

PROPOSED
ONSTED COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
April 17, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Keith Williams

Members Present: R.Tessier, H.Ruttkofsky, A.Gast, K.Williams, D.VanBrunt, R.Reynolds
Members Absent: J.Terakedis

Others Present: S.Head, K.Springer, B.Jones, T.Aiken, C.Garrison, T.Comden, A.Frerichs,
A.Howland, M.Davis, C.Deck

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Keith Williams.

Motion by R.Reynolds to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by R.Tessier
Motion carried 6-0

Motion by H.Ruttkofsky to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2023 meeting. Seconded by
A.Gast Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by A.Gast to approve the disbursements for the month of March 2023 in the amount of
\$1,691,676.97. Seconded by R.Tessier. Motion Carried 6-0.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT -

Kara Terakedis presented the Student Representative Report. Elementary: if anyone would like to sponsor a student who cannot afford a yearbook please see Mrs. Davis. They are \$20. The 5th graders are taking the M-Step on Tuesday and Thursday this week. The ELA and Math portions were taken last week. There's a Staff Meeting Wednesday to work on school improvement. The Book Fair is next week. Please feel free to stop in and look for a good book. They will be collecting donations to make sure that every student gets to choose a book. They are starting to schedule summer school programs for students in K-3rd grade, tutors will be available for 4th and 5th graders as well. Please join us on May 30th for our jog-a-thon fundraiser. This year we are jogging on the track in the morning and having an outdoor event instead of our assembly. Each student that collects at least \$20 gets to choose from slimming Mr. Stark, spraying Mrs. Upp, spraying silly string on Mr. Head, or throwing a pie at Mrs. Davis.

Middle school: They had their inaugural Spring Expo at the Middle school (same night as board meeting). It's buy-one-get-one book fair this week. They are finalizing year-end plans as well as plans for next year. The Day of Awesomeness is May 15th for the reward from the fundraiser. 5th and 8th Grade move-up day is scheduled for May 18th. With thanks to Mrs. Davis and Mr. Comden for working to get this scheduled. The 8th grade is also going to the high school on April 24th to go over scheduling. The 8th Grade is getting excited about DC at the end of May. For those not going, we are happy to be able to take them to the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.

High school: We finished an exciting week of State Testing. Great time had by all. Spring Sports are in full swing. The gym floor got a brand new resurface over Spring Break. Graduation activities are quickly approaching and the reality of being done with HS is setting in. Prom will be here soon. The theme is "An Enchanted Forest" and will be held at the Jackson Commonwealth Building on May 13.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: No Comments

REPORTS -

High School Building Report - Amanda Frerichs presented on Creative Writing in the HS. Her students went as a group and visited the American Writers Museum in Chicago during the month of April. They took the train and left early morning and returned that evening. 14 students went. It was a very valuable experience and she plans to keep opportunities like this coming.

Allison Howland presented on a trip that she is coordinating for students to Ireland, Wales and England. Her goal is to have all students get the opportunity to travel somewhere to have the experience and make those memories. The students are already working on fundraising activities for this particular trip. There are also trips to Belize, Boston and Italy planned. This program is called Onsted on the Go. Howland would like to see this program grow and develop as an opportunity for our kids.

Chelsea Deck, is an LLMSW at the LISD and is at Onsted 2 days a week with the General Ed Tier 2 students. She presented on the work she is doing in our school. She services 10-15% of our HS students. She has made contact with approx. 42 students. This is in person therapy weekly, biweekly, monthly or just a check in. The goal is to get the students to the point they don't need her.

Tim Comden summarized where we are at with our school improvement goals. We will know more when we take the NWEA. Working on Social Emotional and Behavioral Expectations during PD next year. Leann McMichael received the Excellence in Education award from the MI Lottery. Vape detections are still way down. Looking to next year, post-covid, "traction" has been gained and we are moving forward. We will see positive changes coming next year.

T.Comden read the HS Student of the Month list. T.Aiken read the MS Student of the Month list.

EMPLOYMENT

Motion by A.Gast to accept with regret the retirements/resignations of Denise Gentner- HS Teacher, Paula Kious - HS Teacher, Kathy Pieper, Athletic Admin Assistant, Darrel Brown-ES Teacher, Siara Niner - Associate Teacher. Seconded by D.VanBrunt. Motion carried 6-0

Motion by H.Ruttkofsky to acknowledge the hire of Jason Southwell - Cook/Cashier and Sydney Bellair - MS Para. Seconded by R.Tessier. Motion Carried 6-0

DISCUSSION - No discussion items

ACTION -

Motion by R.Tessier to extend the renewal of the administrative contracts of Marsha Davis - Elementary Principal through June 30, 2025, Alaina Ellison - MS Principal through June 30, 2025, Tim Comden - HS Principal through June 30, 2025 and Damien Hiram- HS Assist Principal/Athletic Director through June 30, 2025 as presented. Seconded by R.Reynolds Motion Carried 6-0.

Motion by H.Ruttkofsky to adopt the School of Choice Resolution for the 2023-2024 school year. Seconded by D.VanBrunt. Role Call Vote: Gast - Y Tessier - Y Ruttkofsky - Y Williams - Y Terakedis - Absent Reynolds - Y VanBrunt - Y Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by R.Reynolds to approve the purchase of 3 new propane buses for \$290,772.00 from the Holland Bus Co. Seconded by H.Ruttkofsky. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by A.Gast to approve the position of Continuous Improvement Coordinator for the 2023-2024 school year. Seconded by R.Tessier. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by A.Gast to approve the Series 3 Bond Ratification Resolution as presented. Seconded by D.VanBrunt. Roll Call Vote:Gast - Y Tessier -Y Ruttkofsky - Y Williams - Y Terakedis - Absent Reynolds - Y VanBrunt Motion carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Policy Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday, April 26th at 8:00 am to discuss the Spring Neola Updates.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Kindergarten Roundup was last Thursday. There were 67 kindergarteners registered. There will be more registering as we get closer to fall. New Truancy proposal from the Lenawee County Prosecutor's office. This plan is the same as what Monroe county has and it has had much success there. We are working on aligning excused/unexcused absences within our county. The county superintendents are still discussing the plan before approval. Presented the Education Policy Guide that is put together by committee at LISD. Reminder of the Legislative Breakfast next month at the Tech Center. Funding is looking good and should know by the end of May where that is. This Thursday is the LISD Budget dinner. In May we will approve the Budget proposal resolution.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

R. Tessier - MS Expo was awesome. Thanks to the HS teachers for the report. It is great to see the extra activities for the kids. Caitlin was visiting a college recently and wants to go into Elementary Ed. This reflects on her teachers here at Onsted that have inspired her.

A. Gast - Kindergarten roundup was awesome and my daughter loved it. Thank you Marsha for that and great to see Steve there. It was great seeing the passion from the HS teachers in their presentations. The HS retirees really had a big impact on my life.

D. VanBrunt - Thanks to the HS they did a very good job. The info on the travel was great and taking the students to Chicago was really nice.

H. Ruttkofsky - The MS Expo was great. I got to chat with 2 students including the one that started Dungeons and Dragons. The other was the Kiwanis students. Loved playing with the Metaverse. That is really a brilliant opportunity for our students. It was cool to see the poster boards.

K.Williams - Echo the thoughts on the MS Expo. The teachers were already looking at what they would do next year. Please attend the legislative breakfast if available.

R.Reynolds - The middle school expo was great

Motion by A.Gast to adjourn meeting at 9:08 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm

David VanBrunt, Secretary
Board of Education
DVB:nlr