The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the City School District of Olean, NY was held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Olean High School located at 410 West Sullivan Street, Olean, NY. The meeting was called to order by President Katzenstein with a moment of silent prayer. Laurie Branch led the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT:
Ira Katzenstein, President
Laurie A. Branch, Vice President
John Bartimole
Gordon E. Cross
Eric Garvin
Daniel Harris
Michael Martello
Michiko McEffresh
James Padlo

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:
Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools
Ann O’Brien, Business Administrator
Cso Woodworth, Technology Administrator
Judith Creeden, Director of Curriculum/Testing
Dave Olson, EV Principal
Cheryl Vecchio, WW Principal
Linda Nottingham, IJN Principal
Jerry Trietley, OMS Principal
Barb Lias, OHS Principal
Lynn Corder, Director of Personnel
Marcie Richmond, Director of Special Education
Victoria Zaleski-Irizarry, District Clerk
Sheila Jackson, District Teacher
Melanie Napoleon, District Teacher
Charles Warren, District Teacher
Eileen Skrobacz, District Teacher
Randy Samuelson, District Teacher
Judy Brennan, District Teacher
Sally Cordia, District Teacher
Bruce Silvers, District Teacher
Judy O’Dea, District Teacher
Robert Phillips, District Teacher
Carl Kolasny, District Teacher
Pattie Ann Brown, District Teacher
Daniel Freeman, District Teacher
Amy Anastasia, District Teacher
Lou Ventura, District Teacher
Sally Ventura, District Teacher
Joseph Gervase, District Teacher
Jennifer Rhody, District Teacher
Rose Capra, District Teacher
Marie Rakus, District Teacher
Cindy Kurjakovic, District Librarian
Kristen Sikora, District Teacher
Darlene Connelly, District Teacher
Debra Melara, District Teacher
Carol Shannon, District Teacher
Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by J. Bartimole, to approve the proposed Meeting Agenda.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Communications, Commendations

- Congratulations to the Lou and Sally Ventura for their students’ awards at the City Voices City Visions student film festival. The students won two awards including Best High School Film!
- Correspondence to the Board of Education from Monica Nenno

Superintendent Taggerty discussed the following subjects with the Board of Education:

- Non-Neighborhood/Non-Resident Applications – due to classroom sizes, requests of new non-neighborhood and non-resident cannot be accommodated unless siblings is attending the requested school or a child of a district employee
- Distance Learning – COSER Re-entering
- CDEP – meeting on June 15th
- OESPA Negotiations – June 24th
- CSE Chair Interviews – June 25th
- Admin. Co. Retreat – June 28th and June 29th
- WW Principal Interviews – July 2nd

Public Comments:

Melanie Napoleon, 3835 W. Branch Road, Allegany – French teacher at OHS. Melanie addressed the Board of Education regarding the importance and benefits of Foreign Language and the elimination of the 6th Grade program. Students will be competing in a global market and need to be prepared.

Carol Shannon, 125 Constitution Avenue, Bradford, PA – Language Dept. Chair. Carol thanked the Board of Education for giving her the opportunity to teach. Carol asked to reinstate Meghan Sisson’s position. Meghan Sisson will become a BOCES employee due to the abolishment of her position. Meghan has also served as an Assistant Girls’ Softball coach as well as a chaperone.

Deb Melaro, 1038 Kingston Drive – teaches Spanish II Regents level. She is a parent of children that attend/attended the Olean City School District. Her son graduated and went to SBU. Her daughter plans on attending SBU as well. Deb receives correspondences written in Spanish from her former students. She asked the Board of Education to please keep the 6th Grade Foreign Language position/program.

Betsy Cashing, 109 S. 9th Street – taught Language for 20 years and currently teaches at SBU. Meghan Sisson was one of Betsy’s students. Four weeks ago Meghan received the highest academic award. Language is important for the 21st Century leaner. Maintaining the 6th Grade Language program is important.

Sheila Jackson, 34 E. State Street, Salamanca – address the Board of Education on behalf of two
of her students. In individual letters, the students addressed the important of the 6th Grade
Language program. Sheila also read a quote from John Demado.
Sally Ventura, 1638 Seneca Avenue – English Dept. Chair. The English Dept. will be making a
Portfolio presentation to the Board of Education. Two of their labs are not large enough to
accommodate all the classes. More than 11 sections will not be able to work in a computer lab.
Loosing an English teacher is an enormous disruption to the English program. Asked the Board of
Education to restore the English position in order to continue to deliver the best quality education.

