

OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL  
1111 Boston Post Road  
Old Saybrook CT 06475

The Old Saybrook Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at the Old Saybrook High School, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

**Board Members**

Joanne Sullivan  
Kelley Kennedy  
Philip Broadhurst  
Eileen Baker  
James Henderson  
George Chang  
Alan Hyla

**Others**

Jan Perruccio, Superintendent of Schools  
Kathy Bai, Director of Pupil and Professional Services  
Amity Goss, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment  
Julie Pendleton, Director of Operations, Facilities, and Finance  
Sheila Riffle, Principal of Old Saybrook High School  
Joseph Anastasio, Associate Principal of Old Saybrook High School  
Matt Walton, Associate Principal of Old Saybrook Middle School

Also in Attendance: Kristen Hunter, Meghan Payne, Kara Bell, Amy Claffey, Christine Bairos, David Plotkin, Lon Seidman

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. CABE COMMUNICATION AWARD PRESENTATION

Lon Seidman, Director for the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, presented the Old Saybrook Board of Education with an Award of Excellence for Educational Communications – Website.

III. SCHOOL NURSE APPRECIATION PROCLAMATION

Chairman Kennedy read the 2017 School Nurse Appreciation Proclamation into the minutes and thanked the district's school nurses on behalf of the Board of Education and the administration.

IV. TEACHER APPRECIATION PROCLAMATION

Chairman Kennedy read the 2017 Teacher Appreciation Proclamation into the minutes and thanked the district's teachers on behalf of the Board of Education and the administration.

V. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board of Education

Student Representative Reports

The Board of Education Student Representatives reported the following:

- April 6 was Middle School Safety and Wellness Day
- Last week there was a health and wellness expo at the high school with many seminars and booths set up to discuss a wide variety of topics
- Perfect Pals supported autism awareness by wearing blue and handing out blue ribbons to students
- Boys lacrosse 1-7, Girls lacrosse 5-3
- Boys Tennis 6-1, Girls Tennis 6-1
- Baseball 4-5, Softball 2-8
- Spring Grinder Night on April 19
- Hosted first senior project gallery walk
- Upper classmen are circulating a petition to have graduation held on the turf field

#### Correspondence

- Senior Project Presentation list
- The Connecticut Association of Schools recognized Trent Gerbers as the 2017 Administrative Assistant of the Year
- The Connecticut Association of School Business Officials recognized Julie Pendleton as the 2017 Celebrated School Business Official of the Year

#### VI. MEETING MINUTES

##### Baker/Hyla

**“Move to approve the April 4, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-0)**

##### Sullivan/Baker

**“Move to approve the April 6, 2017, Special Meeting Minutes as presented”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-0)**

#### VII. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

##### OSHS Spotlight

High School Spanish 5 Honors students: Holly Coppes, Rory Dunne, Delilah Hallowell, Arianna Heonis, Jillian Hirst, Lucy Marinelli, Alexis Parker, Mia Reed, Maggie Smith, Erin Stangel, and Heather Uphold, with the help of Old Saybrook High School Principal Sheila Riffle, Old Saybrook High School World Language Teacher Amy Claffey, and Old Saybrook High School Librarian Christine Bairos, presented a detailed look at immigration into the United States, having used several primary and secondary sources of research to inform their report.

The full presentation can be found at the following link: [OSHS Spotlight Presentation](#)

### OSHS Course Pilots

Ms. Riffle, Old Saybrook High School Principal, Ms. Goss, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, and Old Saybrook High School Teachers Meghan Payne, Kara Bell, and Kristen Hunter presented new course proposals for Civil Law, Global Citizenship, Digital Media Production, and English in Action. These course proposals are for pilots for the 2017-2018 academic year and will not be mandatory courses at this time.

Each of these proposals focused on creating personalized opportunities for students, allowing access to rigorous coursework through a variety of pathways, and/or integrating content from multiple content areas. These new offerings are aligned with Goal #2 of the Strategic Plan and will expand the innovative instructional practices in place at the High School. For example, English in Action will allow students to choose a community action project and apply their literacy skills in a setting outside of the classroom. The Social Studies department seeks to expand elective options and to offer an additional Early College Experience (ECE) course.

