The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the City School District of Olean, NY was held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. at Olean Middle School, located at 401 Wayne Sullivan Street, Olean, NY. The meeting was called to order by John Bartimole, President of Board, with a moment of silent prayer or a moment of personal reflection. Neil Shoemaker led the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**PRESENT:**
- John Bartimole, President
- Eric Garvin, Vice President
- Laurie Branch
- Gordon E. Cross
- Ira Katzenstein
- Michael Martello
- Michiko McElfresh
- James Padlo

**ABSENT:**
- Daniel Harris

**STAFF PRESENT:**
- Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools
- Kathleen Elser, Business Administrator
- Barb Lias, OHS Principal
- Gerald Trietley, OMS Principal
- Tim Houseknecht, OMS Assistant Principal
- Jen Mahar, District Coordinator of State and Federal Aid Programs
- Cso Woodworth, Technology Administrator
- Victoria Zaleski-Irizarry, District Clerk
- John White, BMV Principal
- Linda Nottingham, IJN Principal
- Pamela Neary, Teacher
- Theresa Heinz, Teacher
- Sheila Jackson, Teacher
- Pauline Stanford, Teacher
- Kris Ring, Teacher
- Rintaro Wada, Teacher
- David Olson, EV Principal
- Joel Whitcher, WW Principal
- Jean Nickel, Teacher
- Kellie O’Brien, Teacher
- Jeanne Frisina, Guidance Counselor
- Jan Rhody, Teacher
- Daniel Brown, Teacher
- Carl Kolasny, Teacher

**OTHERS:**
- Jeff Cole, Olean Times Herald
- Amber, Kolodziejski, student
- Kaleigh Anastasia, student
- Kimberly Driscoll
- Courtney Blackmon
- Tori Swier, student
- Kara Frisina, student
- Brady Gaynor, student
- Ellina Babar, student
- Melissa Meyers
- Alysa Brown, student
- Matthew Gardner, student
- Jamal Klute, student
- Taylor Stephens, student
- Jake Baer, student
- Barbara Simon, student
- George Harrington
- Kaitlyn McKeown
- Nick Pirco, WHDL
- Elaine Snyder
- Emily Dodge, student
- Kelly Hustak, student
- Kelsey Branch, student
- Riley Branch, student
- Nick Gengo
- Katie Huselstein, student
- Samantha Huselstein, student
- Madison Carlson, student
- Jacob Herbert, student
- Andrew Liu, student
- Michael and Katherine Kayes
- Joe Reed, student
- Krista Branch, student
- Madison Ozzella, student
- Taylor Bold, student
- Neil Shoemaker, student
Moved by L. Branch, seconded by M. McElfresh, to approve the proposed Meeting Agenda with the following amendments – move agenda Item #7 – Superintendent’s Report before agenda Item #5 – Public Comment.

Ayes __8___
Nays ___0___
Motion Carried

Superintendent’s Report:

a. The 2011-2012 budget is complete – used $1,600,000 in reserves to offset the deficit; concession letters sent to Teacher and Support Staff bargaining units, Administrators, Confidential Management, Business Administrator. The Superintendent of Schools, Business Administrator, Administrators and Confidential Staff are willing to make concessions; the Support Staff unit has indicated

b. Working on a preliminary 2012-2013 budget (assumptions include: 5% BOCES increase, health insurance premium increase, contractual obligations, 3% decrease in state aid, etc.) and currently looking at a $2,700,000 deficit which equates to approximately a 27% tax levy increase or the loss of 30+ jobs

Public Comment:

President Bartimole noted that an anonymous invitation was deceminated encouraging people to attend tonight’s board meeting to advocate for the Art and Music programs. When advocating for one program or one teaching position, an individual is asking for another program to be lessened or another person to be laid off. When advocating, please offer up recommendations and suggestions.

Amber Kolodziejski, 209 N. 12th Street – addressed the board regarding the importance of the Elementary art and music programs. Such programs are healing, enjoyment, entertaining, self-esteem builders, discipline, ability expanders, enhances intelligence, etc. Music has opened so many doors for her and made her feel useful instead of worthless. Asked the board to reconsider its decision to eliminate the Elementary art and music programs.

Dr. Taggerty clarified that the Elementary art and music programs will not be completely eliminated.