Eileen Skrobacz, 231 N. 4th Street – addressed the board as a parent, teacher, and taxpayer. Next
years 10th Grade English class will have 31 students. That is too large a class, especially if the
teacher wanted to be able to meet one-on-one with students. It is her understanding that an
English position was cut, then reinstated, and then cut again after a High School English teacher
resigned. Eileen asked that students be the top priority as larger classrooms will cause crowding
and the 21st Century skills could be compromised. Students that earn college credits at the HS are
saving their parents approximately $667,605. The aquatics position was eliminated as well. Olean
is located along a river. Elimination of the aquatics program affects 75% of the students. The
District will not be replacing the retiring Math teacher. Contracting for part-time positions through
BOCES is not in the best interest of the students. DDP is also being eliminated. What options are
going to be left for students?

Carrie Samuelson, 226 N. 2nd Street – 8th Grade Science teacher. She has been teaching for 23
years. Carrie thanked the Board of Education for all that they have afforded the students over the
years. The purpose of her attending the Board meeting – to ask that the OMS Science position be
saved. The current 7th Grade teacher has resigned and will not be replaced. The OMS 6th Grade
teams have been reduced from three teams to two teams. Position eliminations will have a
profound affect on teaming at the Middle School. Students will loose team identity, there will be no
continuity, classroom size will be larger, scheduling will be more difficult, limits teacher/student
interaction, etc.

Sally Cordia, 98 Brooklyn Street, Portville – addressed the Board of Education regarding budget
cuts, especially at the Middle School. The Middle School worked very hard getting ready for the
State Standards. Having one less Science teacher at the Middle School will affect the NYS exam
scores, teams will be broken apart. Sally read an excerpt from President Obama’s speech. She
asked the board to make a commitment to the Science program by reinstating the 7th Grade
Science position.

Brandon Jones, 511 West Sullivan – addressed the Board of Education regarding the PT position of
his the elimination of his stepmother, Amy Jones.

Jocelyn Huselstein, 839 Crown Street – the Music Program has come so far because of Ms. Nirchi.
The Sax quartette has blossomed. Jocelyn questioned how the Board of Education could abolish
Ms. Nirchi’s position.

Theresa Heinz, 3698 Emerson Road, Cuba – OHS Art teacher. Theresa recently discovered her
position is being rearranged and she would have to split her time between the Olean High School
and the Olean Middle School due to the elimination of the part-time Art position at the Middle
School. Theresa feels the Board of Education has placed teachers in a position of having to
compete against each other for positions and programs.

Victoria Swier, 326 S. Union Street – Victoria is a student of Ms. Heinz. She loves art and noted
the Ms. Heinz is very good teacher. Victoria asked the Board of Education to reconsider taking
away painting and ceramics.

Kara Frisina, 1520 E. River Road – noted that Ms. Heinz is a compassionate teacher. An art
student can go to college for ceramics or advanced art design.
Olivia Sorokes, 301 York Street – Olivia takes three periods of art classes. Students that may not excel in Math may excel in Art. Asked the Board of Education to reconsider its decision regarding the Art program.

Bobby Prizel, 804 W. Henley Street – Bobby has two children – one at OMS and one at IJN. Addressed the Board of Education regarding its responsibility to replace teachers that resign or retire. Large classroom sizes are not good for a teacher or for students, especially students that need extra help.

Dr. Barry Gann, 226 N. 3rd Street – addressed three issues: 1) 5th Amendment Rights of Students – having to testify against themselves; 2) ASVAB Test – the right of opting out – Option 8; 3) Advanced Classes – colleges rank high schools based on the number of advanced classes offered and the number of students taking advanced classes – Olean’s rating is low which is why his daughter did not get accepted by the best colleges even though she took advanced classes. Lou Ventura, 1638 Seneca Avenue – Lou outlined the numerous advanced classes offered to students.

Brandon Jones, 511 W. Sullivan Street – noted that the elimination of his stepmother’s (Amy Jones) position has not been mentioned. Amy works very hard and it will be difficult to get all the work that needs to be done without her.

Darlene Connelly, 219 W. Oak Street – noted the following: the English Dept. has worked so hard, the OMS Science Dept. is more prepared than ever; the Music Dept. has provided music in the hallways at OHS; the Art Dept. had an art show at the Olean Center Mall and decorates the halls at the High School; Advanced classes are afforded to students. Darlene asked the Board of Education to find the money to restore all positions/program.

Laurie Bushnell, 1359 Goodrich Avenue – thanked the Board of Education for restoring positions. No one program is more important than the other. The District needs all positions restored.

Sheila Jackson, 34 E. State Street, Salamanca – Sheila was an Enrichment student many years ago. Such a program gave her confidence, maturity, etc. The 6th grade Foreign Language Program is very important. The later a student learns to speak a foreign language, the harder it is. The District needs to teach students about multi-culture and multi-diversity.

President Katzenstein thanked everyone for his or her feedback. He noted that we are all “between a rock and a hard place” and that everyone works with the Board of Education and the Superintendent to find solutions. At the end of the day we will all do what is best for the students. Abolishment of positions, reassignments, etc. is finalized.

