

# OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Minutes of Board Meeting Held on June 10, 2019

The Work Session of the Octorara Area School Board was held in the Octorara Area Jr./Sr. High School Multi-Purpose Room on June 10, 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. Ganow, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kloss, Mr. Koennecker, Mr. Norris, and Mr. Zimmerman. Also present were Mrs. Hardy, Secretary; Dr. Orner, Superintendent; Mr. Curtis, Business Manager; members of the administrative team; one reporter, and no citizens.

Under presentations, Dr. Rohrer gave an update on the School Improvement Plan.

There were no visitors' comments for agenda items only.

Under information items, Ms. Alysia Coldren will transfer from a first grade teacher at the Octorara Primary Learning Center to a third grade teacher at the Octorara Elementary School for the 2019-2020 school year. (Replacing a sabbatical leave.)

Ms. Bowman presented the following items for action at the June 17, 2019 Board meeting:

- A. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the resolution adopting the 2019-2020 General Fund Budget Expenditures in the amount of \$56,718,731.
- B. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the resolution establishing a real estate millage rate of 40.79 mills in Chester County and 25.66 mills in Lancaster County.
- C. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the resolution for the 2019-2020 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion.
- D. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the resolution to appoint Ms. Ashley Antosh as tax collector for the District effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.
- E. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the list of salaries for District employees for the 2019-2020 school year.
- F. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following financial institutions and investment firms for financial services during the 2019-2020 school year, in accordance with Section 621 of the School Code:
  1. Fulton Bank-depository and investment
  2. PA School District Liquid Asset Fund – depository and investment
  3. RBC Dain Rauscher, Inc.-investment only
- G. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following list of signatories for the designated bank accounts effective July 1, 2019:
  - General Fund: – President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary
  - Cafeteria Fund: – President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary
  - Official Imprest Fund: - Superintendent, Business Manager, High School Principal, Asst. High School Principal, Board Secretary  
(Required 2 signatures)
  - School Activity Fund: - Building Principal, Building Asst. Principal, Business Manager, Board Secretary

(Required Business Manager signature with one counter signature)

- H. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the appropriate budget transfers for the year ending 2018 - 2019 as a result of the annual financial audit. (Note: This is a requirement for the school code to be done prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> of each fiscal year.)
- I. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Dr. Jeffrey Blair as the school dental consultant for the 2019-2020 school year.
- J. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Plan for the Octorara Area Jr/Sr High School effective July 1, 2019.
- K. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Octorara Area School District Communication and Community Engagement Plan effective July 1, 2019.
- L. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Agreement for Student Enrollment with Valley Forge Educational Services for the 2019-2020 school year.
- M. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the revision to the 2019-2020 school calendar.
- N. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the three-year Chromebook Lease Agreement effective July 1, 2019.
- O. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve a half-year sabbatical leave for the second semester of the 2019-2020 school year for Ms. Tara Murdock for the purpose of study. (Ms. Murdock is a FACS teacher at the Octorara Jr/Sr High School.)
- P. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the student activity request “Cosmos Club” at the Octorara Jr/Sr High School.

Resignation Approvals:

- Q. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept, with regret, the resignation for purpose of retirement of Ms. Debra Bollenbach as a health/physical education teacher at the Octorara Jr/Sr High School effective June 30, 2019. (Hired September 1, 1994)
- R. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept, with regret, the resignation for purpose of retirement of Ms. Diane Haney as a math teacher at the Octorara Jr/Sr High School effective June 30, 2019. (Hired August 29, 1997)
- S. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept, with regret, the resignation for purpose of retirement of Ms. Deborah McCormick as a math instructional assistant at the Octorara Jr/Sr High School effective June 7, 2019. (Hired April 29, 1992)
- T. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept, with regret, the resignation of Mr. Michael Mundy from the following supplemental positions at the Octorara Jr/Sr High School effective May 13, 2019:
  - Assistant Cross Country Coach (Hired for the 2006-2007 school year)
  - Assistant Track Coach (Hired for the 1998-1999 school year)
- U. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Mr. Denim Kurtzhals as assistant football coach at the Octorara Jr/Sr High School effective May 17, 2019. (Hired for the 2018-2019 school year)

Under the Policy Committee Report, Ms. Bowman said the Committee discussed policy *915 Booster Organizations*. PSBA will be updating policies – a schedule will be forthcoming.

Under the Facility Committee Report, Mr. Norris reported the Committee was introduced to Joe Passante, the new CCCIU facilities director. The Committee discussed a possible agreement with Coca-Cola, carpet replacement, a plaque on the Smoke Tree planted in memory of Dalton Pointek and Carly Imbierowicz, hot water quote in the Sr. High, Paper Cut Software, asphalt bid, and formulating a plan to keep the refrigerators and other kitchen appliances clean in the building lounges.

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

Under administrators' comments, Ms. McNamara said the OABEST Expo was successful and very well attended. Next year's OABEST will be held on May 30, 2020.

Dr. Tachau announced principals in the elementary buildings are putting together a School Improvement Plan Committee to expand the high expectations of the District. Meetings will be held in June and July; Board members are invited to attend.

Ms. Lease said 51% of the students at the PLC completed the reading incentive program. They were rewarded with a trip to Cherry Crest Farms which was funded by the box top money. Cherry Crest Farms sent Ms. Lease an email telling her how polite and respectful the students were.

Dr. Orner congratulated the Class of 2019 on their graduation Friday evening. Today was the last day of school for all other students. She wished Mr. Propper well as he defends his dissertation tomorrow. Dr. Orner said the leadership team will be busy this summer to continue the work mapped out in the Comprehensive Plan. Dr. Orner said personally and professionally, this is the best year she has had in her 26-year career in education. She is thankful to be the Superintendent of the Octorara Area School District.

Under board comments, Mr. Koennecker expressed his thanks at being able to present his son his diploma at graduation on Friday evening. He shared a Facebook post from someone whose son graduated one of the top of the class and the success he had at Octorara after transferring here from a charter school.

Mr. Kloss referenced a Philadelphia Inquirer article about the concern in math scores in cyber/charter schools and why students are choosing to go to cyber or charter schools. He gave kudos to Dr. Rohrer and his administration for continuing to build the in-house cyber school program.

Mr. Fox expressed his concern about the lack of oversight from the state of the cyber/charter schools and what we have to charge the taxpayers for something we have no control over.

Mr. Norris said he knows the owners of Cherry Crest Farm and they know we do something right at Octorara – they hire a lot of Octorara students.

Mr. Hurley also expressed his thanks for being able to present his son his diploma.

Ms. Bowman said graduation was a wonderful evening, OABEST was amazing, the science fair was awesome – we are doing great things here.

Ms. Bowman announced an Executive Session for legal matters was held prior to the Work Session tonight.

Ms. Bowman announced upcoming meetings to be held:

Executive Session for Personnel – Monday, June 10, 2019 – Following the Work Session in the District Office Conference Room

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, June 17, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting – Monday, June 17, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

There being no further items of business the meeting adjourned at 7:40.m. on motion of Mr. Ganow second by Mr. Norris 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