

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Oyster Bay – East Norwich Central School District**

**Date:** December 15, 2020  
**Kind of Meeting:** Business Meeting  
**Location:** Oyster Bay High School, Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County NY  
**Members Present:** Laurie Kowalsky-President  
Nancy Castrogiovanni-Vice President  
Darren Gerbosi  
Maryann Santos

**Members Not Present:** John McEvoy (Attended Remotely); Todd Cronin

**Others Present:** Dr. Laura Seinfeld, Superintendent  
Kate Freeman, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations  
Dr. Lisa Mulhall, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment  
Darlene Dolan, District Clerk  
Mary Anne Sadowski, District Counsel

Laurie Kowalsky called the meeting to order at 6:45 P.M.

Motion by N. Castrogiovanni, second by D. Gerbosi, to enter executive session for the purpose of Personnel and Negotiations.

Motion by D. Gerbosi, second by M. Santos, to claim out of executive session at 7:31 PM.

Laurie Kowalsky opened the meeting by recognizing this as being Dr. Seinfeld's last Board meeting. On behalf of the Board she thanked her for implementing change over the past 7 ½ years and expressed that she will be missed. She presented her with flowers as a token of appreciation. Dr. Seinfeld thanked the Board and expressed her gratitude at having the privilege to serve in such a wonderful community which she will surely miss. She stated she will make additional comments at the end of the meeting.

Maryann Santos reported on correspondence received by the Board.

Dr. Seinfeld began her report by commenting on student recognition and asked Dr. Mulhall to report on Chamber Singers. Dr. Mulhall announced that in lieu of traditional in-person performance, the Chamber Singers put together a special virtual holiday performance. Upon viewing, Dr. Seinfeld commented how lovely the singers were and how moving their performance was especially at this particular point in time. She thanked the Chamber Singers, Mr. Femino and Dr. Dissinger for their direction and then turned the floor over to Sharon Lasher, Principal of OBHS.

Presenting on behalf of Dr. Joseph Pesqueira, Ms. Lasher spoke about student accolades from OBHS business competitions including Virtual Enterprise, a non-traditional classroom and student directed course in which students work closely with each other to develop their business models. The students involved in this project garnered an amazing accomplishment and placed in the top 10% in the world! Furthermore, students participated in Huntington Chamber of Commerce's virtual 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Emerging Business Leaders competition. Both Juniors & Seniors placed 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> in these competitions. Dr. Lasher thanked Tara Biel for her endless commitment and dedication to working with students involved since September and mentioned their excitement for future competitions that begin in January. The students

that attended were congratulated and received certificates. Students unable to attend in person will receive their certificates by mail.

Dr. Seinfeld reported that the District Academic Committee met and in effort to increase student achievement and improve district and student rankings, the district is reviewing several options including a BEDS code change. Laurie Kowalsky stated that a BEDS code change is important because the district is being penalized for combining MS and HS codes and instead suggested separating 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade codes as a separate school which would lessen the impact of negative rankings. Also, she continued to emphasize the importance of state test participation. The district's participation in state testing needs to increase to 95% to earn blue ribbon status. These exams are not considered high-stake exams and she encourages parents to have their children participate which would give the district an increased benchmark.

Ms. Santos asked if BEDS codes change will be done by March. Dr. Mulhall explained that there is an on-line submission process which is not ready yet by the State Education Department, however there will be a resolution put on the agenda for the next Business meeting to discuss further progress.

2021-2022 Calendar - formal resolution will be on next agenda.

Dr. Seinfeld again thanked Ms. Kowalsky for the flowers she presented earlier and reiterated how much she loved working with the Board. She expressed her gratitude for allowing her to lead and for the opportunity to serve the district. She also expressed her confidence in the administration, teachers and support staff and most importantly the students of Oyster Bay-East Norwich CSD.

Motion by N. Castrogiovanni, second by M. Santos, to approve the minutes from the meetings of

- Workshop Meeting, 11/03/20
- Business Meeting, 11/17/20

Motion unanimously carried. The minutes were approved.

Business /Facilities Report by Karen Freeman. Ms. Freeman stated that the budget process timeline began on December 15<sup>th</sup>. There are a series of meetings culminating in a budget vote which is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021. State aid is very dependent on federal assistance to states and recovery of the economy after COVID 19. Overall the district is in very good sound financial condition with healthy fund balance and reserves as well as a Moody's Rating of Aa1. Board member asked if the budget will be affected if the 51 students who left the district this year return. Ms. Freeman responded that the budget is based on data previous to those students leaving the district.

