

Old Saybrook Board of Education
50 Sheffield Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
(860) 395-3157

The Old Saybrook Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, at the Old Saybrook Board of Education Office, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

Board Members

Tara Barros
Jim Henderson
Eileen Baker
Alan Hyla
George Chang
Cindy Sultini
Jan Furman
Karen Brodeur
Karina Julius

Others

Jan Perruccio, Superintendent of Schools
Julie Pendleton, Director of Operations, Facilities, and Finance
Amity Goss, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Kathy Bai, Director of Pupil and Professional Services
Sheila Riffle, Old Saybrook High School Principal
Krista Bauchman, Old Saybrook Middle School Principal
Heston Sutman, Goodwin School Principal

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Barros called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

II. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

Chairman Barros reminded the audience members of the rules for addressing the Board of Education. Chairman Barros asked Vice Chairman Hyla to keep time for each audience member while the audience member addressed the Board.

A member of the audience of the citizens stated that she had received a letter indicating that verbiage she had been using during her remarks at previous meetings regarding Old Saybrook Public Schools' staff was inappropriate. She stated that she would not use such verbiage in subsequent presentations. She asked the Board if they have read a report of an incident involving her son.

Reports from the Student/Board of Education Representatives

Sports

Girls Basketball: 1-5

- Last Monday night the girls played Westbrook. Despite the loss, the girls did an amazing job defensively against the Knight's top scorer Savannah Marshall. Senior Mandy Beck played not only well defensively, but she also put up some shots. Sophomore Pricilla Gumkowski played well offensively putting up a few three-pointers. Junior Taylor Cote, sophomore Jenna Tully, and junior Wendy Bowden worked together on defense trying to hold off Westbrook.
- Their next game is versus Coginchaug on January 11th.

Boys Basketball: 3-3

- The boys basketball team is reported to be excited for the season. This year they are being led by Dane Cote and Shane Henderson and coached by Coach Quinn

and Coach Perras.

- Their next game is versus Coginchaug on January 10th.

Indoor Track:

- The teams had their first meet last Thursday (1/3) and then another one this past Saturday (1/5) at the University of Rhode Island indoor track. Their next meet will take place on Saturday (1/12) in New Haven at the Floyd Little Athletic Center.

Music/Theater

- Select choirs, flute and clarinet choir concert earlier in December went well
- OSHS Hosted the annual Tuba Christmas December 1st.
- The initial CDA run through went well, the show was performed for anyone interested December 6th and 7th
- Rehearsals for the Musical on the town are underway.
- Upcoming band concert on Wednesday January 9th
- The chorus is preparing the OSW festival songs to be performed in collaboration with Westbrook choirs on February 6th.

Other

- Jingle Bell Run & Sweets with Santa
 - Once again, NHS, Interact, and Ecology club put together holiday activities as well as organize a 5k and a few races for the children.
- Senior dance went very well, Raised \$700
- NHS inductions
 - Thank you to all that were able to attend. The ceremony was able to proceed without any issues.
- Midterms coming up
 - Start the next Thursday (1/17) and finish the following Wednesday (1/23).
- Pj's and Prep
 - Every year, the upperclassmen, usually NHS members, volunteer to help out the freshman prepare for their midterms the Monday before midterms start (1/14).
- 8th grade open house follow up
 - A panel will address the parents and students interested in learning more about OSHS on Monday 1/7

Correspondence

The following correspondence was addressed to the Board of Education:

- CABE – Day on the Hill Flyer
- Thank you note from Old Saybrook High School teachers

III. MINUTES

Brodeur/Baker

“Move to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2018, Board of Education Regular Meeting, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

Brodeur/Baker

“Move to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2018, Board of Education Special Meeting, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

IV. EDUCATION ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Donation – Boys Soccer Jackets

A donor who wishes to remain anonymous contacted Athletic Director Cunningham regarding the success of the 2018 varsity boys’ soccer program. Said donor is generously willing to fund their State Championship jackets, which is a donation that would cover 30+ jackets at a cost of \$2,800.00. This donation would be deposited in the Old Saybrook High School Student Activities account for the sole purpose of purchasing the jackets.

According to Board of Education Policy Series 3000 Gifts, Grants, and Bequests to the District, any gift valued over \$500.00 presented to the school district must be brought to the Board for official action and recognition.

Brodeur/Hyla

“Move to accept the donation of \$2,800.00 to be used for the purpose of purchasing state championship jackets for the boys’ soccer team”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

Field Trip Request – CT Drama Association

Board of Education policy requires that overnight field trips be approved by the Board of Education. The following overnight trip is taking place in March 2019. This field trip has the support of the building principal and superintendent.

