

**OLD ORCHARD BEACH SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
OOB HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY  
JANUARY 11, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chair Laura Bolduc, Vice Chair Dennis Robillard, Kay Dutton, Patricia Clark, Ashley Hibbard, Sharri MacDonald, Supt. Eric Matthews; Administrators: Donna Ford, Patricia Hayden, Michael Pulsifer, James Boisvert, Julie Smyth, Rick DiFusco

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** The Regular Monthly Meeting of January 11, 2007 was called to order at 7:04 P.M. by Chairperson Laura Bolduc.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. EMERGENT ITEMS:** Eric Matthews asked to add the Town Council and Capitol Improvement to the agenda. Patricia Clark (motioned) to add the Town Council and Capitol Improvement to the agenda. Dennis Robillard (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**4. MINUTES of REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2006** Dennis Robillard (motioned) to accept the December 14, 2006 Regular Monthly Meeting minutes with the changes for John Nye and Jackie Drown's name spelled correctly. Patricia Clark (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:** No Reports for January

**STUDENT REPORT** – Ashley Hibbard reported on the tremendous success of the high school Adopt-A-Family program in December. They collected \$500 in cash and received an abundance of toys and clothes from the Jameson School. The Biddeford YMCA split up all of the money and gifts among four families instead of the two families they thought they were helping. Dennis Robillard congratulated Ashley and the High School on all of their efforts in this.

**6. CITIZEN FORUM:** none

**7. OLD BUSINESS:** none

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Appointment of Secretary to the School Board:** Eric Matthews explained that the School Board has had Missy Foster as the Pro Tem Secretary for the last couple of months. Dennis Robillard (motioned) to accept Missy Foster as the Secretary to the school Board. Patricia Clark (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**B. Vision Work – P. Hayden:** Patricia Hayden reported that the mission statement and district goals need to be updated, and explained that the district does not have a vision statement. Mrs. Hayden explained that the School Initiative Team (SIT) would work on the vision statement and then bring a draft to the School Board. Laura Bolduc added that she would like to see the vision statement be a goal of where we would like to be in the future.

**C. Jameson School Chorus – M. Pulsifer:** Mike Pulsifer reported that the Jameson Chorus position is

being filled by Tracy Greenhill, the parent of a second grade student. He explained that the Chorus usually meets from October to June; however, Ms. Greenhill was hired from December to June. Mr. Pulsifer recommended paying Ms. Greenhill the whole stipend for the Chorus position since she has two groups of students from 3-5 P.M. and is doing more than was expected. Laura Bolduc asked if Ms. Greenhill was qualified for the position. Mr. Pulsifer explained that she sings at her church and plays the piano. Patricia Clark (motioned) to accept the recommendation to pay Tracy Greenhill for the Jameson Chorus position with no pro-rated stipend. Dennis Robillard (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**D. Gifted and Talented Position – D. Ford:** Donna Ford reported that she has had one application since the last School Board meeting from a very strong candidate, and she is inviting him back for a second interview. The candidate is currently a teacher in North Turner/Leeds, however, he has a family in this area. Mrs. Ford explained that the candidate has experience in all grade levels and he shared samples of his work with handbooks and assessments.

**E. Reinstate Positions with Gifted and Talented (GT) Savings:** Eric Matthews explained that the Loranger Middle School (LMS) Library Ed. Tech and the ½ time Family Consumer Science positions were eliminated in the 2006-07 budget and he would like to reinstate these positions with the savings to date from the unfilled GT position. Dennis Robillard asked if the budget would stay the same for next year and if these positions would have to be cut again next year. Mr. Matthews stated that there is enough money in the budget to fund these two positions for the rest of the school year and there still will be enough money in the savings to pay a GT teacher if one is hired this year. He clarified that it would be the choice of the School Board whether to eliminate these positions from the 2007-08 budget. Dennis Robillard (motioned) to restore the ½ position of Family Consumer Science that was eliminated at the May 30, 2006 meeting and authorize the Superintendent to employ Kathy Porter in this position. Patricia Clark (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Patricia Clark (motioned) to restore the ½ position of LMS Library Ed. Tech that was eliminated at the May 30, 2006 meeting and authorize the Superintendent to advertise for this position. Dennis Robillard (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**F. Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) Update – P. Hayden:** Patricia Hayden updated the School Board on the SAT scores for 133 of the high schools in Maine. Old Orchard Beach High School scores were all in the partially met areas. Mrs. Hayden stated that the difficulty with the SATs is that the MEAs broke down the areas tested in each subject, but SATs does not give breakdowns. Ashley Hibbard stated that the students could get a break down in the score if they paid an extra ten dollars. Mrs. Hayden explained that the meeting the standard in math is 460 and OOB scores were 424. Rick DiFusco stated that the High school was 75<sup>th</sup> out of 133 schools and 54<sup>th</sup> in reading. Mrs. Hayden stated that the High School is planning to offer three afterschool sessions for two weeks in the spring free of charge and there is also a SAT elective class for preparation for this year's SAT.

