

OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting Held on January 16, 2023

The regular meeting of the Octorara Area School Board was held in the Octorara Area Jr./Sr. High School Multi-Purpose Room on January 16, 2023.

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

The President, Mr. Ganow, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other members present were Ms. Bowman, Mr. Falgiatore, Mr. Fox, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Koennecker, Mr. Norris, Ms. Yelovich, and Mr. Zimmerman. Also present were Mrs. Hardy, Secretary; Dr. Orner, Superintendent; Mr. Curtis, Business Manager; members of the administrative team; and four citizens.

The minutes of the Reorganization Meeting of December 5, 2022, the Work Session of December 5, 2022, and the Regular Meeting of December 12, 2022 were approved on motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present.

Under presentations, Mr. Curtis presented information for the 2023-2024 budget.

There were no information items.

The Treasurer's Report, which can be found at the end of these minutes, was approved on motion of Mr. Fox, second by Ms. Bowman and approval of all members present. (Appendix A-1/16/23)

A list of bills for the General Fund totaling \$2,459,483.59; Cafeteria Fund totaling \$51,065.56, Capital Projects totaling \$128,870.04, and Capital Reserve totaling \$0.00 of which are attached to these minutes as Appendix B-1/16/23, were approved and ordered paid on motion of Mr. Hurley, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present except Mr. Falgiatore who voted no.

Mr. Falgiatore stated he is renewing his objection stated in the November meeting for payment of a legal bill for the same reasons as stated last time.

Mr. Fox said that includes our administrative team and contractually we have to provide that legal service to them. You are voting against the obligation we have for our employees.

There were no visitors' comments for agenda items only.

The following items were approved on motion of Mr. Norris, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present:

The Octorara Board of School Directors approved the Health and Safety Plan. (Appendix C-1/16/23)

The Octorara Board of School Directors appointed Saxton & Stump, LLC as the District's Solicitor. Due to a merger, the attorneys formerly at Kegel Kelin Litts & Lord LLP are moving their practices to Saxton & Stump, LLC. The District appoints Saxton & Stump, LLC with the understanding that the District will continue its relationships with the attorneys formerly at Kegel Kelin Litts & Lord LLP. The Solicitor's services and hourly rates will stay the same for 2023. (Appendix D-1/16/23)

The Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following policy, second reading:

916 Volunteers
(Appendix E-1/16/23)

The Octorara Board of School Directors accepted the following grants:

Paper Company - \$8,440 – to support OABEST Expo
Ag Youth Grant - \$7,500 – to purchase two chicken coops
Pro-Start - \$2,500 – to order new mixers for the Baking Program

Land-O-Lakes - \$500 – for seed and planting supplies
PARSS - \$500 – to support Avedium
Orner Family matching PARSS grant - \$500 – to support Avedium

The Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following driver for Althouse Transportation for the 2022-2023 school year:

Travis Compton

The Octorara Board of School Directors accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mr. Dale McCarthy as an ELA teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School as well as advisor for the Academic Team, Model UN, Character Club, and National Honor Society effective January 20, 2023. (Hired August 20, 2012)

The Octorara Board of School Directors approved the transfer of Ms. Michele Famiano from cafeteria employee at \$15.35 per hour to cafeteria assistant site leader at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School at a rate of \$16.00 per hour effective December 16, 2022.

On motion of Mr. Hurley, second by Ms. Bowman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the Opt Out Resolution for the 2023-2024 budget process. (Appendix F-1/16/23)

On motion of Mr. Hurley, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the Chester County Intermediate Unit Proposal for the Octorara Area School District Board to Conduct a Superintendent Search. (Appendix G-1/16/23)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors accepted, with regret, the resignation for purpose of retirement of Mr. Dean Bicking as a technology education teacher for the Octorara Elementary and Intermediate Schools effective January 18, 2023. (Hired September 22, 1999)

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. Rachel McGinnis as assistant track coach at the Octorara Jr. High School effective January 6, 2023. (Hired for the 2021-2022 school year.)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors accepted the resignation of Mr. Guy Taylor as assistant baseball coach at the Octorara Sr. High School effective January 4, 2023. (Hired for the 2021-2022 school year.)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Ms. Yelovich and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Mr. James Durborow as director of facilities effective January 16, 2023 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Mr. Durborow's salary will be \$90,000, pro-rated. (Replacing Joe Passante who retired.)

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Isabella Stuccio as a long term substitute STEM teacher at the Octorara Elementary and Intermediate Schools effective TBD through the end of the 2022-2023 school year pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Stuccio's salary will be \$54,416, pro-rated, which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Replacing Dean Bicking who retired.)

On motion of Mr. Fox, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Jaclyn Urbas as a music-vocal teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr.

High School effective TBD pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Urbas' salary will be \$63,504, pro-rated, which is Step 12 to MAX of the Master's scale. (Replacing Kaitlyn Glidewell who resigned.)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Falgiatore and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Stacie Larer as a long term substitute first grade teacher at the Octorara Primary Learning Center effective January 13, 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 school year pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Larer's salary will be \$54,416, pro-rated, which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Replacing Maria Scarfo who is on compensated professional leave.)

