



**Approved Minutes
Orange Board of Education
August 15, 2022
OBOE Conference Room - 2nd Floor
7:00 PM**

- Attendance*** Present: Mr. Kraut, Ms. Riccio, Mr. Ziman, Mrs. James, Mrs. Messina Mullen, Mrs. Tremper, Mr. Vitelli, and Mrs. Rodriguez
- Also present: Dr. Scarpetti, Dr. Russo, Mr. Gray, and Mrs. Edo
- Call to Order*** The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Kraut at 7:11 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and the BOE Mission Statement was read by Mr. Vitelli.
- Public Participation*** None
- Consent Agenda*** A motion was made by Ms. Riccio and seconded by Mrs. James to approve the regular meeting minutes from the June 20, 2022 BOE Meeting. All voted in favor, Mrs. Rodriguez abstained.
- Superintendent's Report*** Dr. Scarpetti said that it was a busy summer with the Summer Learning Program, the school staff is preparing the schools to welcome the staff and students back, and preparing for professional development. He thanked the maintenance and custodial staff for their hard work. The Board hired three School Security Officers and will be interviewing one more. He went on to say that School Security Officers are retired police officers or state troopers and are authorized to carry a weapon. Dr. Scarpetti thanked Chief Gagne, of the Orange Police Department, Detective Knepper and Detective Bailey for their guidance during the whole process. Dr. Scarpetti said that the district will be using a new app called PickMyKid which will ensure the safety of students and expedite school dismissal. The app will also notify the school before dismissal who will be picking their child up and the make of the vehicle that they will be in.
- Finance & Operations Report*** Mr. Gray reported on the American Rescue Plan Act which allotted the district \$72,921 and to date \$13,000 has been committed for in-person professional development. The ESSER II Special Education Recovery Grant of \$60,200, \$7,000 has been committed for training and to support students with dyslexia and \$27,000 has been committed to job embedded support. Mr. Gray reported on the ESSER II Elementary & Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Grant. \$164,000 was allotted and \$80,000 has been spent mainly on supplies and professional services for the 2021 and 2022 Summer Learning and \$60,000 has been spent on salaries for the 2022 Summer Learning. The ESSER III Grant

we were allocated \$326,000 and \$50,000 of that has been spent mainly on the 2021 Summer Learning Program salaries. That amount is offset by tuition for the 2022 Summer Learning Program. For this grant we have until 2024 to expend. School lunches and that the Connecticut State Department of Education has allocated \$194,557 to Orange under the program called School Meals Assistance Revenue for Transition (SMART). These funds will allow schools to continue to provide meals at no cost to students and it should cover the free lunches until mid January. Dr. Scarpetti shared this information will be shared at the end of this week.

Dr. Scarpetti encourages parents to apply for the free or reduced lunch program as we get closer to the January transition.

Mr. Gray gave the facilities update and started by thanking the maintenance and the custodial staff who have been working hard to prepare the buildings for the return of students and staff. The annual kitchen maintenance was completed. Contractors were at each of the schools where they power washed and cleaned hoods, checked the kitchen and refrigeration equipment and descaled the steamers. Emergency lights and all of the fire extinguishers and fire alarms were also checked. As is done every four months, the air filters and univent components were changed. Projects such as painting classrooms, touching up classroom walls, exterior doors of the buildings, garage doors, and railings were completed. Buildings, outside equipment, and picnic tables were power washed. A new access gate was installed at Peck Place School to allow for better traffic flow. The Race Brook School floors and the Turkey Hill School ceiling tiles have been replaced. The Turkey Hill School walking track, which was a gift from the Turkey Hill School PTO, was completed.

Curriculum Report

Dr. Russo reported that over 300 students attended over 1251 sessions at the 2022 Summer Learning Program. She said that the 2022-2023 Professional Learning calendar will be distributed to the staff and that Restorative Practice training for the staff will take place this week. New Teacher Orientation will take place on August 23 and the Welcome Back will take place on August 24. She said that there will be sessions for staff to engage in the Connecticut mandated reporter training tutorials. There will be sessions at each school with Detective Knepper and Detective Bailey who will share their safety presentation. August 26 will be a classroom set up day for teachers.