Moved by L. Branch, seconded G. Cross, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

a. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Treasurer’s Report dated May 31, 2009 be accepted and placed on file.

b. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Warrant Report for May 2009 be accepted and placed on file.

c. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the May 2009 Intra-fund Transfer listing in the amount of $17,273.00 (General Fund) and $2500.00 (School Lunch Fund) be accepted/approved and placed on file.

d. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Internal Claims Auditor Exception Report for the period covering month ending May 30, 2009 be accepted and placed on file.
e. Upon the Recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following CPSE recommendation reviewed on June 16th be approved:

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f. Upon the Recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following CSE recommendation reviewed on June 16th be approved:

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Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by J. Bartimole, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to authorize the Superintendent to enter into the Full Time Equivalency (FTE) agreement between Olean Community Schools and Jamestown Community College dated June 9, 2009 for the time period of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010.

Ayes __9___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Annual Re-organizational meeting be held on July 7, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Olean High School.

Ayes __9___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by L. Branch, to table the following motion:

Moved by __________________, seconded by __________________ upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Operations Committee Mission Statement as presented.

Ayes __9___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Lance Chaffee, Director of the Olean Public Library dated May 26, 2009 in which the Olean City School District is pursuant to law to collect an additional tax levy of $960,260.00 for the Library’s 2010 budget.

Ayes __9___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried
Moved by L. Branch, seconded by M. McElfresh, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the contract between the Olean City School District and Marci Banfield, M.S. CCC-SLP to provide Speech Pathology Services during the period of June 15, 2009 through July 2, 2009 at a rate of $100 per hour for a maximum of 2.5 hours plus an hourly travel rate of $25.00.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the purchase of Olean High School Precalculus Textbooks published by Pearson Education, Inc.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by M. McElfresh, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Memorandum of Agreements between the Olean City School District and the Olean Teachers’ Association (OTA) allowing the Houghton Music Festival stipend for the 2008-2009 school year to be equally split between Joseph Gervase and Tobi Snyder.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept the resignation of Daniel Anger, OHS English Teacher, with regret, effective July 1, 2009.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by M. Martello, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept the resignation of Seth Johnson, OMS Physical Education Teacher, with regret, effective June 30, 2009.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept the resignation of Larry Layman, OMS/OHS Cleaner, with regret, effective June 29, 2009.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by M. Martello, seconded by E. Garvin, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to appoint the following individuals to implement the 2009 Summer STAR Program per the OTA and OESPA Contracts:

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<th>Nicholas Patrone</th>
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2009 Summer STAR Program Appointments
Moved by L. Branch, seconded by G. Cross, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to appoint the following individuals to implement the 2009 Secondary Summer School Program at the Olean Middle School per OTA Contract:

Resource Room: Chris Korzeniewski  
Math 7 and 8: Debra Yehl  
Secretary: Diane Fidurko

Ayes ___9___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by E. Garvin, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to appoint the following individuals to implement the 2009 Secondary Summer School Program at the Olean High School per OTA Contract:

English: Lou Ventura and Sally Ventura  
Library: Cindy Kurjakovic  
Science: Charles Warren  
Social Studies: Chris Keenan, Paula Fidurko  
Physical Education: Jason Folland  
Math: David Lasky, Carrie Peters, Evelyn Bysiek

Ayes ___9___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following resolution of abolishment is presented:

a. A position is abolished for reasons of economy, effective June 30, 2009, in the tenure area of LOTE (Language Other Than English).
b. The person having the least seniority in the tenure area of LOTE (Language Other Than English) is Meghan Sisson.
c. Meghan Sisson shall be placed upon the "preferred eligibility list" of the district in accordance with Education Law §2510 (3).

Ayes ___9___  Nays ___0___  Motion Carried
Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following resolution of abolition is presented:

- A position is abolished for reasons of economy, effective June 30, 2009, in the tenure area of School Counselor.
- The person having the least seniority in the tenure area of School Counselor is Kelly Gumtow.
- Kelly Gumtow shall be placed upon the "preferred eligibility list" of the district in accordance with Education Law §2510 (3).

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by J. Bartimole, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following resolution of abolition is presented:

- A position is abolished for the reasons of economy, effective June 30, 2009, in the tenure area of Music.
- The person having the least seniority in the tenure area of Music is Nicole Nirchi.
- Nicole Nirchi shall be placed upon the "preferred eligibility list" of the district in accordance with Education Law §2510 (3).

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

The following Committee Reports were presented to the Board of Education:

- Operations Committee – June 1st – given by Michiko McElfresh
- Safety Committee – June 3rd – given by Colleen Taggerty

Discussion Items

- Special Education Presentation – Marcie Richmond

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by G. Cross, to adjourn from the Regular Meeting and go in to Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussing: The Performance of a Particular Individual and Litigation Update.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by M. Martello, seconded by G. Cross, to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene to the Regular Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by M. Martello, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Ayes 9  Nays 0  Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria L. Zaleski-Irizarry
District Clerk

June 22, 2009