

OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting Held on November 9, 2020

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 9, 2020.

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

The President, Mr. Fox, called the meeting to order at 7:05 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, and 21 citizens who attended the meeting via Zoom.

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

Mr. Fox presented the following items for action at the November 16, 2020 Board meeting:

- A. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Pennsylvania Department of Education Emergency Instructional Time Template for the 2020-2021 school year.
- B. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding Agreement between the Chester County Intermediate Unit and the District.
- C. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the County of Chester Facility and Equipment Agreement for facility rental through August 15, 2021.
- D. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve additional unpaid leave for Ms. Shelley Leonard from April 30, 2021 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. (Ms. Leonard is a science teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School.)
- E. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve additional unpaid leave for Ms. Samantha Kelly from March 11, 2020 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. (Ms. Kelly is a Spanish teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School.)
- F. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve policy 710 *Use of Facilities by Staff*, second reading.
- G. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following policies, first reading:
 - 106 *Curriculum Maps*
 - 107 *Adoption of Courses of Study*
 - 109 *Resource Materials*
 - 110 *Instructional Supplies*
 - 111 *Lesson Plans*
 - 113.1 *Discipline of Students With Disabilities*
 - 113.2 *Behavior Support*
 - 113.4 *Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information*
 - 122 *Extracurricular Activities*
 - 123 *Interscholastic Athletics*
 - 123.1 *Concussion Management*
 - 123.2 *Sudden Cardiac Arrest*
 - 130 *Homework*
 - 137 *Home Education Programs*

- 137.1 *Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students*
- 138 *Language Instruction Educational Program for English Learners*
- 140 *Charter Schools*
- 140.1 *Extracurricular Participation by Charter/Cyber Charter Students*
- 142 *Migrant Students*
- 143 *Standards for Persistently Dangerous Schools*
- 144 *Standards for Victims of Violent Crimes*
- 146 *Student Services*
- 150 *Title I Comparability of Services*

Resignation Approvals:

- H. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept, with regret, the resignation of Ms. Jan D'Angelo as an intervention specialist at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective November 6, 2020 . (Hired September 12, 2011)
- I. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Ms. Hannah Dieringer as an instructional assistant at the Octorara Primary Learning Center effective October 23, 2020. (Ms. Dieringer has accepted a long term substitute teaching position in the District.)
- J. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Ms. Krista Dague as assistant cheerleading coach at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective October 28, 2020. (Hired for the 2019-2020 school year)
- K. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Ms. Gina Seaman as 7th grade girls' basketball coach at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective November 3, 2020. (Hired for the 2020-2021 school year)
- L. That the Octorara Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Ms. Jennifer Watson and Ms. Jennifer John as ELA PLC Leaders at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective October 28, 2020. (Hired for the 2020-2021 school year)

Hiring Approvals:

- M. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Ms. Olivia Miller as a long term substitute science teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective October 26, 2020 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Ms. Miller's salary will be \$52,617 pro-rated which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's Scale. (Ms. Miller is an approved substitute and is replacing Valerie Guiseppe who retired.)
- N. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Ms. Hannah Dieringer as a long term substitute science teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective October 26, 2020 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Ms. Dieringer's salary will be \$52,617 pro-rated which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's Scale. (Ms. Dieringer is a District employee and is replacing Shelley Leonard who is on extended unpaid child rearing leave.)
- O. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Mr. Jordan Tuthill as a long term substitute social studies teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School effective November 2, 2020 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Mr. Tuthill's salary will be \$52,617 pro-rated which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor's Scale. (Replacing a medical sabbatical.)
- P. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Ms. Diane Powers as a long term substitute first grade teacher at the Octorara Primary Learning Center effective October 12, 2020 through December 2, 2020. Ms. Powers' rate will be \$140 per day. (Ms. Powers is a District employee and is replacing an EFMLA.)

