

OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting Held on December 7, 2023

The regular meeting of the Octorara Area School Board was held in the Octorara Area Jr./Sr. High School Multi-Purpose Room on December 7, 2023.

A moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance preceded the meeting at the Reorganization Meeting.

The President, Mr. Ganow, called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. Other members present were Mr. Falgiatore, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Koennecker, Mr. Lusby, Mr. Norris, Ms. Metzler, Ms. Williamson, and Mr. Zimmerman. Also present were Mrs. Hardy, Secretary; Dr. Leever, Superintendent; members of the administrative team; Ben Pratt, Saxton & Stump; and seven citizens – two additional citizens arrived late in the meeting.

The minutes of the Work Session of November 13, 2023 and the Regular Meeting of November 20, 2023, were approved on motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present.

There were no visitors' comments for agenda items only.

Under presentations, Dr. Leever presented the proposed changes to the District Mission Statement and Values as a result of the work in the Comprehensive Planning.

Under information items, Ms. Amanda Kieffer will transfer from a science teacher at the Jr. High to a science teacher at the Sr. High effective November 28, 2023. (Replacing Matt Livingood who resigned.)

Dr. Leever will be attending the Suburban Study Council/AASA Conference in San Diego from February 12-16, 2024.

The Treasurer's Report, which can be found at the end of these minutes, was approved on motion of Mr. Hurley, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present. (Appendix A-12/7/23)

A list of bills for the General Fund totaling \$1,376,526.78; Cafeteria Fund totaling \$34,728.59, Capital Projects totaling \$24,563.23, and Capital Reserve totaling \$0.00 of which are attached to these minutes as Appendix B-12/7/23 were approved and ordered paid on motion of Mr. Lusby, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present except Mr. Falgiatore who voted no. Mr. Falgiatore objected to the portion of the legal bill from Saxton Stump related to the law suit similar to his past objections.

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Koennecker and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the Opt Out Resolution for the 2024-2025 budget process. (Appendix C-12/7/23)

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Lusby and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following policy, second reading:

815 Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources
(Appendix D-12/7/23)

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the Agreement with Turn-Key Technologies for equipment and software for cyber security end point protection for a total of 72,589.00. (Appendix E-12/7/23)

On motion of Mr. Lusby, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the use of the Sr. High Track beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 14, 2024 along with a waiver of the facility fees for a 5K fundraiser to benefit veterans.

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Ms. Metzler and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the request for unpaid family medical leave for the purpose of child rearing for Ms. Caitlin Cracchiolo from approximately March 11, 2024 through the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Cracchiolo is a Sixth Grade teacher at the Octorara Intermediate School.

On motion of Ms. Williamson, second by Mr. Koennecker and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following bus driver for Althouse Transportation for the 2023-2024 school year:

Karen Uptmore, Bus #15

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors accepted the resignation of Ms. Julia Scioli as a Special Education teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective TBD. (Hired August 14, 2023)

On motion of Mr. Lusby, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors acknowledged the no show, no paperwork of Mr. Eric Foote as a Production Cook. (Hired October 16, 2023)

On motion of Mr. Koennecker, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Mr. Mark Peticca as CTE Director at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective on or after February 5, 2024. Mr. Peticca's salary will be \$130,000 pro-rated. (Mr. Peticca is currently an Assistant Principal and is replacing Lisa McNamara who is retiring.)

On motion of Ms. Metzler, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Kristy Sheller as an Instructional Assistant at the Octorara Primary Learning Center effective December 7, 2023 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Sheller's rate will be \$15.00 per hour for 5.75 hours per day. (Replacing Wanda Fisher who resigned.)

On motion of Mr. Hurley, second by Mr. Lusby and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Diane Tyman as an Instructional Assistant at the Octorara Intermediate School effective TBD pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Tyman's rate will be \$16.00 per hour for 5.75 hours per day. (Replacing Valentina Bruccheri who resigned.)