Motion by L. Kowalsky, second by N. Castrogiovanni, to approve the following:

## **VI PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

### **A) Professional Personnel**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District hereby approves the following *Professional Personnel and Civil Service Personnel* Resolutions as listed:

#### **1. TENURE APPOINTMENT**

1.1 DANIEL GATTO

Position:

Tenure Area:

Effective:

Special Education Teacher

Special Education

12/19/2020

		Certification:	Childhood Education (1-6), Professional Students with Disabilities (B-2), Professional Early Childhood Education (B-2), Professional
2.	<b><u>LEAVES OF ABSENCE</u></b>		
2.1	DR. ALLISON MUELLER	Position:	School Psychologist
		Status:	Unpaid Child Care Leave
		Effective:	01/25/2021
		Period Date:	01/25/2021 – 02/19/2021
		Return to Work:	02/22/2021 *anticipated
		Assigned to:	James H. Vernon School
2.2	STEPHANIE ALVIZURES	Position:	Teacher
		Status:	Unpaid FMLA
		Effective:	01/13/2021
		Period Date:	01/13/2021 – 02/02/2021 *revised
		Return to Work:	02/03/2021
		Assigned to:	Theodore Roosevelt School
3.	<b><u>APPOINTMENTS</u></b>		
3.1	ALISON CHECHAKOS	Position:	Home Instruction
		Status:	Student Illness
		Effective:	10/07/2020
		Period Date:	10/07/2020 - TBD
		Salary:	\$78.56 per hour
Student #: 363623609 2 hours per week *revised hours			
3.2	ANTHIE ECONOMOU	Position:	Teacher of the Deaf
		Status:	P/T
		Effective:	09/08/2020
		Period Date:	09/08/2020 - 06/25/2021
		Certification:	Deaf & Hearing Impaired, Permanent
		Salary:	.2466 of MA Step 2
3.3	AMANDEEP KAUR VIRK	Position:	Resident Substitute
		Effective:	12/02/2020
		Period Date:	2020-2021 School Year
		Certification:	Early Childhood Education (Birth-2), Professional Childhood Education (1-6), Professional
		Salary:	\$150 per day
		Assigned to:	Theodore Roosevelt School
		Replacing:	L. Hehn
3.4	PERSEFONI ANDRONIKOS	Position:	School Psychologist
		Status:	Leave Replacement
		Effective:	01/25/2021

Period Date: 01/25/2021 – TBD  
 Certification: School Psychologist, Provisional  
 Salary: BA, Step 1 - \$309.95 per day  
 + holidays  
 Assigned to: James H. Vernon School  
 Replacing: Dr. Mueller (Unpaid Leave)

3.5 MEGAN WAGENHAUSER

Position: Substitute Teacher  
 Effective: 2020-2021 School year  
 Assigned to: On-Call – as needed  
 Salary: \$150.00 per day

3.6 LAUREN SZABO

Position: Resident Substitute  
 Effective: 01/04/2021  
 Period Date: 2020-2021 School Year  
 Certification: Visual Arts, COVID-19 Emergency  
 Salary: \$150.00 per day  
 Assigned to: James H. Vernon School

3.7 COACHES

Effective: 2020–2021 School Year  
 Period Date: Winter

Assignment	Season	Span/ Time	Name	Cont /New	Sch.	Year /Step	Salary	NYS Ris Level
Bowling Var. H.C. B&G	Winter	1/4 – 3/6	Keven Degnan	Cont	II	4	\$6431	Low
Fencing Var. H.C.	Winter	1/4 – 3/6	John Bruckner	Cont	III	25	\$5234	Moderate
Fencing Asst.	Winter	1/4 – 3/6	Virginia Kemp	Cont	II	4	\$3002	Moderate
Track & Field Var. Girls	Winter	1/4 – 3/6	Kevin Cotter	Cont	III	11	\$7616	Low
Track & Field Var. Boys	Winter	1/4 – 3/6	Chris Weber	Cont	III	14	\$7616	Low

3.8 SARAH GALLO

Position: Resident Substitute  
 Effective: 12/21/2020  
 Period Date: 2020-2021 School Year  
 Certification: Early Childhood Education (Birth-2),  
 Pending  
 Childhood Education (1-6), Pending  
 Salary: \$150 per day  
 Assigned to: Theodore Roosevelt School  
 Replacing: New

3.9 ALEXIS KOSAKAVICH

Position: Resident Substitute  
 Effective: 12/21/2020  
 Period Date: 2020-2021 School Year  
 Certification: Early Childhood Education (Birth-2),  
 Pending  
 Childhood Education (1-6), Pending  
 Salary: \$150 per day  
 Assigned to: Theodore Roosevelt School