Special Services Report

Mrs. Edo reported that the Extended School Year Program this summer was successful for all students that attended. The new Connecticut Special Education Data System went into effect on July 1. The new system is an adaptive electronic individual education document that is designed to improve the format and flow of information and will include a parent portal for families to access their child's Individual Education Plan and other important information. Mrs. Edo went on to say that there are no changes to the laws governing special education or 504 at this time. She reminded the community that Peace at Home Parenting Solution is a town-wide subscription that provides sessions that are live and interactive and on-demand recorded online

classes. Families will continue to receive information through their individual school newsletters as to what those up and coming classes are.

BOARD
BUSINESS

1. Policy Second Read: 4118.21/4118.5 Academic Freedom -A motion was made by Ms. Riccio and seconded by Mr. Ziman to approve Policy 4118.21/4118.5 Academic Freedom as presented. All voted in favor.

2. Policy Second Read: 6141.312 Migrant Students - A motion was made by Mr. Vitelli and seconded by Ms. Messina Mullens to approve Policy 6141.312 Migrant Students as presented. All voted in favor.

3. Policy Second Read: 4131.5 Continuing Education Units - A motion was made by Ms. Riccio and seconded by Ms. Tremper to rescind Policy 4131.5 Continuing Education Units. All voted in favor.

4. Policy Second Read: 6162.31 Test Exclusions - A motion was made by Ms. Riccio and seconded by Mr. Ziman to approve Policy 6162.31 Test Exclusions as presented. All voted in favor.

5. Policy Second Read: 6144.1 Exemption From Instruction - A motion was made by Mr. Vitelli and seconded by Mr. Ziman to approve Policy 6144.1 Exemption From Instruction as presented. All voted in favor.

6. Policy First Read: 5142.4 School Security Officers - This Policy will be a second read at the next Board of Education meeting.

7. Calendar Update: Dr. Scarpetti asked that the Board change the 2022-2023 School Year Calendar to reflect January 2 as a holiday since it is the day after New Year's Day. Dr. Scarpetti said that when the calendar was originally presented, schools were in session on January 2, but since then it has been determined that schools should be closed the day after New Year's Day. By adding January 2, 2023 as a day off of school, that would extend the last day of school to June 9, 2023.

A motion was made by Ms. Riccio and seconded by Mrs. James to change the 2022-2023 school calendar to reflect the closing of school on January 2, 2023 and the last day of school changed to June 9, 2023. All in favor.

STANDING
COMMITTEES

Finance

Ms. Riccio said they met before the BOE Meeting and that they're in the process of closing out the 21-22 school year. She said the auditors will soon be in to take a look at the year. They also reviewed the cafeteria and 21st update.

***Personnel/Policy
Transportation***

Mrs. Hadlock was not in attendance - no report.

***Building &
Grounds/Safety &
Security***

Mr. Cap was not in attendance - no report.

***Curriculum /
Instruction /
Technology***

Mr. Ziman said that the committee did not meet and that they will be scheduling a meeting for this month.

ACES

Ms. Riccio reported that they are in the process of getting approval for ACES at Chase to be able to start increasing the number of grade levels.

Mr. Ziman made a motion to enter into executive session for seconded by Ms. Riccio to discuss item #8 the Superintendent's recommendation for the Mary L. Tracy School Principal. All in favor.

Orange Board of Education Executive Session Minutes:

August 15, 2022, 8:10pm

Attendees: Bill Kraut, Susan Riccio, Ken Vielli, Ken Ziman, Tatiana Messina Mullen, Ronnette James, Liz Tremper, and Mrs. Rodriguez

Invited into Executive session: Superintendent Dr. Vince Scarpetti and Dr. Eveleyn Russo - discussion on Superintendent's recommendation for the Mary L. Tracy School Principal

Exit out of executive session at 8:35 pm

Resume Orange Board of Education meeting at 8:36 pm

Motion made by Mrs. Rodriquez, 2nd by Ms. Riccio to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the Mary L. Tracy School Principal. All in favor.

Adjourned: Motion to Adjourn made by Susan Riccio, 2nd Ken Ziman. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:38.

Respectfully Submitted by

Sherryl Iannone