Andrew Liu, 203 N. 4th Street – noted that Art is emotional expression. Teachers read books in classrooms – books are considered Art. Pencils are used to create Art. A triangle could be considered Art. Music is art, it is passion, it is the most beautiful part of a person’s life. Please reconsider cuts.

Kara Frisina, 1530 River Road – was never denied an Art class from Kindergarten through junior year. She is currently in the advanced studio class and would hate to see younger students denied the same opportunities. Encouraged the Board to think about the repercussions of eliminating art classes at the elementary level. When cuts are being made, teachers and classes should be the last to be cut.

Taylor Boldt, 1632 Park Avenue – discussed Ways to Save the Art Program: Teacher Pay Freeze; Administrative Pay Cut; Healthcare Incentives to Retire Early; Close an Elementary School.

Riley Branch, 1840 Windfall Road – addressed the Board in regarding the proposed lab class changes. She noted that Physics has helped prepare her for college. By cutting a lab, a student would have 36 less days to review and study for regents.

Courtney Blackman, 211 E. Connell Street – graduated from Olean and has seen the importance of arts and its proven impact due to her involvement with the Arts Council. Arts provide confidence. Arts are important to development skills for young students.

Mike Kayes, 723 Garden Avenue – City resident for 60 years, feels that any reduction to any program would be a loss to the City of Olean as well as a loss of future leaders. Having worked with numerous District students through the Theatre Workshop, he can attest to their dedication and hard work. The arts and music program have made the students who they are today. Mr. Kayes asked the Board to deliberate further before reducing such programs.
Sam Huselstein – 839 Crown Street – read a letter from Kelly McKeown, former HS student. Kelly participated in the art program from middle school through high school and is future teacher attending Edinboro University. Eliminating the education of arts could have negative effects. Arts are more than just a “lovely” program. Studies have shown that art enhances language, cognitive development, social skills, self-esteem, and reduces delinquency. Kelly further noted that she gained the most benefits from art teachers, Kellie O’Brien and Theresa Heinz. Children of today are our future for tomorrow. The board needs to do everything it can to create a prosperous tomorrow. Art education is the baseline of success – children need art in order to be successful.

Melissa Meyers, 213 N. Union Street – as a business owner, she commends the Board on decisions made last year and this year to keep the tax levy to an affordable level. She realizes the art program is not mandated, however, art is a creative way of thinking and the District has many talented art students. Local employers such as the Olean Times Herald, Zippo, Dal Tile, Blue Collar Workware, Sports Locker, ReadiPrint, Citizen’s Printing, etc. employ artists. If the art program is reduced, where will local employers find talented employees?

Victoria Sawaya – 326 N. Union Street – art and music has been a bid part of her life – not sports/athletics. She grew up with art due to her father being an artist. She is concerned for the students that will not/do not have that at home. If art is not offered until a student reaches Middle School, a younger student will be denied art during their elementary years which results in missing out on six years of art or music.

Brady Gaynor, 317 N. 2nd Street – students at a young age need to be exposed to art and music. They need art and music for creativeness. Asked the Board not to cut these programs.

Mike Marvin, 120 S. 8th Street – noted that the District/Board of Education is cutting its budget the same way a family would have to cut their budget if a parent lost his/her income. Mr. Marvin thanked the Board for is efforts and assured the attendees that no one wants programs to be cut and that it would take cooperation and collaboration from everyone including the bargaining units. Unions and the Board need to put everything “out on the table” in order to keep as many programs as possible.

Communications, Commendations:

a. Thank you from Karimah Rahman to Board of Education
b. A great big OMS congratulations to sixth grader Rebecca Fox and eighth graders Jake Cihak and Alexis Sova who received Honorable Mention in the Southwestern Association Volunteer Firemen’s Fire Prevention Essay Contest.
c. IJN Academic Achievement Students – 2nd Marking Period

4th Grade-Stuff
Jessica Chastain
Aaliyah Clark
Izack Kauhl
Tenaya Ramadhan
Julia Stayer
Justin Straight
Harmony Yates

4th Grade-Kallenbach
Brianna Dyal
Andrew Gadbois
Kiana Kwiatkowski
Jackson Marsfelder
Jarrett Prizel
Lauryn Washington
Michael Weber

5th Grade-Ms. Travers
Moved by L. Branch, seconded by M. McElfresh, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the following Consent Agenda items:

a. The previous meeting minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 19, 2011 and Special Meeting April 26, 2011.

b. Upon the Recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following CSE recommendations reviewed on May 3rd is approved:

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c. Upon the Recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to appoint the attached list of Conditional and Non-Conditional Substitutes.

d. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Olean High School’s and Olean Middle School’s Student Activity Accounts Quarterly Reports for the period covering January 1, 2011 through March 31, 2011 be accepted and placed on file.