- Q. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Ms. Rachel Blomiley as a long term substitute fourth grade teacher at the Octorara Elementary School effective October 16, 2020 through December 4, 2020. Ms. Blomiley’s rate will be \$140 per day. (Ms. Blomiley is an approved substitute and is replacing an FMLA.)
- R. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the extension of Ms. Lisa Fontanes as a long term substitute fifth grade teacher at the Octorara Intermediate School effective August 31, 2020 through November 4, 2020. Ms. Fontanes rate will be \$140 per day. (Ms Fontanes was originally approved to substitute through October 9, 2020 and is replacing an EFMLA.)
- S. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the extension of Ms. Lori Wendling as a long term substitute Spanish teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School from August 31, 2020 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Ms. Wendling’s salary will be \$52,617 which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor’s Scale. (Replacing Samantha Kelley who is on extended unpaid child rearing leave.)
- T. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the extension of Mr. Josh Belford as a long term substitute health and physical education teacher at the Octorara Jr./Sr. High School from August 31, 2020 to January 27, 2021. Mr. Belford’s salary will be \$52,617 pro-rated which is Step 18 to MAX of the Bachelor’s Scale. (Mr. Belford was originally approved to substitute through November 6, 2020 and is replacing a medical leave.)
- U. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Ms. Rebecca German as an instructional assistant at the Octorara Primary Learning Center effective November 17, 2020 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. German’s rate will be \$11.02 per hour for 5.75 hours per day. (Replacing Maria Miller who resigned.)
- V. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve Ms. Donna Ferrier as an instructional assistant at the Octorara Primary Learning Center effective October 26, 2020 pending completion of employee related documents required by law and the District. Ms. Ferrier’s rate will be \$12.65 per hour for 5.75 hours per day. (Replacing Hannah Dieringer who resigned.)
- W. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following changes in salary due to graduate credits earned:
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|----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Dale McCarthy | From M (\$61,584) to M+15 (\$66,458) | Step 12 to MAX |
| Sarah Montague | From M (\$60,695) to M+15 (\$65,622) | Step 13 to MAX |
- X. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the following supplemental contracts for the 2020-2021 school year:
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|------------------|--|---------------|---------|
| Larry Sprecher | JV Wrestling Coach | 9 pts @ \$620 | \$5,580 |
| Robert Zavala | Jr. High Wrestling Coach | 4 pts @ \$620 | \$2,480 |
| Christian Taylor | Sr. High Student Council Advisor | 6 pts @ \$620 | \$3,720 |
| Christian Taylor | 9 th Grade Floating Advisor | 2 pts @ \$620 | \$1,240 |
| Christian Taylor | ELA PLC Leader | 4 pts @ \$620 | \$2,480 |
- Y. That the Octorara Board of School Directors approve the list of mentor contracts for the 2020-2021 school year.

Under the Education Committee Report, Mr. Fox reported the committee met on October 26, 2020 and were given updates on student services, in person learning, and the Jr./Sr. High School ATSI School Improvement Plan. The committee also discussed possible transitions at the end of the first trimester. A survey was sent to remote only parents last week regarding transition possibilities.

Under the Policy Committee Report, Ms. Bowman reported the committee discussed the first and second reading policies on the November agenda. The committee is trying to get all policies updated by the end of the school year.

Under the Facilities Committee Report, Mr. Norris reported the committee discussed the second round of water testing; COVID 19 inspections at the PLC and OES; replacing the PLC hot water system; Sr. High gym door repair; district office asbestos abatement, carpet, and painting project; other possible summer projects including roofing, outside light replacement with LED bulbs, receiving room door replacement at the Sr. High, and carpet replacement at the PLC; County of Chester Facility and Equipment Agreement; district sign; and work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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

Under administrator comments, Ms. McNamara discussed goals for OACTEP teachers and announced OACTEP students are back doing things related to their program. She said NOCTI pre-tests have begun and Homeland Security and Protective Services Academy students will be taking the National Hazmat Operations Certification test next week. OACTEP teachers have begun meeting with their Occupational Advisory Committees.

Ms. Gaido said the fall sports season is wrapping up. She thanked the coaches, athletes, their parents, and the community for doing a great job following COVID 19 protocols. She reported the participation rate was up from last year. She reported a successful fall season with four female cross country runners going to Districts. Freshman, Jessica Ferrara medaled with a 16th place finish. Ms. Gaido said winter sports start on November 20 and due to the uncertainties of Chesmont winter sports, the Jr. High winter sports will be participating in the Lancaster Lebanon League. Ms. Gaido will be creating the OASD Visiting Team/Winter Competition Health and Safety Plan based on NHFS and PIAA recommendations and guidance. Due to the spectator limitations indoors, visiting spectators will not be allowed to attend the games. Home spectators will be limited to two tickets per player on the roster for any events in the Sr. High Gym. There will be no spectators in the Jr. High Gym. Competitions will be live streamed.

Mr. Brooks said the first marking period is wrapping up. National Honor Society will hold individual induction ceremonies next week. The annual food drive has begun. Mr. Brooks congratulated Ashley Cunningham for being the recipient of the College Boards Rural and Small Town Scholar Award for academic excellence and Elizabeth Davis on being named a Commended Student for her performance on the PSAT/NMSQT.

Dr. Tachau reported the first in a series of Town Hall meetings called Parents as Partners will begin next week on November 17 for parents with students in grades K-6 followed by a Town Hall for parents with students in grades 7-12 on November 24. The format of asking parents to submit questions ahead of time worked well and will be used again. More information will be sent to parents this week.

Dr. Orner said there will be a presentation next month from Althouse Transportation as well as Signal 88. She gave a shout out to students and staff for completing one month of face to face learning. She said the Chester County Health Department sent new guidelines to support school districts with the increase in case count in the county. The most important things we can do to mitigate virus transmission in school is to wear a mask, social distance, wash hands, and stay at home if you are feeling sick.

There were no Board comments.

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

Executive Session for Personnel – Monday, November 9, 2020 – Following the Work Session in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room/Zoom

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, November 16, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room/Zoom

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting – Monday, November 16, 2020 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room/Zoom

Education Committee Meeting – Monday, November 23, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. High School Multi-Purpose Room/Zoom

There being no further items of business the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m. on motion of Mr. Ganow, second by Mr. Zimmerman 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