

**ONAWAY AREA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

March 12, 2024

Call to order.

A regular meeting of the Onaway Area Community School District's Board of Education was held in the Media Center. Called to Order by President James Rieger at 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2024.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call.

Present: Kowalski, Hart, Chaskey, Porter, Rieger, and Palmer

Absent: Veal

Approval of minutes.

Chaskey moved to approve the February meeting (minutes), supported by Palmer. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chaskey moved to approve the board minutes from the closed session from the February 12th meeting, supported by Palmer. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of agenda.

Chaskey—There was something I'd like to move to amend it. We don't necessarily have an old business, but I had brought up Policy 5106, and I said I'd get with the Thrun, and I did, so that needs to be out on to the agenda, maybe under regular business.

Reiger- Let's put it between I and J. Added Policy 5106 under regular business as Ia.

Chaskey- , down where we have Policy and Curriculum Committee recommendations, there needs to be an Ea and Eb because I brought up that we move to bring to the board concerning election and notifications put on Facebook. Ea: Policy and & Curriculum Committee Recommendations: Annual Policy Updates from District Counsel. Eb: Election & Notifications on Facebook. I also do not see on here, and maybe I missed it, but Mr. Vermilya's FOIA request.

Horn- I asked Jim about putting that under new business.

Chaskey moved to approve the agenda as amended, supported by Palmer. All in favor. Motion carried.

Information items.

Superintendent – Mindy Horn- I am very sorry to report that I have accepted the resignation of Erica Gildner. She submitted it on March 5th, and it will be effective at the end of this school year.

On our website, on the Transparency section, for those who would like to go look, there is a section called AER that is our annual education report that's been updated on the site. One for the District as a whole and one for each building. You also have packets in front of you. The top one says 2023 annual report, just passing along information from Presque Isle County District Library. They like to share their information with us each year, so something for you to read.

In that packet, there is also a write-up from Bryan Pyle reporting on the results of their robotics competition this past weekend. You can tell in his opening sentence Escanaba was not nice to us this weekend. Despite having a rough go of things, they were awarded a beautiful trophy for the design of their build. That's part of the contraption, actually next to Kathy. They were in here earlier, and he apologized for the state of the carpet because there are quite a few spots you'll see scuffs on the carpet, but when they compete, they are on carpet, and this is the only area we have that is large enough and carpeted for them to bring it in here and practice on. We will take care of the scuffs, no worries; this is their only place to practice that. In the report that they gave, you will notice they list at the end that they are currently ranked 130/514 teams heading into Traverse City this weekend. The kids do a fantastic job, and if you haven't ever been to a competition, I am telling you, you would thoroughly enjoy it. You would love it. Especially the ones that are on this side of the bridge. A lot of the teams from downstate are sponsored by General Motors, Ford, by Dow. Some of those teams come, and you really will see some incredible things there. So if you get a chance to go, please consider going. As their season winds down, they will bring in their robot and do a demonstration for everyone, but obviously, right now, they are just a few days away from another competition. They are keeping a low profile with the robot. Discussion ensued on getting the robotics team a piece of carpet big enough for their robot to practice in other locations.

We did get a quote for the window repair. Just the window itself is \$271. Restitution has already been made for that. In the spring, when the weather is warm enough, they will come back, and they will reprint the glaze that they put on the front of that. They can't do that right now because of the weather. That will be an additional cost, and that's already been replayed to that individual, and they will take the remainder of the restitution for that. So that will be corrected. A lot of this right now is just a weather thing allowing us to replace that glass. They have made restitution for the cost of the glass repair already.

Elementary -Robin Benson- Attached.

Secondary/Athletic Report – Marty Mix-Attached.

Student Representative Report- None.

Staff Report – Technology- Attached.

Yearly Goal Update – Attached.

Financial Reports.

Approval of bills.

Chaskey moved to approve the (February) bills as written, supported by Porter. Discussion held. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of financial report.

Hart moved to approve the financial report (for February) as written, supported by Porter. All in favor. Motion carried.

Regular Business.

A .Bids on Old Truck.

Bid #1-\$2,500.00

Bid#2-\$1,055.00

Bid#3-\$2,100.00

Bid#4-\$777.00

Chaskey moved to accept the highest bid of \$2,500.00, supported by Palmer. All in favor. Motion carried.

B.Employee Leave of Absence.

Hart moved to approve the leave of absence as requested by the district employee (Lee Ann McDonald), supported by Porter. All in favor. Motion carried.

C.Schedule May Budget Workshop.

Budget Workshop scheduled for May 14, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

D.Policy & Curriculum Committee Recommendation: Internet Safety Course.

Horn- We tabled this tonight. We will re-present at the next month's meeting.

Ea. Policy & Curriculum Committee Recommendation: Annual Policy Updates from District Counsel.

Chaskey moved to approve these policy updates as written, with the exception of 4216; we'll leave that the same, supported by Kowalski. Discussion held. All in favor. Motion carried.

Hart- I would like to formally ask that that was included in our meeting minutes, that handout.

Eb: Elections and Notifications on Facebook.

Recommended Policy Language as presented by Taed Price- In the future, when the school receives the notice it be imminently posted on the school website/school Facebook page stating the results and who was elected, and that there were ten days from official notification from County Office to come up to school and give the Oath of Office. Mindy then noted we would need to add the disclaimer that our social media post does not constitute that notice. Policy number TBD (to be determined).