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Koennecker and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following supplemental contract for the 2023-2024 school year:

Christy Spoto	Mentor Kristy Sheller	\$64.16
---------------	-----------------------	---------

On motion of Mr. Koennecker, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following substitute teacher for the 2023-2024 school year:

Jude Unitis, Emergency

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Koennecker and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following volunteer coaches pending completion of volunteer documents required by law and the District:

Fredesha Robinson, Jr. High Girls' Basketball
Josh Parker, Jr. High Boys' Wrestling

On motion of Mr. Koennecker, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following change in salary due to graduate credits earned:

Denim Kurtzhals From M+60 (\$77,215) to Dr (\$84,872) Step 13 to MAX

Under the CCIU Board Representative Report, Mr. Norris reported there has not been a meeting since his last report and there is no meeting in December.

There were no items of old business, new business, or other items and announcements.

Under visitors' comments in general, Susan Boninu, Parkesburg, congratulated the new Board Directors. She expressed her concerns regarding the changes in classes that can be taken through Delaware County Community College because they are available at the District.

Under administrator comments/announcements, Mr. Dikun announced some of the students in the OIS band played for the OES students during lunch today. He announced the OES Chorus Concert will be held on December 19 and report cards will be sent home on December 13.

Dr. Propper congratulated Zach Kirk for being the newest member of the 1,000 point scorers club in varsity basketball. He also congratulated the newly inducted National Honor Society members. He announced Lyla Elboubkri was one of 2,242 finalists out of 20,800 applications to be awarded a full four-year scholarship to Princeton University through QuestBridge. He thanked Ms. Watson for her time and effort helping Lyla through the application process. He announced the Sr. High Band and Chorus Concert will be held on December 12.

Dr. Leever encouraged everyone to attend next year's National Honor Society induction and hear the accomplishments of the students. It was inspirational to hear all that the 33 students who were inducted are involved in. He announced the OIS Chorus Concert will be held on December 14 and the Second Grade Music Concert will be held on December 20.

Under Board comments, Mr. Lusby said that while he respects Mr. Falgiatore's opinion, he researched and sought outside council before joining the Board and wanted to go on record that he is comfortable following the advice of the District solicitors to pay the bills as being the prudent thing to do.

Mr. Zimmerman congratulated and welcomed the new Board Directors and encouraged them to ask questions when they need to.

Ms. Williamson asked if everyone serves on a committee. Mr. Ganow said everyone is on a committee.

Mr. Ganow thanked the Directors for electing him as Board President again. He is looking forward to working with the new Directors along with Mr. Domowicz. He encouraged the Board to work together.

Mr. Ganow announced the following upcoming meetings:

Executive Session for Legal and Personnel - Thursday, December 7, 2023 – Following the Regular Meeting in room 102 at the Jr. High School

Policy/Facility/Finance Committee Meetings – Monday, December 11, 2023 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Policy/Facility Committee Meeting – Monday, January 8, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Next regularly scheduled Work Session – Monday, January 8, 2024 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, January 16, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting – Monday, January 16, 2024 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Education Committee Meeting – Monday, January 22, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

There being no further items of business the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m. on motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present.

This Board meeting can be viewed in its entirety at www.youtube.com/user/OctoraraAreaSD.

TREASURER'S REPORT
OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
GENERAL FUND
2023-2024

<u>Cash Balance as of October 31, 2023</u>	\$	3,978,451.53
--	----	--------------

Receipts Deposited:

Revenue - (Tax Receipts, State Transfers)	\$	2,935,924.80		
Other Receipts - (Rentals, Misc.)		1,024.19		
Checking Account Interest		6,444.02		
Transfer in from Investments		0.00		
		2,943,393.01		
 Total Available	 \$	 6,921,844.54		

Disbursements:

Net Payroll	\$	1,190,863.53		
Accounts Payable		2,413,255.75		
Transfer to Investments		910,828.95		
		4,514,948.23		

<u>General Fund Cash as of November 30, 2023</u>	\$	2,406,896.31
--	----	--------------

Investments Outstanding

Beginning Balance PSDLAF Investment Account	\$	8,636,137.16
Beginning Balance Fulton Money Market		31,089,171.05
Earnings on PSDLAF Investment Account		37,370.78
Earnings on Fulton Money Market		86,629.77
Net Transfers		910,828.95

<u>Total General Fund Cash and Investments as of November 30, 2023</u>	\$	43,167,034.02
--	----	---------------

For the December 7, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Jill L. Hardy, Secretary
Octorara Board of School Directors