

OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting Held on November 8, 2021

The Work Session of the Octorara Area School Board was held in the Octorara Area Jr./Sr. High School Multi-Purpose Room and via Zoom on November 8, 2021.

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

The President, Mr. Fox, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Other members present were Ms. Bowman, Mr. Falgiatore, Mr. Ganow, Mr. Koennecker, Mr. Norris, Ms. Yelovich and Mr. Zimmerman. Mr. Hurley was absent. Also present were Mrs. Hardy, Secretary; Dr. Orner, Superintendent; Mr. Curtis, Business Manager; members of the administrative team; one reporter, 11 citizens in-person and 28 citizens via Zoom.

There were no presentations, visitor's comments for agenda items only, or information items.

Mr. Fox presented the following items for action at the November 15, 2021 Board meeting:

- A. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the proposed 2021-2024 Comprehensive Plan including the Induction Plan, Professional Development Plan, and Gifted Education Plan Assurances.
- B. That the Octorara Board of School Directors revert back to the Health and Safety Plan that the school year started with and follow the mandate as it is written from the Department of Health dated September 7, 2021.

Mr. Falgiatore suggested the agenda item should be two separate agenda items. After Board discussion the agenda item will appear on next week's agenda as the following:

- B. That the Octorara Board of School Directors revert back to the Health and Safety Plan that the school year started with.
- C. That the Octorara Board of School Directors follow the Department of Health Order effective September 7, 2021 in its entirety.
- C. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Proposal for Support – Option 2 with Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health effective November 15, 2022 through June 23, 2022.
- D. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Settlement Agreement and Release for student "A".
- E. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Third Party Education Trust for student "A".
- F. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Martin Luther School Services Agreement for student "B".
- G. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following bus drivers for Althouse Transportation for the 2021-2022 school year:
Toni Sherrer, School Vehicle #70
Timothy Lubrano, School Vehicle/Substitute Driver
- H. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Costars bid with 3B Services, Inc. for water tank replacement at the Octorara Primary Learning Center at a cost of \$26,940.00.

- I. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the proposal with Entech Engineering, Inc. for engineering services for a Corrosion Control Chemical Treatment Addition.
- J. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following policies, second reading:
 - 607 *Tuition Income*
 - 800.1 *Electronic Signatures/Records*
 - 801 *Public Records*
 - 802 *School Organization*
 - 803 *School Calendar*
 - 804 *School Day*
 - 805 *Emergency Preparedness and Response*
 - 805.1 *Relations With Law Enforcement Agencies*
 - 805.2 *School Security Personnel*
 - 806 *Child Abuse*
- K. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following policies, first reading:
 - 807 *Opening Exercises/Flag Displays*
 - 808 *Food Services*
 - 810 *Transportation*
 - 810.2 *Transportation – Video/Audio Recording*
 - 811 *Bonding*
 - 812 *Property Insurance*
 - 813 *Other Insurance*
 - 814 *Copyright Material*

Resignation Approvals:

- L. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Mr. Brad Boyer as 8th grade baseball coach effective September 16, 2021. (Hired for the 2019-2020 school year.)

Hiring Approvals:

- M. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve an increase from four hours per day to five hours per day for Ms. Valerie Wilson. (Ms. Wilson is a cafeteria employee at the Octorara Primary Learning Center with a rate of \$15.00 per hour.)
- N. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following cafeteria employees:
 - Bianca Adorno - \$15.00 per hour for four hours per day (Replacing Joann Gathercole)
 - Travis Compton - \$15.00 per hour for five hours per day (Replacing Sally DeForest)
 - Olha Paden - \$15.00 per hour for five hours per day (Replacing Janet Tice)
 - Wendie Miller - \$15.00 per hour for five hours per day (Replacing Angela Miller)
- O. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve a rate adjustment for the following instructional assistants effective August 25, 2021:
 - Annette Williams from \$11.02 to \$12.65
 - Angela Christou from \$11.02 to \$11.84
- P. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year:
 - Keturah Caldwell, Emergency
 - Ann Clymer, General Science/Biology
 - Verna Trainor, Health/PE

- Q. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following substitute support staff for the 2021-2022 school year:
Erin Sullivan
- R. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following supplemental contract for the 2021-2022 school year:
Scott Whiteside Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach 10 pts. @ \$620 \$6,200

Under the Education Committee Report, Mr. Fox reported on the meeting that was held on October 25. The committee discussed student success data, the Comprehensive Plan, the K-6 acceleration initiative, ATSI School Improvement, graduation gowns, and a special education update.

Under the Policy Committee Report, Ms. Bowman said the committee reviewed the first and second reading policies on tonight's agenda. Policies 810.1 and 810.3 were removed from the first reading and will be added to next month's agenda.

Under the Facility Committee Report, Mr. Norris said the committee discussed HVAC control replacement at the PLC, purchase of trucks from Costar bid, additional services for the football field from Windview, preview of the new phone system that will be presented at the December meeting, and the Atglen Boro's request for tax exemption on two properties for the 2021-2022 school year.

There were no other items/concerns.

Under visitors' comments for items in general, Melissa Falgiatore, Atglen, said she will email the Board with questions from the Prince Law Offices that she would like answered.

Tony Trainor, West Fallowfield, said she is confused by the discussion at the beginning of the meeting on the Health and Safety Plan.

Ruthann Starkey, Londonderry, said she assumes the Board has voted on a policy that administration is following regarding the Department of Health Order as mandated in black and white and it is the Board's responsibility to oversee how the administration is following the orders.

Under administrator comments, Dr. Orner announced SSD Cider had his first day of school today at the Octorara Elementary School. She thanked Ms. Welk, Ms. Moran, Ms. Weaver, and Mr. Dikun for their hard work and training to bring Cider to the OES. She said we are wrapping up the 28 day review period for the Comprehensive Plan. There is still time for feedback; the feedback will be reviewed at next week's meeting.

Under Board comments, Mr. Falgiatore expressed concern over members of the Board suggesting he lied to them. He said he has never lied to anyone on the Board at any time. He said people may be upset regarding the postings that his wife has made but feels that is her right. He stated he has not taken an active role in going after any Board seat but he does carry a message for people in region 1 as well as other regions. Mr. Falgiatore cautioned the Board to keep dialogue open.

Mr. Fox announced the following upcoming meetings to be held:

Executive Session for Personnel – Monday, November 8, 2021 – following the Work Session in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, November 15, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting – Monday, November 15, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room/Zoom

There being no further items of business the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. on motion of Mr. Ganow, 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