

ORLEANS SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of March 19, 2012
Held in the Music Room, Orleans Elementary School

APPROVED ✓
'12 JUN 4 1:42PM
K. DALLY ASST
ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

Present for the Committee: Mary Lyttle, Josh Stewart, David Abel, Eric Ehnstrom, Gwynne Guzzeau

Present for the Administration: Dr. Hoffmann, Principal Carreiro

Others in attendance: Margie Fulcher- Chair of the Board of Selectmen in Orleans, John Hogden-Orleans Finance Committee

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mary Lyttle called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

AGENDA CHANGES

Mary Lyttle requested that an additional item addressing the OES per pupil cost in 2010 be added to the agenda at the end of the Priority Business section.

CITIZENS SPEAK

Kimberly Bruemmer, Grade 4 teacher, indicated that two meetings ago a comment was made about both teachers and the administration being involved with the budget. She stated that the teachers are not involved in the budget process other than to request specific supplies for their classrooms. David Abel commented that perhaps teachers should be more a part of the process. Kim continued with a request that teachers be involved in any school choice decision, as they are a valuable resource in determining the social and academic needs of the impacted grades.

Kindergarten teacher Judy Suchecki expressed her concerns about class sizes, which could be 18 – 19 students or more. Thirty-five children had signed up for screening so far, and the number could increase. Children come from diverse backgrounds and small classes are important in building foundations for the children.

Margie Fulcher, Chair of the Board of Selectman, stated she has been supportive of the school, but was dismayed upon receiving a letter from the OES School Committee Chair. It was suggested that it would be more appropriate to continue the discussion after the meeting.

RECOGNITIONS

Principal Carreiro recognized one of the parents, Portia Caloura, who has been active within the OES community. She has assisted with the large playground outreach project, where she has been involved with the preparation of a full scale resident mailing to support the Playground Project.

Another parent, Nate Knight, was recognized for his assistance with the same project. He has digitalized the formatting and logos so there is future content access flexibility.

Parent Ginger Marks, who was in attendance, was recognized for her multi-year volunteer effort as facilitator of the OES Scholastic Book Fair.

PRIORITY BUSINESS

Administrators' Reports

Principal's Report

Principal Carreiro shared that there are after-school clubs, including the Geography Club with Mr. Peterson open to ten 4th and 5th graders. She distributed a hand-out that describes the club activities. OES is seeking staff interest in forming a professional team to participate in "Unleashing the Power of Collaborative Inquiry: A Professional Development Program for Data Coaches". Four staff members have agreed to do it so far. Kindergarten registration will take place on April 5th and 6th. Twenty-two children have enrolled in the Special Education Summer School. The Nauset Rotary made a \$500 donation to the Playground Project. This school will serve as a host site for an I Pad workshop this week. As part of town clean-up, trees were removed from the front of the school. Mary Lyttle asked about why the trees were taken down, and Principal Carreiro agreed to investigate what diseases, if any, the trees had. Principal Carreiro pointed out that three Grade 5 OES students were published in the Cape Cod Times Special Times, which was included in her hand-out.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Gifford's report highlighted the status of the Math mappers, Elementary ELA Mappers and Science mapping team. Dr. Hoffmann then mentioned the new teacher evaluation system, which will be in place by the next academic year. There is a meeting scheduled with the Massachusetts Teachers' Association next week at the Middle School to review the steps for implementation.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hoffmann provided the status on the Green Repair Project. He met with the president of the company, a specialist in windows, who is taking measurements on the windows to be replaced at Nauset Regional High School. The completion is anticipated in October. Bids for the roof are about to open. The Parent Forum was held on March 5th about continuing or not continuing to group Grade 6 students in separate advanced classes. The decision was made to continue with this year's program, in keeping Grade 6 students in heterogeneously grouped classes.

FY12 Budget Update

Discussion began with a review of the FY12 March Budget Transfers requested. Prior to the vote, Eric Ehnstrom voiced his concern about the need to know if the funds are being appropriately allocated line-by-line. Gwynne Guzeau agreed with Eric and the need for a subcommittee to better educate them. Mary Lyttle suggested that the entire OSC be involved. Eric Ehnstrom made a motion to accept the FY12 March Budget Transfers. The motion was seconded by David Abel, and all voted in favor.

FY13 Budget Update

Dr. Hoffmann presented the FY13 Budget at \$3,214,137. There was subsequent discussion on proposed additions of \$14,834 as well as reductions of the same amount, keeping the overall budget the same. A motion was made by David Abel to accept the proposed budget reductions and additions. Josh Stewart seconded the motion, which was approved by all except Eric

Ehnstrom. When a budget workshop was discussed again, it was suggested that one be scheduled during the summer, and the date can be determined at the next OSC meeting.

OES Per Pupil Costs

Various reports were issued at the meeting. The Reporting by Municipal Agencies document described certain expenditures made by other municipal departments on behalf of the schools, which may count towards the Net School Spending (NSS) requirement. Another report displayed the Per Pupil Expenditures for each elementary school in the district from FY 2005 through 2011. For the FY 2010-2011, OES was the highest at \$23,905 but the others ranged from \$15,239 (Brewster) - \$20,704 (Eastham). Another hand-out showed the Total Expenditure per Pupil for FT10. One obvious difference separating OES from the other schools in the district was the "Out-of-District FTE Average Membership". For OES, the membership is 1.1, which results in "Payments to Out-of-District Schools" of \$131,046. The other schools reported memberships from 13.0 - 19.4, with the next highest "Payments to out-of-District Schools" of \$22,927. The discrepancy could be attributed to a reporting error and both Dr. Hoffmann and Principal Carreiro will pursue this issue further. Another issue was Administrative line item and the resulting higher expenditure per pupil. This could be attributed to the methodology used in determining the cost, which can vary town by town.

OTHER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Cape Cod Collaborative

According to Mary Lyttle, there was no new information.

Playground Subcommittee

Josh Stewart referred to Principal Carreiro's Principal Report which provided a detailed status of activities. Meetings will take place each Monday afternoon with Playground Co-chairs to assist with regular planning needs associated with the project. A mailing to over 7,000 residents is planned for the end of the week to step up fundraising. It was suggested that budget numbers and costs be available for review at Town Meeting.

Transportation Subcommittee

Eric Ehnstrom reported that there is a meeting scheduled March 27th, so he will share updated information at the next OSC meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Gwynne Guzzeau, seconded by Eric Ehnstrom, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 27, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Gwynne Guzzeau, seconded by Eric Ehnstrom, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 PM, subject to the payment of bills.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia T. Switchenko