March 8-9: The trip will depart to Joel Barlow High School in Redding, CT from Old Saybrook High School at 2:00 p.m. on March 8th and will return on March 9th. The trip will cost approximately \$150.00 per student. The teacher to student ratio will not exceed 10:1.

Baker/Furman

“Move to approve the Connecticut Drama Association field trip, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

2019-2020 Academic Calendar

The calendar committee has met to discuss the proposed calendar for the 2019-2020 academic year. There are two regional days, state holidays, a common start date, and winter and spring breaks. There are two discretionary days allowed and November 9, Veterans’ Day, is one that has been included for Old Saybrook to attend school. There are also seven half days for professional development and three built in cancellation days. Below are highlights of the proposed days off in the 2019-2020 calendar:

- August 26, & 27, 2019 First Days for Teachers
- August 28, 2019- First Day of School for Students (1/2 day)
- September 2, 2019- Labor Day
- October 14, 2019- Columbus Day
- November 4 & 5, 2019 Professional Development days
- November 27, 28 & 29, 2019- Thanksgiving Break
- December 23-January 1, 2020- Winter Break
- February 17 & 18, 2020- February Break
- March 12 & 13, 2020- PD Days
- April 13-17, 2020- Spring Break
- May 25, 2020- Memorial Day

Hyla/Furman

“Move to approve the 2019-2020 Academic Calendar, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

2019-2020 Superintendent Budget Presentation

Superintendent Perruccio and Director Pendleton presented the Superintendent’s proposed 2019-2020 budget to the Board of Education at the regular board meeting on January 8, 2019. This presentation was the district’s first budget presentation to the full Board of Education for the 2019-2020 academic year. The budget was preliminarily reviewed by the Board’s Budget and Fiscal Committee at its meeting on January 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Superintendent Perruccio and Director Pendleton explained the District’s various budget drivers, significant changes in particular line items, added costs to the District and potential savings. The Board asked several questions related to the budget which included but were not limited to: enrollment, magnet school tuition, and special education costs. Additionally, the Board made suggested changes to the presentation as it moves forward to the Board of Finance and eventually, the community. The

presentation will come back to the Board with the suggested changes at the next meeting on January 22, 2019.

Demographics Presentation

On Tuesday, January 8, Superintendent Perruccio provided the Board of Education with an update regarding the status of the Short Term Goals laid out to the Board by the Demographics Subcommittee. Specifically, the Superintendent elaborated on research that has been done and steps that have been taken regarding the potential move of fourth grade students from Old Saybrook Middle School to Kathleen E. Goodwin School and the potential impact that move would have on District resources, as well as various stakeholder groups.

The Board of Education asked several questions related to the collection and utilization of data from the various stakeholder groups regarding the potential transition of Grade 4 to Kathleen E. Goodwin School. Superintendent Perruccio acknowledged that her research, though extensive, yielded few helpful results, as many Districts make the decision on how to split their grades according to space at available facilities rather than a valid academic purpose and that there is no definitive research about optimal configuration. She did, however, stress that her research did confirm that the fewer transitions for young students, the better for their academic achievement. The next step in the research process will be to administer a survey to select groups of parents, teachers, and students about this potential change and use the results to determine next steps.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Furman/Henderson

“Move to adjourn into Executive Session at 9:29 PM for the purpose of discussing non-certified/non-union contracts, a Secretaries’ Union Memorandum of Understanding, and a Paraeducators’ Union Memorandum of Understanding”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

The Board invited Superintendent Perruccio and Director Pendleton into Executive Session.

VI. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 9:45PM.

Julius/Furman

“Move to approve the Non-Certified/Non-Union Contracts and Letters of Employment for District Nurses, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

Furman/Hyla

“Move to approve Secretaries’ Union Memorandum of Understanding, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

Baker/Sultini

“Move to approve the Paraeducators’ Union Memorandum of Understanding, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

VII. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board.

VIII. REMINDERS

- OSHS – PAC Meeting – January 9– 6:00PM
- OSHS – PTO Meeting – January 9 – 7:00PM
- OSHS – Winter Band Concert – January 9 – 7:30PM
- Goodwin – PTA Magic Show – January 18 – 6:30PM
- District – Schools Closed for Martin Luther King Day – January 21
- OSMS – PTO Stuff the Shelves Begins
- District – Board of Education Meeting – January 22 – 7:00PM

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Baker/Sultini

“Move to adjourn at 9:55PM”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

Karen Brodeur, Secretary
Old Saybrook Board of Education

Minutes recorded and typed by:
Trent Gerbers, Executive Assistant
*DRAFT - Subject to approval at the next BOE meeting