On motion of Mr. Norris, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Heidi Wertz as a long term substitute special education teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective January 4, 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Ms. Wertz's salary will be \$54,416, pro-rated, which is step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Ms. Wertz is an approved substitute and is replacing Allyson Fought who is on child-rearing leave.)

On motion of Mr. Koennecker, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Reina Eckman as a long term substitute digital learning teacher at the Octorara Elementary and Intermediate Schools effective January 2, 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Ms. Eckman's salary will be \$54,416, pro-rated, which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Ms. Eckman is an approved substitute and is replacing a medical leave.)

On motion of Mr. Koennecker, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following supplemental contract for the 2022-2023 school year:

| | | | |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| Chad Naggy | Jr. High Asst Baseball Coach | 4 pts @ \$620 | \$2,480 |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------|

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Falgiatore and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Natalie Allen as a long term substitute seventh grade ELA teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective January 18, 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 school year pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Allen's salary will be \$63,950, pro-rated, which is Step 18 to MAX of the Master's +15 scale. (Replacing Kaj Miller who retired.)

On motion of Mr. Fox, second by Ms. Bowman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Rebecca Rotz as an ELA teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective January 18, 2023 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Rotz's salary will be \$54,416, pro-rated, which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Replacing Dale McCarthy who resigned.)

Under the Finance Committee meeting, Mr. Hurley reported the committee discussed tonight's budget presentation, the status of the Pequea Valley/Octorara athletic co-op agreement, reviewed the ARP ESSER \$500,000 grant, the merger of Kegel Kelin Litts & Lord with Saxton & Stump, and roof replacement bids at the Elementary and Intermediate Schools.

Under the CCIU Board Representative Report, Mr. Norris reported the January meeting will be held on January 18.

There were no items of old business, new business, other items or announcements, or visitors' comments for items in general.

Under administrator comments and announcements, Dr. Haller gave an update on the Discovery Program with lessons on character traits including responsibility and leadership. He reported students are having fun while learning and are making positive connections with peers and staff.

Dr. Propper reported the first semester ends on January 18. He thanked Mr. Miller and Mr. McCarthy for all they did for students and wished them well as they leave Octorara.

Dr. Orner congratulated the Octorara FFA team for winning the People's Choice Award for their log splitting video. She thanked the music department for their efforts in hosting the PMEA District 12 Chorus students. She said the concert on Saturday was excellent. Dr. Orner recognized the girls' basketball team for their win on Friday night and for their perseverance and grit. She invited everyone to attend the girls' basketball Sr. Night on Wednesday, January 18. Dr. Orner announced she will be hosting another Superintendent Meet and Greet on January 25.

There were no Board comments.

Mr. Ganow announced there was an Executive Session for safety and security held tonight prior to the Regular Meeting.

Mr. Ganow announced the following upcoming meetings:

Executive Session for Personnel - Monday, January 23, 2023 – 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Education Committee Meeting – Monday, January 23, 2023 – 6:00 p.m. in room 102 at the Jr. High School

Policy Committee Meeting – Monday, February 13, 2023 – 6:00 p.m. in room 102 at the Jr. High School

Facility Committee Meeting – Monday, February 13, 2023 – 6:30 p.m. in in room 102 at the Jr. High School

Next Regularly Scheduled Work Session – Monday, February 13, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, February 20, 2023 – 6:00 p.m. in room 102 at the Jr. High School

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting – Monday, February 20, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Education Committee Meeting – Monday, February 27, 2023 – 6:00 p.m. in room 102 at the Jr. High School

There being no further items of business the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. on motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Hurley 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
2022-2023

| | | |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| <u>Cash Balance as of November 30, 2022</u> | | \$ 1,739,824.63 |
| <u>Receipts Deposited:</u> | | |
| Revenue - (Tax Receipts, State Transfers) | \$ 3,708,036.44 | |
| Other Receipts - (Retiree Medical Payments, Misc.) | 6,040.03 | |
| Checking Account Interest | 563.17 | |
| Accounts Receivable | 5,549.10 | |
| Transfer in from Investments | 2,000,000.00 | |
| | 5,720,188.74 | |
| Total Available | | \$ 7,460,013.37 |
| <u>Disbursements:</u> | | |
| Net Payroll | \$ 1,124,581.95 | |
| Accounts Payable | 3,974,988.29 | |
| Transfer to Investments | - | |
| | 5,099,570.24 | |
| General Fund Cash as of December 31, 2022 | | \$ 2,360,443.13 |
| <u>Investments Outstanding</u> | | |
| Beginning Balance PSDLAF Investment Account | | \$ 8,269,408.83 |
| Beginning Balance Fulton Money Market | | 30,437,629.04 |
| Earnings on PSDLAF Investment Account | | 26,630.24 |
| Earnings on Fulton Money Market | | 21,437.78 |
| Net Transfers | | (2,000,000.00) |
| | | . |
| Total General Fund Cash and Investments as of December 31, 2022 | | \$ 39,115,549.02 |

For the January 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Jill L. Hardy, Secretary
Octorara Board of School Directors