**G. Governor's State of the State:** Eric Matthews gave an update on the Governor's Statewide School System Consolidation plan for Local Schools, Regional Support. Mr. Matthews stated that Donna Ford, Patricia Hayden and himself attended an ATM broadcast from the Commissioner of Education. The main idea behind this plan is to consolidate the Superintendents and the Central Offices of all of the school districts throughout the state from 290 to 26. Mrs. Hayden informed everyone of the information that was shared at the Superintendents Winter Convocation. By July 1, 2007, every region will start to develop a Regional School Board composed of 5-15 members, however, there may not be a representative from every town on the School Board. By October 2007, the Regional School Board will be elected and it will hire a Superintendent by February 2008. By July 1, 2008, the Superintendent will hire all of the personnel for the regional Central Office. Mrs. Hayden stated that the plan is to save over \$173 million dollars by reducing the costs for administration. For an example, OOB will still have three schools but no one from the central office. All the schools will have a full time principal. Dennis Robillard asked if the Regional School Board could close a school and would the town have a vote. Mrs. Hayden replied that each school will have a

local advisory council, however, it does not have a vote. In addition, the Governor wants the student to teacher ratio to be raised to the national average (17:1), which would lead to 690 teacher layoffs throughout the state. Mrs. Ford added that the Governor has stated this plan is not just to save money but to improve student achievement. Mrs. Hayden informed everyone that there is a public informational meeting on this plan on February 7, 2007 at the Augusta Civic Center. Mr. Matthews added that the budget process under this plan would also be different. There would be one regional budget and it would be decided by a majority of the region rather than being passed by each town in the region. Mrs. Hayden added that there is no equal voice in the budget for small communities. Several discussions took place about the difficulties this plan presents with immediate access to central office personnel. It was noted that the Superintendent would function more like a CEO instead of an educational leader. It was also discussed that this plan is not good for the small towns like Old Orchard Beach.

Rick DiFusco suggests that Ms. Bolduc talk to other School Boards and see what they think about this plan. Mr. Matthews offers to bring it up at the next York County Superintendent meeting. Laura Bolduc stated this should be an ongoing agenda item and there should be an update every month. Mr. Pulsifer suggested that the School Board invite State Senator Hobson to attend the meetings to hear his thoughts about this plan.

**H. The Town Council and Capitol Improvements:** Eric Matthews presented an update on the Jameson roof problem. He recently attended a Town Council meeting, waited to speak for two hours, and then this item was removed from the Town Council Agenda without any explanation. Two days after the meeting, Mr. Matthews met with Town Council Chairman, Joe Klein. Mr. Klein stated it was not personal, but rather a procedural matter. Mr. Matthews stated that there have been parent complaints about the leaking problem and Mike Pulsifer has forwarded those emails to Mr. Matthews who then forwarded them onto the Town Manager. Mr. Matthews will continue trying to speak with the Town Council to secure funds to fix the roof, however, the roof needs to be repaired immediately. The cost to repair the roof and carpet replacement for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade wing is roughly \$54,000 and that money is available in the state carry over fund. Professional development and travel accounts will be frozen until further notice. Kay Dutton asked if there is mold under the carpet. Mr. Matthews replied that there have been two air quality tests in the last six months that have been satisfactory. Mike Pulsifer stated that he thinks mildew has set in, but not mold. Laura Bolduc will review the town charter to determine the procedure for placing an emergent item on the Town Council agenda to discuss this problem. Meanwhile, the School Board authorized the repairs for the Jameson roof and the carpet as soon as possible.

## 9. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

**A. School Department Report:** Patricia Clark (motioned) to approve the School Department Financial Report for the month ending December 2006 as presented and until audit. Dennis Robillard (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**B. Consolidated Lunch Report:** Patricia Clark (motioned) to approve the Consolidated Lunch Report for the month ending December 2006 as presented and until audit. Dennis Robillard (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**C. Adult Education Report:** Patricia Clark (motioned) to approve the Adult Education Report for the month ending December 2006 as presented and until audit. Dennis Robillard (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

## 10. GENERAL INFORMATION:

**A. H.S. News Letter to Parents**

**B. H.S. Freshman Basketball Coach – J. Webber**

**C. Budget Workshop Dates** – Eric Matthews stated that he will invite representatives from the Town

Council to the Budget Workshops.

January 18, 2007 at 6:00 P.M.: Pre-Budget Workshop

January 25, 2007: Budget Workshop for Special Education & Curriculum

February 1, 2007: Budget Workshop for Jameson, Loranger & High School

February 15, 2007: Budget Workshop for Adult Education & Undistributed

**11. ADJOURNMENT:** Dennis Robillard (motioned) to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 P.M. Patricia Clark (seconded) the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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I, Missy Foster, Secretary Pro Tem to the School Board do certify that the foregoing document consisting of four pages is a true copy of the original minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the School Board, which was held on January 11, 2007.