Ayes __8___ Nays ___0___ Motion Carried

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Olean Middle School’s Drug Quiz Club’s Overnight Field Trip to Syracuse, NY from May 16, 2011 through May 17, 2011. Approval is granted with the
understanding that all school rules and regulations will be followed. The cost to the school district will be approximately $935.96 plus school vehicle, and gas card as well as two (2) substitute teachers. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to make the final decision, based upon her judgment of safety concerns at the time of the scheduled field trip, whether the field trip will occur.

Ayes 8     Nays 0     Motion Carried

Moved by G. Cross, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve Olean Middle School's Explorers Club’s Over Night Field Trip to Niagara Falls, New York from June 10, 2011 through June 11, 2011. Approval is granted with the understanding that all school rules and regulations will be followed and the cost to the school district will be for six (6) or seven (7) substitute teachers. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to make the final decision, based upon her judgment of safety concerns at the time of the scheduled field trip, whether the field trip will occur.

Ayes 8     Nays 0     Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept a $5,000 donation from Laurie Branch, with appreciation.

Ayes 7     Nays 0     Abstain (1)     L. Branch     Motion Carried

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept the Internal Control Risk Assessment Update and Internal Control System Testing Report (Federal Programs and Medicaid) prepared by Buffamante Whipple Buttafaro, P.C.

Ayes 8     Nays 0     Motion Carried

Moved by I. Katzenstein, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to award the Athletic Facility Mezzanine bid to Kinley Corporation for $53,505.00.

Ayes 8     Nays 0     Motion Carried

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Olean City School District and the County of Cattaraugus for the period of March 30, 2011 through December 31, 2011 for Southern Tier AmeriCorps Resource Team (START) Program.

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Ayes 8     Nays 0     Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Agreement between the Olean City School District and Discipline Associates, LLC (dba Teacher Learning Center) for the period of May 11, 2011 through May 19, 2011 for Motivating and Managing Hard to Read, Uninterested and Disruptive Students.
training.

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Ayes 8  
Nays 0  
Motion Carried

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by M. Martello, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to rescind the July 20, 2010 approval of the Agreement between the Olean City School District and Cattaraugus County for skilled nursing for County preschool-aged handicap children.

Ayes 8  
Nays 0  
Motion Carried

Moved by I. Katzenstein, seconded by G. Cross, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Agreement between the Olean City School District and Cattaraugus County for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 for skilled nursing and coordination of a supplemental aide and services for County preschool-aged handicapped youth.

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<td>$9.57 per ½ hr session with a one-on-one classroom aide</td>
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Ayes 8  
Nays 0  
Motion Carried

Committee Reports:

a. Audit Committee – April 18 - given by Eric Garvin
b. Buildings and Grounds Committee – April 19 – given by Ira Katzenstein
c. Finance Committee – April 21 – given by Mike Martello
d. Health Advisory – April 21 – given by Gordon Cross
e. Innovation Committee – April 18 – given by Laurie Branch

Moved by M. Martello, seconded by I. Katzenstein, to publicly thank the Innovation Committee and Committee Chair Laurie Branch, for their efforts.

Discussion Items:

a. Policy #7550 – Complaints and Grievances by Students – 2nd Reading
b. Policy #7552 – Bullying: Peer Abuse in the School – 2nd reading

c. Policy #7550 – Complaints and Grievances by Students and Policy #7552 – Bullying: Peer Abuse in the School

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by G. Cross, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to adopt School Policy #7550 – Complaints and Grievances by Student and Policy #7552 – Bullying: Peer Abuse in the School. These policies are to supersede any current School board Policies regarding the same matter.

Ayes 8  
Nays 0  
Motion Carried

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by J. Padlo, to adjourn from the Regular Meeting and go in to Executive Session at 7:33 p.m. for the purpose of discussing: two contractual updates and litigation update.

Ayes 8  
Nays 0  
Motion Carried
Moved by M. Martello, seconded by L. Branch, to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene to the Regular Meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Ayes ___8___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by G. Cross, to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Ayes ___8___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 10, 2011

Victoria L. Zaleski-Irizarry
District Clerk
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