

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Oceanside Board of Education, Oceanside Union Free District, duly called and held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the District Office, 145 Merle Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572.

In Attendance: President Transom, Vice President Maresca, Mr. Blau, Mr. D'Ambrosio, Mrs. Garrity, Mrs. McGrath-Mulhern and Mrs. Schoell. Also in attendance were Superintendent Harrington and Assistant Superintendents DeRosa, Fenter and Van Cott.

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath-Mulhern and seconded by Mrs. Schoell at 6:01 p.m. to move into executive session in the library of Board Room of the District Office .

A motion was made by Mr. D'Ambrosio and seconded by Mr. Transom at 7 25 p.m. to adjourn executive session and move into public session.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

In Attendance: President Transom, Vice President Maresca, Mr. Blau, Mr. D'Ambrosio, Mrs. Garrity, Mrs. McGrath-Mulhern and Mrs. Schoell. Also in attendance were Superintendent Harrington and Assistant Superintendents DeRosa, Fenter and Van Cott and District Clerk Green.

### **CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**New York State School Boards –Proposed Bylaw Amendments &Resolutions** – Mr. Transom reviewed the proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions which will be presented for vote at the NYSSBA Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Schoell will be attending this meeting as Oceanside's Voting Delegate. Mr. Transom advised that he a member of the Nassau Suffolk School Boards Committee and attended a meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup> where these resolutions and bylaws were discussed and a position on each was taken. The Board asked questions on certain resolutions and Mr. Transom and Mrs. Schoell provided the rationale on the items being discussed. The Board was in agreement with Nassau Suffolk School Board's recommendations.

**English Language Arts K-12** – Dr. Harrington introduced Dr. Ziropiannis who provided an informative presentation on the English Language Arts K-12 program (copy attached). Dr. Ziropiannis stated that the development of this new approach has been a team effort with teachers, administrators and the Superintendent all working together. Nineteen teachers in all grade levels worked cooperatively over the summer developing curriculum. Dr. Ziropiannis highlighted some "Points of Pride". She stated that the frameworks were developed over the past few weeks and they support the diverse needs of our students. She also reported on additional frameworks, such as, the infusion of "Big History" into the 9<sup>th</sup> grade conferencing program, the transformation of the high school newspaper, The Sider Press, to a digital format, the incorporation of technology (iPads) into instruction and the implementation of a summer reading program at the elementary level and middle school level as well as a plan to develop a similar format at the high school. Dr. Ziropiannis outlined the framework for reading and writing in grades 2 – 6 using our Reading Street program. Students will complete three complete reading units in Reading Street – one per trimester.

The Board thanked Dr. Ziropiannis for an excellent presentation.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY** - A parent expressed concerns about the heat in the band room at the high school and requested the district look into air conditioning the room particularly since it is used at the end of the summer for Band Camp as well. The Board explained that it is a very expensive project but they would look into the cost and the possible alternatives. Mrs. DeCarlo, Principal of Oceanside High School, advised that the room is not air conditioned and that if the doors were to be opened, she would have to be advised and would assign a security guard to that particular area.

A parent expressed concerns about moving students from School #4 to 9E this year. She realized the move was necessary due to the need for additional space, but asked that the Board review this for future students. She felt the change for students in special classes is more upsetting. Dr. Harrington stated that she and Mrs. Kienke are aware of the situation and are looking into it but, unfortunately, it was necessary this year. Mr. Transom suggested the parent arrange a meeting to have a private discussion since the Board cannot talk about a particular student by name.

A parent expressed concerns about the parking situation at the high school in the morning but particularly in the afternoon at dismissal. Cars are parked three deep which places students crossing the street in between three rows of cars in a very dangerous situation. Mrs. DeCarlo stated that she is aware of the problem. Security guards are put outside and they ask drivers to move their cars but often the drivers refuse to move their cars and are abusive to our staff. She has called the 4<sup>th</sup> precinct but by the time they get to the high school, the traffic has dispersed. Mr. Transom suggested that a letter be sent to the 4<sup>th</sup> precinct for their assistance. He also stated that we cannot put district employees out in the street to direct traffic.

**ADJOURNMENT** - A motion was made by Mr. D'Ambrosio and seconded by Mr. Maresca to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Mary Ann Marino  
Secretary to the Board of Education

Robin D. Green  
District Clerk