

# **OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **Minutes of Board Meeting Held on July 18, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Octorara Area School Board was held in the Octorara Area Sr. High School Auditorium on July 18, 2022.

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

The President, Mr. Fox, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other members present were Ms. Bowman, Mr. Falgiatore, Mr. Ganow, 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; Paige Linnenbaugh, student representative; and two citizens.

The minutes of the Work Session of June 13, 2022 and the Regular Meeting of June 20, 2022 were approved on motion of Mr. Norris, second by Mr. Ganow and approval of all members present.

There were no presentations or information items.

The Treasurer's Report, which can be found at the end of these minutes, was approved on motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Ms. Bowman and approval of all members present. (Appendix A-7/18/22)

A list of bills for the General Fund totaling \$1,727,063.68; Cafeteria Fund totaling \$44,210.28, Capital Projects totaling \$399,357.75, and Capital Reserve totaling \$0.00 of which are attached to these minutes as Appendix B-7/18/22, were approved and ordered paid on motion of Mr. Hurley, second by Mr. Falgiatore and approval of all members present.

There were no visitors' comments for agenda items only.

On motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved adding the addendum item "U" regarding the Collective Bargaining Agreement to the agenda.

On motion of Mr. Ganow (Mr. Fox said as an item that came from committee, this does not need a second) and approval of all members present by a roll call vote the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement by and between the Octorara Area School District and the Octorara Area Education Association, PSEA/NEA for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026. (Appendix C-7/18/22)

Mr. Ganow read the following statement:

"The four-year agreement, starting July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2026, provides teacher wage increases of 3.2% per year for four years. It maintains a competitive balance with surrounding school districts. A major part of this contract is to address our problem with aides and cafeteria workers; we have addressed that with the teacher association. Modified wages for support staff and secretaries will position the district to be more aligned with industry and lead to retention of employees. Benefits to the district include continuing the Qualified High Deductible health plan with minimal cost increases and greater flexibility with class scheduling to allow more educational opportunities for students. On a personal note, I'd like to say what a pleasure it was to work with the association during these contract negotiations."

Mr. Udell, who was joined by Ms. Kieffer, announced the membership voted and overwhelmingly supported the contract. He said he has been doing this with the association and the Board for almost 20 years; the representative from PSEA said it is one of her easier places to negotiate. We feel that,

while the nature of the process can be somewhat adversarial, we were treated fairly and with respect. We appreciate getting back to the business of educating students.

On motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the Health and Safety Plan. (Appendix D-7/18/22)

On motion of Mr. Hurley, second by Ms. Bowman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the Letter of Agreement with Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health for Student Assistance Program Liaison Services effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. (Appendix E-7/18/22)

On motion of Mr. Norris, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the bid with Elite Restoration Inc. for cleaning and sealing of split masonry and replacing joint sealant at the Octorara Primary Learning Center at a cost of \$396,543.33. (Appendix F-7/18/22)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Koennecker and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors accepted the Eagles/Everfi Stem Scholars grant through Braskem in the amount of \$750. The funds will be used for the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School Stem Program.

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following substitute bus driver for Althouse Transportation:

Nikki Irwin

On motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the resolution for participation in a cooperative purchasing program with Keystone Purchasing Network. (Appendix G-7/18/22)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Ms. Yelovich and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved policy 907 *Campus Visitors*, first reading and the following policies, second reading:

909 *Municipal Government Relations*

910 *Community Engagement*

911 *News Media Relations*

912 *Relations With Educational Institutions*

913 *Non-District Organizations/Groups/Individuals*

914 *Relations With Intermediate Unit*

915 *Booster Organizations*

916 *Volunteers*

917 *Parent/Family Involvement*

(Appendix H-7/18/22)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors accepted the resignation of Ms. Samantha Norris as a teacher for the K-6 Summer Literacy and Math Program effective June 20, 2022.

On motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Mr. Hurley and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors accepted, with regret, the resignation of Ms. Lauren Daly Clark as a special education teacher at the Octorara Elementary School as well as the Co-Director of the K-6 Summer Literacy and Math Program effective July 21, 2022. (Hired January 6, 2016)

On motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors accepted the resignation of Ms. Nicole Morrow as tax collector/accounts receivable clerk effective July 20, 2022. (Hired September 21, 2020)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors accepted the resignation of Ms. Rachel Maddox as payroll/accounts payable clerk effective July 22, 2022. (Hired March 19, 2018)

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. Christina Althouse as an instructional assistant at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective June 15, 2022. (Hired February 19, 2018)

On motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Mr. Koennecker and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the following additional staff for the K-6 Summer Literacy and Math Program:

- Doris Klein, Professional - \$32
- Stacie Larer, Professional - \$30
- John Cummings, Substitute Professional - \$30
- Sharon Solomon, Substitute Professional - \$30
- Sara Herman, Substitute Professional - \$30
- Caysie Williams, Substitute Professional - \$30
- Alex Lantz, Support - \$20
- Brianna Cortez, Support - \$20
- Domonik London, Support - \$20
- Maria Stoltzfus, Support - \$20

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved the transfer of Ms. Melissa Fanelli from a sixth grade teacher to an Intervention Specialist at the Octorara Intermediate School effective the 2022-2023 school year for 198 days per year. (Replacing Heidi Ferry who retired.)

On motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Mr. Kevin Ruth as a sixth grade teacher at the Octorara Intermediate School effective August 16, 2022 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Mr. Ruth's salary will be \$57,785 which is Step 17 to MAX of the Master's scale. (Replacing Ashley Stern who resigned.)

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Norris and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Karlie DeCola as a sixth grade teacher at the Octorara Intermediate School effective August 16, 2022 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. DeCola's salary will be \$53,267 which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Replacing Melissa Fanelli who transferred.)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Concetta Gilligan as a long term substitute sixth grade teacher at the Octorara Intermediate School effective for the 2022-2023 school year pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Gilligan's salary will be \$53,267 which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Replacing Alison Venini who transferred.)

On motion of Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Ganow and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Mr. William Rollings as a technology education teacher

at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective August 16, 2022 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Mr. Rollings salary will be \$53,267 which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Replacing Jamie Schempp who retired.)

On motion of Ms. Bowman, second by Mr. Koennecker and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Verna Trainor as an OVA PM Program teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective August 16, 2022 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Trainor's salary will be \$26,633.50 which is pro-rated .5 of Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's scale. (Replacing Joan Agen who retired.)

On motion of Mr. Hurley, second by Mr. Zimmerman and approval of all members present the Octorara Board of School Directors approved Ms. Stevie Kell as a building secretary at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective July 19, 2022 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Kell's salary will be \$33,670. (Replacing Tina Sult who retired.)

Under the Policy Committee Report, Ms. Bowman reported the committee discussed the first and second reading policies on tonight's agenda.

Under the Facility Committee Report, Mr. Norris reported the committee received an update on summer projects.

Under the Finance Committee Report, Mr. Hurley reported the committee discussed the Keystone Purchasing Network resolution, the state budget, a change order that will be approved next month for the asbestos removal, and cameras for illegal passing for the buses. The committee also discussed the Signal 88 agreement and will have future discussions on the possibility of an additional armed guard. The district is looking into using ESSER funding to pay for breakfast for all students. Lunch prices will be approved next month with a recommendation for K-6 lunches at \$3.15 and 7-12 lunches at \$3.30.

Under the CCIU Board Representative Report, Mr. Norris reported there is no meeting in July.

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

Under visitors' comments for items in general, Robin Sockoloskie, West Fallowfield Township, expressed her concern over the new contract as it relates to aides. She feels the union has a lack of respect and support for the aides and is concerned that teachers get a higher percent raise than the aides. She asked if someone is not in the union, does their pay have to go through the union. She feels the raise will be taken by union dues.

Under administrator comments and announcements, Dr. Orner announced this is the last week of Summer Literacy and Math Camp. She said the additional funding we are receiving from the state budget comes with additional mandates. There are 48 changes to school code; some of which will impact us more than others. The changes in school code will be discussed at the August Education Committee Meeting.

Under Board comments, Ms. Bowman addressed some of Ms. Sockoloskie's concerns regarding the contract as it relates to aides. She said there is an increase between \$3.98 and \$4.35 per hour in addition to the percentage increase.

Mr. Ganow said a major part of money in the first year of the contract is to address the increase in wages for the aides.

Mr. Fox announced there was an Executive Session for Personnel held tonight, July 18, 2022 at 6:30 in the Sr. High School Guidance Conference Room.

Mr. Fox announced the following upcoming meetings:

Executive Session for Personnel and Safety/Security- Monday, July 18 2022 - Following the Regular Meeting in the Sr. High School Auditorium

Policy Committee Meeting – Monday, August 8, 2022 – 5:30 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Facility Committee Meeting – Monday, August 8, 2022 – 6:30 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Next regularly scheduled Work Session – Monday, August 8, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, August 15, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting – Monday, August 15, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Education Committee Meeting – Monday, August 22, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

There being no further items of business the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. on motion of Mr. Ganow, 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](http://www.youtube.com/user/OctoraraAreaSD).

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**2021-2022**

<b><u>Cash Balance as of May 31, 2022</u></b>		\$	1,668,672.77
<b><u>Receipts Deposited:</u></b>			
Revenue - (Tax Receipts, State Transfers)	\$	3,941,082.61	
Other Receipts - (Retiree Medical Payments, Misc.)		1,742.03	
Checking Account Interest		17.41	
Accounts Receivable		11,763.68	
Transfer in from Investments		2,925,587.33	
		6,880,193.06	
<b>Total Available</b>	<b>\$</b>		<b>8,548,865.83</b>
<b><u>Disbursements:</u></b>			
Net Payroll	\$	1,017,824.88	
Accounts Payable		5,882,399.57	
Transfer to Investments		-	
		6,900,224.45	
<b>General Fund Cash as of June 30, 2022</b>	<b>\$</b>		<b>1,648,641.38</b>
<b><u>Investments Outstanding</u></b>			
Beginning Balance PSDLAF Investment Account	\$	8,192,151.68	
Beginning Balance Fulton Money Market		10,318,778.55	
Earnings on PSDLAF Investment Account		2,711.26	
Earnings on Fulton Money Market		227.43	
Net Transfers		(2,925,587.33)	
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<b>Total General Fund Cash and Investments as of June 31, 2022</b>	<b>\$</b>		<b><u>17,236,922.97</u></b>

**For the July 18, 2022 Regular Board Meeting**

Respectfully submitted,

Jill L. Hardy, Secretary  
Octorara Board of School Directors