		Replacing:	M. Hardiman
<b>B)</b>	Non-Teaching		
1.	<b><u>RESIGNATIONS</u></b>		
1.1	NELSON PAGAN	Position:	Security Aide
		Assigned to:	District
		Effective:	11/30/2020
1.2	JAMES DANTUONO	Position:	Security Aide
		Assigned to:	District
		Effective:	12/09/2020
2.	<b><u>PERMANENT CIVIL SERVICE</u></b>		
2.1	ANGELA RIES	Position:	Senior Account Clerk
		Assigned to:	Administration
		Effective:	12/15/2020
2.2	SUSAN WALSH	Position:	Senior Account Clerk
		Assigned to:	Administration
		Effective:	12/15/2020
3.	<b><u>APPOINTMENT</u></b>		
3.1	SUSAN WALSH	Position:	Administrative Assistant I
		Effective:	January 26, 2021
		Status:	Probationary 26 weeks
		Salary:	\$59,838 (prorated) According to the Agreement between OBENCSD and CSEA, Local 1000 AFSCE, AFL- CIO
		Assigned to:	Administration
		Replacing:	M. Nolan (retired)

Discussion: Dr. Seinfeld congratulated Dan Gatto on his tenure.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by D. Gerbosi, second by N. Castrogiovanni, to approve the following:

## **VII BUSINESS ACTIONS**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District hereby approves the following *Business* Resolutions as listed:

### **A) ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Board of Education hereby accepts the Treasurer's Report as presented by the District Treasurer for the months of November, 2020.

### **B) ACCEPTANCE OF WARRANTS**

The Board of Education hereby accepts the Warrant of Schedules and Claims as presented by the Internal Claims Auditor to the Treasurer for the months of November, 2020.

**C) EXTRA CLASSROOM ACTIVITY FUNDS**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the reports of the Extra Classroom Activity Funds as submitted for November, 2020.

**D) APPROPRIATION FROM EMPLOYEE BENEFIT ACCRUED LIABILITY RESERVE/  
2020-21 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District hereby approves an adjustment in the amount of \$33,330 to the 2020-21 budget which will be appropriated from the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve to fund contractual obligations for accumulated sick days upon retirement.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by N. Castrogiovanni, second by D. Gerbosi, to approve the following:

**VIII SPECIAL SERVICES**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District hereby approves the following *Special Services* Resolutions as listed:

**A) CPSE/CSE MINUTES**

RESOLVED, the Board of Education of the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District has arranged that the following appropriate special education programs and/or services be provided as recommended by the Committee on Special Education:

<u>CSE</u>		
11/24/2020	2	Requested Review
12/01/2020	1	Requested Review
12/01/2020	1	Program Review
12/01/2020	1	Amendment - No Meeting
12/02/2020	1	Requested Review
12/03/2020	1	Requested Review

**B) CONSULTANT CONTRACTS/ANCILLARY AND RELATED SPECIAL  
EDUCATION SERVICES**

RESOLVED, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign 2020-2021 consultant agreement with the following vendor to perform special education related services as needed. Vendors will be selected based on rate, continuity of service and overall availability.

Dina Marie Mulstay, M.S. Ed @ \$500.00 per day

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by N. Castrogiovanni, second by M. Santos, to approve the following:

**IX NEW BUSINESS**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District hereby approves the following *New Business* Resolutions as listed:

**A) AUTHORIZATION OF CHANGE ORDER FOR CAPITAL WORK AT THEODORE ROOSEVELT SCHOOL:**

WHEREAS, the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District approves and awards Change Order No. 1 to Louis Barbato Landscaping, Inc. for credit of unused lump sum allowance for the playground resurfacing project.

Current Contract:	\$ 78,970.00
Change Order No. 1:	<u>(5,000.00)</u>
New Contract Total:	73,970.00

**B) ATC TESTING AND SCREENING SERVICES, LLC LETTER OF AGREEMENT**

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District approves the Letter of Agreement between the District and ATC Testing and Screening Services, LLC and authorizes the President to sign said agreement.

**C) MEDICAL EXAMINATION**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby directs an employee made known to the Board in Executive Session to a medical examination pursuant to § 913 of the New York State Education Law at a time and place directed by the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District.

Discussion: N. Castrogiovanni asked a question about ATC testing. Dr. Seinfeld explained why it was on the agenda this evening and explained how it would work. Forms will only be sent if District falls in the yellow zone.

Motion unanimously carried.

Discussion: Ms. Santos asked if parents were made aware how winter sports will be rolled out. Dr. Seinfeld stated that she wanted to wait until the Board meeting to advise community that low risk sports are approved but not higher risk winter sports.

Ms. Kowalsky inquired about a mobile Covid testing unit that comes to schools for students and community members. Dr. Seinfeld stated that she began to look into this possibility and stated that individuals would use their own insurance for the testing and there would be no cost to the District if this was set-up. Board members agreed that a mobile testing unit should be looked at as an option.

Motion by D. Gerbosi, second by N. Castrogiovanni, to enter into executive session at 8:21 P.M.

Motion by M. Santos, second by D. Gerbosi, to claim out of executive session and adjourn at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Dolan  
District Clerk

