

Old Saybrook Board of Education
50 Sheffield Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
(860) 395-3157

The Old Saybrook Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at the Old Saybrook Board of Education Office, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

Board Members

Tara Barros
Jim Henderson
Eileen Baker
Alan Hyla
George Chang
Karina Julius
Jan Furman
Karen Brodeur

Others

Jan Perruccio, Superintendent of Schools
Sheila Riffle, Old Saybrook High School Principal

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Barros called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

II. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No members of the audience addressed the Board of Education.

Reports from the Student/Board of Education Representatives

Shoreline Music Festival - The Shoreline Music Festival is a non-auditioned festival. The performance will take place on October 10th.

Spirit Week – During the week of October 6th, Old Saybrook High School will be celebrating “spirit week”.

Digital Detox – As part of Mental Health Awareness Week (which takes place from October 6th to October 12th), the OSHS Health Club is hosting its second annual “Digital Detox”. In an effort to get students from spending less time on social media, the Health Club, led by club president Julia Sultini, has publicized the event to gain traction around the school.

Sports

Boys Soccer- With a 4-2-2 record, the boys are directly in line to comfortably qualify for both the state and conference tournament.

Girls Soccer- The girls currently have a 3-5-0 record.

Football- The boys football team won their first game on September 28th against

Haddam Killingworth with a final score of 27-6.

Field Hockey - With a 5-1-0 record, the Field Hockey Team is one of the top teams in both the Shoreline Conference and in Connecticut's Class S.

Boys and Girls Cross Country- On Saturday, September 28th, both the boys' and girls' cross-country teams had a meet at Rhode Island. Teams from all across the eastern shoreline participated and there were many outstanding performances. Last Tuesday, October 1st, the boys' cross country had a meet at North Branford. Both teams have a meet on Thursday, October 10th at Cromwell.

Correspondence

The following correspondence was presented to the Board of Education:

- CABA Liaison Newsletter
- OSHS Rambler

III. MINUTES

Baker/Henderson

“Move to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 24, 2019, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-1)

Vice Chairman Hyla abstained.

IV. EDUCATION ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Capstone Guidebook

This item was tabled by the Board Chairman.

Field Trip Request – CMEA All-State

The CMEA All-State Music Festival will take place from April 2 through April 4, 2020. Students who qualify to participate in this event will travel to Hartford, CT on Thursday, April 2 at 7:30 a.m. There will be a two-day rehearsal period, which will culminate in a concert on Saturday, April 4 at the Hartford Convention Center.

Henderson/Furman

“Move to approve the CMEA All-State Music Festival field trip request, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

Field Trip Request – New England Music Festival

The New England Music Festival will take place from March 19 through March 21, 2020. Students who qualify to participate in this event will travel to Hanover High School in Hanover, NH on Thursday, March 19 at 8:00 a.m. There will be a two-day rehearsal period, which will culminate in a chorus concert at 2:00PM and a band concert at 4:30PM on Saturday, March 21 at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire.

Hyla/Baker

“Move to approve the New England Music Festival field trip request, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

OSHS Scholarship Donation

Ms. Beth Ford called the Old Saybrook High School Scholarship Coordinators in early September with an offer of scholarship money to a senior graduating in June 2020. The total amount of the scholarship is \$4,000 and will be disbursed in total to one graduating senior per their request. Ms. Ford explained that the scholarship is to go to a graduate attending a Connecticut state university or a technical/trade school. There is no essay requirement. Any student committed to attend one of Connecticut’s public universities or a technical/trade school is eligible. The foundation requests that the student chosen be a student not always selected for accolades and awards.

Julius/Baker

“Move to accept the Old Saybrook High School Scholarship Donation, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

STEM Book Donation

Reynolds Subaru worked with Old Saybrook Middle School Associate Principal Matt Walton and Old Saybrook Teacher David Plotkin to coordinate the donation STEM books valuing approximately \$2,000. Representatives from Reynolds Subaru officially presented their donation to students of Old Saybrook Middle School on Friday, October 4th.

Residency Request

It has been the District’s procedure in the past to allow students who are in the process of moving into the District but are awaiting the completion of construction or

closing on a new home to begin the academic year with their classmates. There is a family at Old Saybrook Middle School who is requesting that the Board allow their son to remain enrolled at Old Saybrook Middle School while the family awaits their closing date on October 31, 2019. The Superintendent recommended that the Board allow the student to remain in the school system during this period. The Superintendent's recommendation is contingent on the student maintaining himself in good standing. Failure to do so could result in the rescinding of permission to attend school in Old Saybrook. The family of the student must also provide their own transportation to and from school.

Principal Bauchman supported the petition to have the student remain at the Old Saybrook Middle School, as well.

Henderson/Brodeur

“Move to approve the residency request, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

District Committee List

It is District practice to email committee minutes to all staff members and Board of Education members during the academic year in an effort to keep all Old Saybrook Public Schools employees informed about the work being done throughout the District. As part of this initiative, the District Leadership Team maintains and shares a list of District committees and their respective members with the Board. On Tuesday, October 8th the Superintendent of Schools provided the Board with the 2019-2020 District Committee list.

The Board discussed the possibility of adding a Board of Education liaison to the Wellness Committee.

Public Relations Update

Public Relations for Old Saybrook Public Schools began over the summer with the creation of the District's annual “Welcome Back” video (**676 views, +7 Channel Subscriptions**). This video features Superintendent Perruccio providing important back-to-school information for parents and students. Also launched at the start of the school year was the second season premiere episode for the District developed series, “Here's Something Awesome”. This episode featured Old Saybrook Middle School Teacher Eric Yale and his grant funded trip to several Midwestern National Parks (**157 views, +1 Subscriptions**). The District worked in collaboration with Mr. Yale to document his trip through photos, which were shared on the District's Twitter Page and a video, which debuted on the District website and the District YouTube Page. The third video that has been released this year is the second season premiere episode of another District developed series, “60 Super Seconds”. The premiere episode featured members of the District's Information Technology Department as they outlined featured available on the first Old Saybrook Public Schools mobile application (**272 views, +1 Subscriptions**). The release of this video has produced a

significant increase in phone application downloads, with **35 new downloads** taking place in the hour following the video's release. **The total download count currently stands at 287.**

The 2019-2020 Public Relations Committee met for the first time on September 24, 2019. The new Committee, made up of parents, teachers, administrators, and students, began their work by reviewing past projects and discussing goals for the year. The Committee also reviewed drafts for a new horizontal District logo. The creation of this logo fills a need for Old Saybrook Public Schools branding in a banner format.

V. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board.

VI. REMINDERS

- OSHS – Parent Action Council – October 9 – 6:00PM
- OSHS – PTO Meeting – October 9 – 7:00PM
- OSHS – Shoreline Music Festival – October 10
- District – Budget and Fiscal Committee – October 15 – 6:00PM
- OSHS – RAM Boosters Fall Sports Night – October 16 – 4:00-7:00PM
- OSHS – Washington DC Parent Meeting – October 16 – 6:00PM
- OSHS – Fall Chamber Music & Small Group – October 17 – 7:30PM
- OSMS – PTO Meeting – October 21 – 7:00PM
- District – Public Relations Committee Meeting – October 22 – 5:00PM
- District – Board Recognition Reception – October 22 – 6:00PM
- District – Board of Education Meeting – October 22 – 7:00PM

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Hyla/Baker

“Move to adjourn at 8:05PM”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

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