

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

The Old Saybrook Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at the Board of Education Office, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

Board Members

Tara Barros
Jim Henderson
Karina Julius
Cindy Sultini
George Chang (Arrived at 7:03PM)
Karen Brodeur
Jan Furman
Alan Hyla

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

Citizen Recognition Presentation

Chairman Barros recognized Jeff Worman, Amy Worman, Chris Perras, Lisa Lupacchino-Gilson, Michael Franklin, Laura Lee Denler, and Kurt Larson for their role in saving the life of a community member at an Old Saybrook High School basketball game on January 11, 2020. Chairman Barros presented certificates of recognition to each citizen.

Mr. Liberty thanked everyone for the actions taken that helped to save his life. He and his wife presented their intention to create an annual scholarship in honor of the people who helped to save him.

The Board recessed at 7:10PM.

The Board resumed at 7:25PM.

Audience of Citizens

No audience members addressed the Board of Education.

Student Report

Activities

Thoroughly Modern Millie – The spring musical, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, has been postponed indefinitely due to safety concerns related to coronavirus.

TAJ – The annual theater, art, and jazz night took place on February 26. The concert featured both jazz combos and the full jazz ensemble. There was also a preview of, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

Trivia Night – On Wednesday, March 18th, the Old Saybrook High School Health Club is hosting their second annual trivia night. Funds for this event will be donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Sports

Spring Sports – Athletics is currently between the Winter and Spring season. On Monday, March 9, Old Saybrook High School hosted a Fall and Winter sports night. Spring sports night is on Tuesday, March 10.

Correspondence

The following correspondence was presented to the Board of Education:

- CAFE – March Liaison Newsletter

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Brodeur/Sultini

“Move to approve the consent agenda, as presented.”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

IV. EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Scholarship Donation

According to Board of Education Policy Series 3000 Gifts, Grants, and Bequests to the District, any gift valued over \$500.00 presented to the school district must be brought to the Board for official action and recognition.

Nicholas and Kathryn Condulis presented their annual scholarship proposal to the Board of Education in memory of their son, Jack Thomas Condulis. The criteria for the scholarship includes an essay, two letters of recommendations, and high school transcripts. This \$1,000.00 award is earmarked for a student looking to pursue Construction Science, Engineering, or Architecture.

Brodeur/Julius

“Move to add discussion regarding District response to Coronavirus to the meeting agenda”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

2019-2020 Graduation Date

According to the 2019-2020 Academic Calendar, the first eligible last day of school is June 16, 2020. Inclement weather has caused school cancellation on two separate occasions during the school year, both of which were absorbed by built in snowflake days.

According to Public Act 19-195, “A local or regional board of education may establish for any school year a firm graduation date for students in grade twelve which is no earlier than the one hundred eightieth day noted in the school calendar originally adopted by the board for that school year.” The Superintendent recommended to the Board of Education that the graduation date be set for Tuesday, June 16, 2020, which meets the required 180-day academic year for students. By setting this date, the District is also scheduling the middle school closing ceremony and high school commencement.

Brodeur/Julius

“Move to set the 2019-2020 graduation date for June 16, 2020, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

Old Saybrook Middle School Residency Request

Board of Education Policy “Series 9000 Board Member Roles” states that the Board shall consider any specific recommendations made by the Superintendent of Schools. Additionally, our practice has been to allow the Board of Education to decide student residency issues. It has been District procedure in the past to allow students who will be moving into the district to enroll in one of our schools while they wait for a permanent or rental dwelling to be finished in order for them to avoid enrolling in one district for a short period of time and then transferring into our district during the same academic year. There is a family at Old Saybrook Middle School who is requesting that the Board allow their daughter to enroll at Old Saybrook Middle School through the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year as they wait for their home to finish being built. The Superintendent recommended that the student be allowed to enroll in the school system for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year. This recommendation is contingent on the student maintaining herself 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.

Furman/Sultini

“Move to approve the residency request, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

Old Saybrook High School Residency Request

Board of Education Policy “Series 9000 Board Member Roles” states that the Board shall consider any specific recommendations made by the Superintendent of Schools. Additionally, District practice has been to allow the Board of Education to decide student residency issues. It has been District procedure in the past to allow students who have moved from the district during the latter part of the school year to remain enrolled in order for them to complete their academic year with their classmates. There is a family at Old Saybrook High School who is requesting that the Board allow their daughter to remain enrolled at Old Saybrook High School through the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year despite their impending residency departure from the town. The Superintendent recommended that the student be allowed to remain in the school system for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year. This recommendation is contingent on the student maintaining herself 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.

Brodeur/Furman

“Move to approve the residency request, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

District Response to Coronavirus

Superintendent Perruccio informed the Board that the District has been responding to changing information on a regular basis. She discussed the District’s Draft Pandemic Plan as part of the Emergency Management Plan. Superintendent Perruccio also discussed her participation on the town’s Emergency Management Team and the team’s preparation across all the agencies in town. Superintendent Perruccio reviewed the safety recommendations from the Governor and the Connecticut River Health District. The Superintendent reviewed the specific impact of these recommendations on Old Saybrook Public Schools.

Dr. Condulis agreed with the Superintendent’s assessment of the situation and the preventative actions that have been taken by the District.

Superintendent Perruccio spoke about how the District would educate students in the case of a mandatory school shutdown.

V. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No audience members addressed the Board of Education.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Hyla/Julius

“The Board voted to enter executive session at 8:11PM for the purpose of discussing privileged attorney client written communication”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

The Board invited Superintendent Perruccio and Attorney Littlefield into Executive Session.

VII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 10:15PM.

VIII. REMINDERS

- District – Public Relations Meeting – March 11 – 5:00PM
- OSHS – PAC Meeting – March 11 – 6:00PM
- OSHS – PTO Meeting – March 11 – 7:00PM
- OSHS – Spring Musical – March 12-14
- District – PD Day (No Students) – March 12& 13
- OSHS – PTO St. Paddy’s Dinner – March 16 – 6:00PM
- OSHS – OSHS Student Blood Drive – March 20 – 7:30AM – 1:30PM
- District – Education Foundation Meeting – March 23 – 5:30PM
- District – Demographics Committee Meeting – March 24 – 6:00PM
- OSGS – Summer Camp Forum – March 24 – 6:00PM

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Furman/Julius

“Move to adjourn at 10:16PM”

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