

ORLEANS SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting, October 21, 2013, Orleans Town Hall

APPROVED

Present for the Committee: Josh Stewart, Chair, Eric Ehnstrom, David Abel, Ginger Marks, Ed Rohmer

For the Administration: Dr. Richard Hoffmann, Giovanna Venditti, Diane Carreiro

Others in Attendance: Town officials and members of the community

K. Dery, Asst  
ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

13 DEC 16 3:08PM

CALL TO ORDER/AGENDA CHANGES – Chair Stewart called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Chair Stewart announced MCAS Results (item D) will be held off until the next meeting. Item F (Update on Capital Projects) will be moved ahead of item B.

CITIZEN SPEAK – Bob Sinclair, Brian Kavanaugh, and Margie Fulcher all thanked the committee for moving their meeting location to town hall so future meetings could be televised.

RECOGNITION – Principal Carreiro introduced Sharon Hughes and Kara Wilson who are being recognized for initiating a new OES Drama Club. This came about from the "Envision OES" forum held a year ago.

PRIORITY BUSINESS

Cape Cod Village (CCV)

Informational handouts were distributed by Bob Jones of CCV. He reviewed the history of the project. A presentation was made to the OES School Committee January 2013. At that time the committee voted 5-0 in support of the project. Several meetings followed and some legal questions surfaced. CCV has been looking at several sites, but the Orleans parcel is the most desired. A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 10/23 at 5:30 with the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee. Mr. Abel asked if any progress had been made regarding access to the parcel? Mr. Jones replied that he had not been able to make contact with certain individuals. However, if the School Committee doesn't approve, it is a mute point. Mr. Jones departed to attend another meeting. Chair Stewart called for discussion. The consensus of the committee was their responsibility is to operate a school for the education of children. They could not predict what the educational needs would be in the future. If CCV had other land options, they should be pursued. A motion that we don't have any surplus land was made by Mr. Rohmer and seconded by Mr. Ehnstrom. The committee discussed changes to the motion. Different wording was suggested by the Superintendent resulting in the motion being withdrawn. Instead, Mr. Rohmer moved and Mr. Ehnstrom seconded that the committee does not intend to declare any of our property surplus. Mrs. Margie Fulcher, former Selectman and former School Committee member, spoke against abdicating land under School Committee control. Chair Stewart wondered if the 10/23 meeting should be cancelled? Mr. Rohmer called the question. The motion passed 4-1 (Stewart).

Update of Capital Projects

Mr. Ron Collins said the boiler project had been signed off on Friday. The window replacement project had come in substantially higher. Engineers have proposed front door modifications for the town funded security project. Dr. Hoffmann noted that Mr. Kelly, town administrator, was

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looking for a prioritized list by November 15th. In her 10/21/13 memo, Ms. Carreiro provided committee members with a capital projects list through 2018–2019. Mr. Abel said the list was a good starting point, but the committee would need a realistic picture of costs. Mr. Ehnstrom suggested the School Committee meet in two weeks, on November 4 at 4:00 p.m., to get a working document to present to the Selectmen.

### Administrators' Reports

In Principal Carreiro's packet, she listed the 2013–2014 PTC fundraising projects and asked for a vote from the school committee. Ongoing fundraisers include Stop & Shop rewards program, and Staples Reward a Classroom project. Mr. Ehnstrom suggested that school events that cost money should indicate if scholarships are available. Ms. Carreiro said funds for just such a thing are provided by the PTC and it is always noted in any event's publicity. Ms. Carreiro gave an update on the landscape work being planned behind the school.

A written report from the Assistant Superintendent was included in the packet of information provided to the School Committee.

District enrollment statistics were included in the packet. Dr. Hoffmann made note of the Technology Forum for Citizens being held on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the Middle School. A parent survey was launched on October 21st. The purpose is to improve every component of our school district. The survey is being done by a private firm. The district Technology draft can be found on Nauset's web site.

### Update Class Size

Mr. Rohmer asked if there was a policy book for OES? Dr. Hoffmann said the present policy manual is for the entire school district, but noted individual policy decisions made by each school should be recorded officially. Committee members wondered if enrollment numbers could be known earlier than right before school opens in September. Ms. Carreiro provides enrollment numbers monthly, but official enrollment isn't known until school opens in September. There are always registrations and withdrawals at the last minute. Dr. Hoffmann said he had checked other schools' policies regarding class size. Most had a range or indicated a target number. The School Committee should review these and determine a policy. It should be done sooner rather than later due to budget deadlines fast approaching.

The School Expenditure Report was reviewed by Ms. Venditti. Committee members discussed unexpended funds and how unanticipated expenses eat into the budget. Dr. Hoffmann said he would recap circuit breaker funds for the committee in November. Mr. Abel suggested, at the next meeting, Ms. Venditti ask if committee members have any questions regarding the expenditure report rather than going over each item – to save time. Ms. Venditti thanked him for the suggestion.

### Update on Superintendent's Evaluation

Committee members received Potential Sources of Evidence – Superintendent's Evaluation 2013–14 which outlines the goals for discussion at the upcoming Joint Meeting. Dr. Hoffmann's four goals are (1) Promote Family, Community and School Committee Engagement – Communication;

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(2) Improvement in Math Ability/Achievement Grade 2 and Grade 6; (3) Social/Emotional Growth of All Students; and (4) Technology Plan. Dr. Hoffmann plans to run a workshop for all administrators in December. He noted he is looking forward to being out in the schools more often and is charged up to pursue the goals he has set forth. Mrs. Marks felt Dr. Hoffmann's presence in the schools was important for understanding bullying.

### MASC Conference

Dr. Hoffmann reported that the conference will take place November 6, 7 and 8. The delegate vote is Friday, and the Saturday session is for new school committee members. A motion was made by Eric Ehnstrom and seconded by David Abel to defer vote to Mrs. Marks and appoint Mr. Rohmer as the alternate. The vote was unanimous.

### Policy Update

The Department of Public Health has asked school committees to reaffirm the concussion policy. A motion was made by David Abel and seconded by Eric Ehnstrom to reaffirm the concussion policy as mandated by the Department of Public Health. The vote was unanimous. The bullying policy was changed to include staff members as perpetrator or victim in definitions. A motion was made by David Abel and seconded by Eric Ehnstrom to approve the policy on bullying as amended. The vote was 4 in favor and one abstain (Rohmer). Policies Section G, Personnel, and Section H, Negotiations were tabled as some committee members hadn't reviewed them. Dr. Hoffmann confirmed that each school committee can have its own policies or opt out of a district policy. However, he hoped there wouldn't be too many of these.

Mr. Abel brought up what could be the best practice to receive concerns from teachers or staff in order to help guide school committee decisions, but not circumvent current formats. Dr. Hoffmann will follow up so everyone is comfortable. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

## OTHER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Cape Cod Collaborative – Mr. Rohmer has received the packet and will try to attend the next meeting.

Playground Subcommittee – Mr. Stewart reported that a multi-phased plan has been outlined to be done in phases. The subcommittee will be looking towards donations and grants.

Transportation Subcommittee – Mr. Ehnstrom will be making a report at the Joint Meeting.

Policy Subcommittee – Mr. Stewart said the subcommittee is working its way through the manual.

Preschool Enrollment – We are where we predicted we would be.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Eric Ehnstrom and seconded by David Abel to approve the minutes in block of August 26, 2013 and September 20, 2013 minus the minutes of July 8, 2013. The vote was unanimous.

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PAYMENT OF BILLS

ADJOURNMENT – It was moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Templeton, Secretary

Orleans School Committee