The full presentation can found at the following link: [OSHS Course Proposals](#)

The full course proposal for Civil Law can be found at the following link: [Civil Law](#)

The full course proposal for Global Citizenship can be found at the following link: [Global Citizenship](#)

The full course proposal for Digital Media Production can be found at the following link: [Digital Media Production](#)

The full course proposal for English in Action can be found at the following link: [English in Action](#)

### NELMS Presentation

Old Saybrook Middle School Teacher Dave Plotkin and Old Saybrook Middle School Students Aidan Collier and Joe Sininaldo gave a shortened version of the presentation presented to Middle School Administrators and Teachers at the annual New England League of Middle Schools (NELMS) Conference in Providence, Rhode Island on March 30, 2017. In a room with about 30 to 40 teachers and administrators from around New England, including our own District, the teacher and students presented "Rethinking the Classroom - A Transition from Traditional to a Personalized, Integrated, and Student-Centered Environment". After sharing their ideas and student work samples, the teacher and students fielded questions from the audience.

The full presentation can be found at the following link: [NELMS Presentation](#)

### Professional Development Wrap-Up

Amity Goss, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, provided a review of professional learning for the year.

From July 1, 2016 to July 1, 2017, one hundred thirty-seven educators from every academic department and school were provided professional learning opportunities, beyond the contractual professional development days, for a total cost of approximately \$40,000.

The average number of workshops per person was two, though not all faculty availed themselves of the opportunity for professional learning. Additionally, several of the workshops funded by the district occurred during the summer or on weekends, demonstrating added commitment on the part of the learners attending.

The full presentation can be found at the following link: [Professional Development](#)

### Revenue and expenditures for 2017-2018

On Tuesday, April 18, the Budget and Fiscal Committee moved to recommend to the Board of Education that the Excess Cost Grant funds, which are typically added to the 2016-2017 budget as an additional appropriation, be returned to the town.

Any Excess Cost Grant funds that are returned to the town may be used to safeguard against a potential shortfall in revenue or budget expenditure in 2017-2018. These funds would be marked to protect the Board of Education and the town from unpredictable funding from the state or additional expenditures caused by the state's current financial situation.

## VIII. REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

Goodwin – There was no additional report

Old Saybrook Middle School – Associate Principal Walton elaborated on the bullying data reported by the Safe School Climate Team. Mr. Walton also discussed extra curricular participation of students in grades 6-8.

Old Saybrook High School – There was no additional report

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment – There was no additional report.

Operations, Facilities, and Finance – There was no additional report.

Pupil and Professional Services – There was no additional report.

Superintendent – There was no additional report.

IX. REPORTS BY BOARD COMMITTEES/LIAISONS

Budget and Fiscal – Board Member Sullivan thanked Director Pendleton for her work and congratulated her for her recognition from the Connecticut Association of School Business Officials.

CABE – Board Member Baker informed the Board that CABE had been discussing the state’s budget.

Facilities – Board Member Broadhurst informed the Board that the Facilities Committee had met recently to discuss solar energy and summer work projects.

LEARN – Board Member Broadhurst stated that there was a presentation from the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner about the state’s budget.

Strategic Plan – There was no additional report.

Personnel – There was no additional report.

Policy – There was no additional report.

PTO/PTO/Ram Boosters – There was no additional report.

Chairman Report – There was no additional report.

X. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board of Education.

XI. REMINDERS

- Goodwin Grandparents and Special Friends Day – April 26 & 27 – 11:30AM - 12:00PM & 2:15-2:45PM
- Grade 3 Orientation at OSMS – April 27 – 6:00pm
- Grade 6 Concert – May 3 – 7:00PM
- 17-18 Kindergarten Parent Orientation – May 4 – 6:30PM
- Goodwin PTA Meeting – May 4 – 7:00PM
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon – May 5 – 12:00PM (OSHS), 12:00PM (OSMS)
- Ram Boosters Meeting @ OSHS – May 8 – 7:00PM
- Regular Board of Education Meeting – May 9 – 7:30PM (Superintendent Q&A)

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**Baker/Henderson**

**“Move to adjourn at 10:09PM”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-0)**

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Karen Brodeur, Secretary  
Old Saybrook Board of Education

Minutes recorded and typed by:  
Trent Gerbers, Executive Assistant  
\*DRAFT - Subject to approval at the next BOE meeting