

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE ORRVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of Regular Meeting
June 15, 2023

The Orrville Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on June 15, 2023 at 7:00 a.m. in the IRC of OHS. Employees present were Jon Ritchie and Mark Dickerhoof.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – Mrs. Corfman, Mr. Lorson, Dr. Roadruck, Mrs. Stark and Mr. Steiner were present.

Public Participation – None at this time.

1. The time limit of presentation will not exceed five minutes per individual. No more than one-half hour shall be devoted to public input.
2. The President of the Board may interrupt or terminate an individual's statement when it is personally directed, abusive, obscene or irrelevant.

Mike Hamsher, 7535 Black Diamond Rd, Marshallville, read the following statement;
To the Orrville Board & Superintendent:

I am the teacher whose career and reputation you ruined. The high school principal is fond of saying "Don't Trust Kids", yet, in this case, you believed kids lock, stock, and barrel regardless of the facts, inconsistencies, or flat out falsehoods. Not once did a school official or administrator reach out to me to hear my side of any allegation until the Superintendent held the Loudermill hearing on August 26 - a full 6 months post removal. I realize that the District needs to address allegations, but it appears that I was the victim of a witch hunt and railroaded process.

Do you even know that not one time did the Superintendent or Title IX Coordinator hold to the timelines set forth in your own board policy during this process? As an example, Board policy says that the decision maker would generally be done in 60 days; we did not even receive the preliminary investigatory report for 118 days. Did you know that your own board policy procedures and state law were not followed during this process? Confidentiality as spelled out in your policy and the ORC seemed to be an afterthought. For example, my name was shared by the superintendent on the radio and in print regarding the allegations. Sharing executive session information seemed to not be taboo as it is spelled out in the ORC. It also appears that no one looked into the character of the accusers nor was there any followup when one of the accusers recanted and another admitted making the story up. In addition, Wayne County Children's Services investigated all of the accusers' stories and found in each case that each story was unsubstantiated.

Rather than sitting in your glass houses throwing rocks and listening to internet trash, it may be more beneficial for you to learn what goes on in the day to day operation of the District. If you really want to lead this district and be the educational leaders that you claim to be and the community thinks you are, get into a classroom and see what really goes on in your district. Go see what teachers really do and the lengths they go to to educate children in their classrooms. I set before you a challenge: If each of you visited one classroom once a week for a school year, the five of you would be able to be in every single classroom in the district at least once among you. That is an investment of less than an hour a week to become better leaders. Some of you spend less than that in governing this district. See, it is hard for those who have not been in a classroom to fully understand the sacrifices, procedures, and real world happenings that go on

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during the educational process. You, as elected officials, owe it to your constituents to know what goes on in the organization that you lead and not to just take the jaded word of one of your employees.

I would also ask you to have the guts to publish these comments in their entirety just as you published the comments read by the Vice President of this board in the minutes of the September 15, 2022 meeting. It is interesting that in those September 15 remarks, it was mentioned at the beginning that decorum stated that personnel matters were not fodder for public comment, yet the VP spent the next 3 ½ paragraphs (approximately 2 ½ minutes) reading a statement regarding my personnel matters. The Board President was also quoted in the local paper following that meeting stating that the Board had gotten the conclusions of 3 separate investigators that said I was responsible for sexual harassment. This is another falsehood that seemed to be put out there to try and control the narrative. In actuality, there was one investigator who interviewed all parties and was charged with only compiling those interviews; one Decision Maker who read those collections and rendered a determination (never talking to any of the interviewees personally); and one Appeal Decision Maker who rendered a decision on the process - not the validity of the claims. So you see, only one person made any conclusions regarding the veracity of the allegations and this person did not even ask to speak with me or any of the students.

It is also intriguing to note that the Decision Maker used to work with the Board Attorney. He was trusted enough to render a determination - a determination, by the way, which is based on the "preponderance of evidence." As a review, "preponderance of evidence" means it is not that anything actually occurred, only that in the decision maker's *opinion*, it is more likely than not that it **might** possibly have happened. There is a lot of uncertainty there. There was no guilt assigned - even he said in his report that his was not to determine guilt but only a determination. That is a big difference. While trusted enough to read a compilation of interviews, he also was not trusted enough to adhere to the recommendations in his report; namely to put me back in the classroom.

The next time this happens - and it will; for it is not if but when, now that you have allowed the students to say what they will and give credence to it - I hope you offer the next person a more fair and genteel process.

Lacey Handwerk, 1110 Dogwood Dr, Orrville, addressed the Board concerning supporting teachers when students make allegations against teachers.

Keri Hamsher, 7535 Black Diamond Rd, Marshallville, made a statement about her husband's situation.

