center effective January 9, 2019. (Hired September 19, 2016)
- K. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Mr. Steve Roberts as a 7th grade baseball coach at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective December 17, 2018. (Hired for the 2017-2018 school year)
- L. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Ms. Debbie Bollenbach as an assistant track coach at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective January 4, 2019. (Hired for the 2017-2018 school year)

Hiring Approvals:

- M. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following substitute support staff for the 2018-2019 school year:
 - Melissa Bailey, cafeteria
 - Alexis Howarth, cafeteria
- N. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following change in salary due to graduate credits earned:
 - Holly Conte From M+15 (\$69,405) to M+30 (\$71,378) Step 9 to MAX

Agenda item “O” was tabled pending more information.

Under the Policy Committee Report, Ms. Bowman said the Committee discussed the second reading of policies 108 *Adoption of Textbooks* and 246 *Student Wellness*.

Under the Facility Committee Report, Mr. Curtis reported the Committee discussed the status of the IT Wireless Project, the PLC boiler replacement, the long range capital plan, and softball fields.

There were no other items and concerns or visitors’ comments for items in general.

Under administrators’ comments, Dr. Haller reported he judged the STEM competition in Mrs. Gray’s room. The STEM projects had to be environmentally friendly, use KNex pieces, and be able to move a rubber eraser at least six inches. Winners from each grade group will advance to the County Competition.

Mr. Dikun reported that no one attending the K-6 Standards Based Reporting session last week was a positive sign that teachers did a great job explaining it to parents during conferences this fall.

Ms. Lease said PTO is organizing a STEM night with grades 7-12. She also reported the PTO will be looking for new Board members at the end of the year. She thanked PTO members for all they do for the students and staff.

Dr. Rohrer reported parents will be receiving letters explaining the Positive Action Program that will begin on January 24. Ninth grade parents will receive an additional letter explaining the suicide prevention program.

Ms. McNamara announced the FBLA participated in Regional Competition. Students had the option of competing as individuals or as a team in a category of their choice. First place winners of the regional event were Consiglio Roselli, Accounting II-individual; Casey Carr and Gavin Camerote, Graphic Design-team. Second place winner was Samantha Tellez, Social Media Campaign-

individual. Third place winners were John Beecher, Sports and Entertainment Marketing-individual; Jack Jobe and Makayla Roccia, Marketing-team. Winning fourth place were Benjamin Pratt, Global Business-individual and Jesus Duenas-Gonzalez, Advertising-individual.

Dr. Orner announced January is School Board Recognition month. She thanked the Board on behalf of students, parents, and staff for their tireless efforts for the Octorara Area School District. Dr. Orner thanked the maintenance and custodial staff for clearing the snow so school could open on time. She announced she will be attending a forum on vaping at the CCIU on January 31. Dr. Orner announced the School Safety Summit meetings to be held at the Jr. High MPR on January 15 and at the Parkesburg Point on January 28.

Under board comments, Mr. Fox announced he will not be able to attend the School Safety Summit meeting at the Parkesburg Point. Mr. Koennecker will report on that meeting for Mr. Fox.

Ms. Bowman thanked the PTO for their hard work as volunteers.

Ms. Bowman announced upcoming meetings to be held:

Executive Session for personnel - Monday, January 14, 2019 - following the Work Session in the District Office Conference Room

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, January 21, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting – Monday, January 21, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Education Committee Meeting – Monday, January 28, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. at the Parkesburg Point. Dinner by RSVP to the Point begins at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further items of business the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. on motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Koennecker and approval of all members present.

This Board meeting can be viewed in its entirety on You Tube.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill L. Hardy, Secretary
Octorara Board of School Directors