Chaskey moved to make that Policy, supported by Palmer. Discussion held. All in favor. Motion carried. Policy number TBD.

Ia: Policy 5106.

Chaskey moved to replace Policy 5106 to read as stated: The Board supports protecting the rights of all students. The Board prohibits unlawful discrimination, bullying, and harassment on the basis of gender, gender identity, gender expression, or gender-based stereotypes pursuant to Title 7, Title 9, and the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. Upon notifying the District of the student's gender identity, a meeting may be held with the student, their parent(s)/guardian(s), and the District to discuss whether the student requires any accommodations or supports as required by law and that conform to the school policy at school and how any needed supports will be communicated to staff and students. A parent may make a request to change the student's educational records. A decision will be made based upon additional school policy guidelines, supported by Kowalski. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Chaskey-yes, Hart-yes, Palmer-yes, Porter-no, Kowalski-yes, and Rieger-yes. Motion carried.

F.Appointment to Hiring Committee.

Rieger moved to nominate Chaskey (to be on the Hiring Committee), supported by Hart. All in favor. Motion carried

Chaskey moved to nominate Rieger (to be on the Hiring Committee), supported by Palmer. All in favor. Motion carried.

G.Appointment to Policy & Curriculum Committee.

Chaskey moved to make the (committee) members Jim appoints or the President appoints are non-voting members, supported by Hart. All in favor. Motion carried.

H.Resolution in Support of PI County Road Commission.

PI County Road Commission Resolution Read by President Rieger- Now therefore it be resolved, that the Onaway Schools Board of Education hereby supports the effort to request funding from the Local Bridge Program to replace the above named bridges (Spile Dam Road Bridge at Ocqueoc River; Ocqueoc Lake Road Bridge at Ocqueoc River; and Ocqueoc Falls Highway Bridge at Ocqueoc River).

Be it further resolved, that the Onaway Schools Board of Education concurs that this replacement is urgently needed.

Chaskey moved (to approve the resolution as ready by President Rieger), supported by Palmer. All in favor. Motion carried.

I.Superintendent's Contract.

Chaskey moved to not automatically extend the Superintendent's contract beyond June 30, 2028, supported by Palmer. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Palmer-yes, Porter-no, Kowalski-yes, Hart-yes, Chaskey-yes, and Rieger-yes. Motion carried.

J. New Business.

Thrun Charges:

Chaskey- I would like to arrange a meeting with Thrun to have them within the next 30 days before our next meeting to go over, and I'll send back out so everybody knows before we meet with them, certain charges so that they can be explained. There are a lot of charges on there, and without breaking privilege, there's a lot of charges that I think that we deserve, and our district deserves to be answered. Then, at the next meeting, discuss if we've been satisfied with their answers.

Chaskey- Can I be nominated to be a coordinator and if anybody has concerns, that way I can make it to one cost efficient list.

Rieger- I will nominate you as a coordinator.

Special meeting called for April 3rd at 6 p.m. to review the list of Thrun concerns created by Chaskey as the nominated coordinator.

Rieger called for a 10 minute recess from 8:15 until 8:25.

Rieger reconvened the meeting at 8:25.

FOIA Appeal Request:

Porter moved to grant the appeal that Wayne filed to allow the un-redacted emails, supported by Hart. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Kowalski-no, Hart-yes, Chaskey-yes (Originally voted no then stated: I meant to say yes. Can I change it on the record.), Porter- yes, Palmer-no, and Rieger- no. Motion failed.

Ethics:

Chaskey moved to not proceed with an investigation (of the ethics complaints against President Rieger), supported by Palmer. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Hart-yes, Chaskey-yes, Porter-no, Palmer-yes, Kowalski-yes, Rieger-Abstained. Motion carried.

FOIA Charges:

Kowalski- On September 12, 2023 we voted to start charging for FOIA's and I asked if we received any income yet on FOIA's from Danielle and she said no. We want to see income for FOIA's since we voted on it September 12th. Discussion held.

Football Coach:

Palmer-How are we doing on the football coach hiring committee? Did we decide to stay away from outside Athletic Directors?

Horn-That's what you guys suggested last time. I haven't even taken any action towards putting a committee together yet, to be honest with you, because it's March. Discussion held.

K. Board Correspondence.

Kowalski-None.

Palmer- None.

Porter- None.

Hart- None.

Rieger- None.

Chaskey- None.

Citizens/Present Time:

Chad Chapman presented to the Board. No action taken.

Karen Vermilya presented to the Board. No action taken.

Les Nixon presented to the Board. No action taken.

Roger Sedell presented to the Board. No action taken.

Kathy Christian presented to the Board. No action taken.

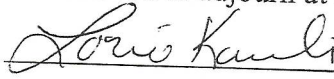
Sheri LaFave presented to the Board. No action taken.

Wayne Vermilya presented to the Board. No action taken.

Lain Veihl presented to the Board. No action taken.

Adjournment.

Hart moved to adjourn at 9:08 p.m., supported by Palmer.



Secretary, Board of Education

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James Rieger- President

Erin Chaskey- Vice President

Annette Porter- Treasurer

Lorrie Kowalski- Secretary

John Palmer- Trustee

Jeremy Veal- Trustee

Mike Hart- Trustee

ADMINISTRATION

Mindy Horn, Superintendent

Marty Mix, Secondary Principal/ AD

Robin Benson, Elementary Principal

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