028-2023 TREASURER'S CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's agenda as follows:

- A. Approved Minutes of the May 16, 2023, Regular Board Meeting (attached).
- B. Approved the May, 2023, Financial Report (attached).
- C. Approved to Modify FY '23 Appropriations (attached).

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- D. Approved Temporary Appropriations for FY '24 (attached).
- E. Approved Cafeteria Prices for 2023-2024 School Year.

Elementary Lunch	New charge \$2.75, current \$2.50
Middle School/High School Lunch	New charge \$3.00, current \$2.75
Adult Lunch	New charge \$4.00, current \$3.50
Reduced Lunch	No change (.40 cents)
Elementary Breakfast	New charge \$1.25, current \$1.00
Middle/High School Breakfast	New charge \$1.50, current \$1.25
Adult Breakfast	New charge \$2.50 currently \$1.50
Reduced Breakfast	No change (.30 cents)
- F. Approved Service Agreement Between Orrville City Schools and Christian Children's Home of Ohio for the 2023-24 School Year (attached).
- G. Approved HB 487 Career-Technical Education Resolution (attached).
- H. Approved Service Agreement Between Orrville City Schools and Soliant Teleservices (attached).
- I. Approved Orrville Public Library 2024 Temporary Appropriation Budget (attached).

Mrs. Corfman	Yes <u>x</u> No <u> </u>	Moved <u>Mr. Lorson</u>
Mr. Lorson	Yes <u>x</u> No <u> </u>	Seconded <u>Mrs. Corfman</u>
Mrs. Stark	Yes <u>x</u> No <u> </u>	Passed <u> x </u>
Mr. Steiner	Yes <u>x</u> No <u> </u>	Failed <u> </u>
Dr. Roadruck	Yes <u>x</u> No <u> </u>	Vote <u>5 - 0</u>

029-2023 SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the Superintendent's agenda as follows:

- A. Approved the following letters of resignation:

Annette McConkey	Resignation Food Service
Lisa Voshel	Resignation Aide
Carmen Addison	Resignation Faculty Manager
Jacklyn Becker	Retirement
- B. Approved employment of Amy Wilson, Administration, Director of Teaching and Learning.
- C. Approved employment of the following Certified Staff - One Year Contract, pending proper certification:

Rebecca Carter	Grade 7 Math Teacher
Brandon Fetzer	Grade 3 Teacher

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Abigail Maibach	Title SGI
Grace Tharp	Title SGI
Jill Reed	Title SGI (renew)
Elizabeth Stoll	Title SGI (renew)
Betty Zehe	Title SGI (renew)
Clint Maibach	Intervention SGI
Erin Lacey	Intervention SGI

D. Approved employment of the following Classified Staff pending proper certification:

Wyatt Solinger	Teacher's Aide OMS
Danica Thomas	1 on 1 Aide for Visually Impaired
Shayna Hatten	Summer Food Service
Ruby Hofstetter	Summer Food Service

E. Approved the employment of Classified Substitutes, pending proper certification:

Shannon Cicconetti	Cafeteria Substitute
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F. Approved the employment of the following Supplemental and Special Duty pending proper certifications:

Joe Yurik	Summer Weight Room
Madison Hancock	Faculty Manager
Jacob Ellis	Girls JV Soccer Coach
Michael Huberty	JV Golf Coach

G. Approved the employment of the following Volunteers:

Connor Like	Girls Soccer
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Mrs. Corfman	Yes <u>x</u> No ___	Moved	<u>Mr. Steiner</u>
Mr. Lorson	Yes <u>x</u> No ___	Seconded	<u>Mr. Lorson</u>
Mrs. Stark	Yes <u>x</u> No ___	Passed	<u> x </u>
Mr. Steiner	Yes <u>x</u> No ___	Failed	_____
Dr. Roadruck	Yes <u>x</u> No ___	Vote	<u>5 - 0</u>

Peggy McDonald, 230 E. Water St., Orrville, inquired about extending the contract of a teacher under investigation.

Board members commented that this was a complex situation and the Board was trying to be impartial. It is a difficult situation for everyone.

030-2023 EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of an employee and negotiations.

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Mrs. Corfman	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Moved	<u>Mrs. Corfman</u>
Mr. Lorson	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Seconded	<u>Mr. Lorson</u>
Mrs. Stark	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Passed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Steiner	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Failed	_____
Dr. Roadruck	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Vote	<u>5 - 0</u>

President Roadruck called Board back to regular session at 8:15 a.m.

Change August meeting date and time to August 10, 2023 at 7:00 a.m.

031-2023 ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Mrs. Corfman	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Moved	<u>Mrs. Corfman</u>
Mr. Lorson	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Seconded	<u>Mr. Steiner</u>
Mrs. Stark	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Passed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Steiner	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Failed	_____
Dr. Roadruck	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___	Vote	<u>5 - 0</u>

President

Treasurer