

**MINUTES OF  
Oconto Falls Board of Education Meeting**

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OCONTO FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
November 11, 2019

**PRESENT: Harter, Stodola Eslien, Leja, Peitersen (late), Stranz, and Engel**

The meeting of the Oconto Falls School Board was called to order by President Ron Leja at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room.

**Citizen Participation:**

None.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Stranz/Stodola-Eslien to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2019 regular meeting and October 30, 2019. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0.

**Financial Report: Approval of Payment Request:**

Superintendent Dean Hess gave the Financial Report. A motion was made by Harter/Engel to accept the Financial Report and approve the payment requests in the amount of \$1,226,839.00. Roll call vote. Harter, Stodola Eslien, Leja, Stranz, Engel, and Peitersen voted yes. Motion carried 6-0.

**Reports and Discussions:**

Student Representatives shared with the Board many activities that are happening throughout the High School.

CESA 8 Board Representative Jan Stranz and Sharon Stodola-Eslien shared information from a recent CESA 8 Leadership training they attended.

Director of Technology Corey Jeffers shared a slideshow at the meeting that shared the multiple projects that were completed over the summer and is planned to complete throughout the year. He was very pleased with the work that he and his department has accomplished.

In the District Administrator's Report, Superintendent Dean Hess shared many other events that had happened over the month throughout the district.

Dean reminded the Board about the annual process of the Friend of Education Award. We have put out notices that we are seeking nominations which are due by November 30, 2019.

On October 28, we hosted a mandatory Anti-Harassment training for our staff. We also were able to video record it to share with staff that was unable to attend.

The 2020 State Board Convention is January 22-24. We reminded Board members to notify Debbie if they are going to attend to allow us to make reservations.

The Board wanted to discuss a recent concern regarding the exterior sign at Washington Middle School. It was felt that the sign was very hard to see and if there are legal reasons it isn't closure to the highway for visibility. Middle School Principal Stephanie Landreman was there and agreed to work with Mike Bouche to see if there other options to make the sign more visible and if so, what costs are involved. This will be shared with the Board at the next meeting.

Dean publicly thanked those staff members from our elementaries and middle school for all of the work that is currently going on behind the scenes to pilot a new English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum adoption. He shared with the Board the many hours that have been and will be invested to make sure we are selecting the best fit for our district.

In the past, our Board and Administration has discussed the possibility of hosting a Board Retreat in which our Board members would spend some time experiencing many of the great things going on throughout our district. The Board Retreat will happen on January 30, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Dean reviewed the minutes from a past meeting in which the Board agreed to allow Administration to approve coaching positions and just have the Board review the list each season. Therefore, they reviewed the 2019-2020 winter coaching assignments. There was no action.

The Board received this month's list of donations. A motion was made by Harter/Engel to accept the donations, as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0.

**Under Old Business, the following action(s) was taken:**

**POLICY REVISION**

A motion was made by Stranz/Harter to approve the second reading of the following policies, as presented. Roll call vote. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0.

- ❖ #5517 Student Anti-Harassment
- ❖ #5517.01 Bullying

**TEACHER HANDBOOK REVISION**

A motion was made by Engel/Stranz to approve the Teacher Handbook revisions regarding unused PTO and Workers Compensation injuries, as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0.

**Under New Business, the following action(s) was taken:**

**POLICY REVISIONS**

A motion was made by Stranz/Harter to accept the first reading of the following policies, as presented (withdrawn #2260, #2260.0). Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0.

- ❖ NEOLA Update 28-2

**SUPPORT STAFF HANDBOOK REVISION**

A motion was made by Harter/Engel to approve the Support Staff Handbook revisions regarding unpaid leave and Workers Compensation injuries, as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0.

**STAFF RECOGNITION**

Dean updated the Board on the new proposal to host a recognition night for many staff members versus having several single recognition banquets. The Board appreciate the proposal. No action needed.

**FARM LAND LEASE**

A motion was made by Harter/Peitersen to accept the bid from Blaser Farms with the following adjustments. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0.

- ❖ The acreage available would be 70 not 79
- ❖ To allow Blasers to determine whether they pay \$100/acre without fertilizer and \$140/acre with fertilizer, with the clear understanding that they would be thoughtful on the wind direction and odor.

**CLOSED SESSION**

A motion was made by Engel/Harter to move into Executive Session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(c), to consider the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any District employee (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons which, if discussed in public would likely have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any referenced person; and (g) to confer with legal counsel, specifically, to discuss internal investigation matters regarding specific persons, and, if appropriate, consider taking action relative to the same. Roll call vote. Harter, Stodola Eslien, Peitersen, Stranz, Engel, and Leja voted yes. Motion carried 6-0. 8:37 p.m.

**OPEN SESSION**

A motion was made by Peitersen/Stranz to move into Open Session. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0. 8:38pm

**POSSIBLE ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

No Action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Peitersen/Engel to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.