ORCHARD PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
May 9, 2020

Remote Meeting (streamed online @ www.opschools.org)
No public in-person attendance permitted as per Governor Executive Order 202.1

Open Meetings Law: Because of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Emergency and State and Federal bans on large meetings or gatherings and pursuant to Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 220.1 issued on March 12, 2020 suspending the Open Meetings Law, the Orchard Park Central School District Board of Education Meeting scheduled for May 5, 2020 was held electronically and streamed on the districts’ website.

Board of Education
Members Present: Mr. Ryan Cimo
Dr. Christine Gray-Tinnesz
Mr. Dwight Eagan
Mrs. Karen Kane
Mr. Robert Mahany
Mr. Dwight Mateer
Mr. David Nielsen

Members Excused: n/a

Others Present: Mr. Matthew P. McGarrity, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Lisa Krueger, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum
Mr. David Lilleck, Assistant Superintendent – Personnel
Mr. Jeffrey Petrus, Assistant Superintendent – Business
Mrs. Cheryl Connors, District Clerk

Dr. Tinnesz called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. and a video of students was played to lead all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Tinnesz explained that there is no public comment opportunity on the agenda since it is being streamed.

Announcements
- Mr. McGarrity shared that he wanted to make the Board aware our administrative team has been talking about the greater need for mental health and social emotion support for students and families now that the physical school closure has been extended. The administrative team is looking and working with outside agencies to possible possibly help when we needed. Finally, Mr. McGarrity stated that many families financial need so the Orchard Park Foundation for Academic Excellence will be starting a GoFundMe to assist with grocery needs and raising money to fund grocery store gift cards.
CONSENSUS ACTION
Motion by Mr. Eagan, seconded by Mr. Nielsen, to approve the following:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Orchard Park Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the following consensus items:

Yes – Tinnesz, Nielsen, Eagan, Mateer, Kane, Mahany and Cimo
No – n/a

Motion Unanimously Carried 7-0

Consensus Minutes Approval

- May 5, 2020

Discussion

- Annual Legal Notice for 2020-21 School Vote and Election – Mrs. Connors stated the legal notice has been amended to reflect the voting date change to June 9, 2020, the vote by absentee ballot and the change to deadline of Board candidates to May 11, 2020.

- Annual Budget Public Hearing (2020-21 Operating Budget) and Other Meeting Date Changes – Mrs. Connors stated the Public Hearing date will be May 26 at 7 pm and the Board will need to schedule a meeting for June 16. The meetings scheduled May 19 and June 9 can be cancelled. May 19 was the previous vote date and June 9 is the new vote date.

- 2020-21 Operating Budget – Mr. McGarrity and Mr. Petrus presented information on the updates to the 2020-21 Operating Budget. The changes include a reduction of just over $1.1 million. They stated the budget may be reduced further over the summer and into the fall depending on the state aid and sales tax revenues from the state. The state has yet to give any updated state aid projections even though they stated districts will receive an update by April 30, end of May/early June and early fall so that districts can better plan their budgets and revenue support. With the vote being scheduled for June 9, the Board needs to adopt a budget with the current revenue projection from the state. The Superintendent is however recommending a large reduction to the budget of just over $1.1 million. Board members asked many questions about positions, the reduction in administrative positions, the middle school SRO position, field trips and the tax cap. The budget being adopted by the Board is under the tax cap and even with budget reductions that will not change. The recommended budget is $107,453,198. The final tax levy is set in August and the Superintendent and the administrative team will be closely monitoring the revenues from the state and recommend any budget reductions to the Board as necessary by revenue support. Mr. Petrus also presented information on the bus purchase plan which is part of the long-range cost effective plan to replenish the bus fleet with reimbursement from the state on the purchase. As always, the plan has no new tax impact on the budget.
ACTION
Motion by Mr. Eagan, seconded by Mr. Nielsen, hereby adopts the following resolution:
RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Orchard Park Central School District, upon
the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby adopts the Notice of Annual School
District Public Hearing and Vote for June 9, 2020 Legal Notice as written.
NOTICE OF ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Annual School District Vote (the “Annual Vote”) of
the Orchard Park Central School District, Erie County, New York (the “District”) will be held
remotely on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 pursuant to Executive Order 202.26, for the purposes of
electing three (3) members of the Board of Education of the District (the “Board”), voting on
the budget of the District for the 2020-21 fiscal year, voting on one other proposition, and
transacting such other business as is authorized by law. Qualified voters shall only be
permitted to vote via absentee ballot. Absentee ballots will be mailed to all known qualified
voters with a postage paid return envelope on or about May 20, 2020. If you are a qualified
voter and do not receive an absentee ballot, please visit the district’s website www.opschools.org to submit a request for an absentee ballot or contact the District Clerk at 209-6280 to request one. Completed absentee ballots must be received in the
District Clerk’s Office by 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2020.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the election of members of the Board shall be held to fill
three (3) at-large positions on the Board. The candidates receiving the three highest vote
totals shall each be elected to three-year terms (commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30,
2023) to fill the vacancies created by the expiration, on June 30, 2020, of the terms of Mrs.
Christine Gray-Tinnesz, Mr. Dwight Mateer, and Mr. David Nielsen.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all candidates for the office of members of the Board shall
be nominated by petition. A candidate for election to the Board of Education must complete a
nominating petition to confirm that he or she meets all applicable eligibility requirements. A
nominating petition may be obtained on the District’s website or by contacting the District Clerk. Please note that completed nominating petitions must be filed in the office of the
District Clerk between the hours of 9:00 o’clock a.m. prevailing time and 5:00 o’clock p.m.
prevailing time not later than May 11, 2020.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that voting at the Annual Vote shall consist of the Board
election, voting on the following propositions, and voting on any other propositions
authorized by law and the rules of the Board to be voted on at such time:
PROPOSITION NO. 1 (2020-21 BUDGET)
Shall the following resolution be adopted?
RESOLVED, that the basic budget for the Orchard Park Central School District (the
“District”) for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, as
presented by the Board of Education, is hereby approved and adopted, and the required funds
therefor are hereby appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised
by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.
PROPOSITION NO. 2 (PURCHASE AND FINANCING OF BUSES, RELATED
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES)
Shall the following resolutions be adopted?
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Orchard Park Central School
District (the “District”) is hereby authorized to purchase school buses (and related equipment
and supplies) for use in the transportation program of the District, including: two (2) seventy-
seven (77)-passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of $132,000 each; two (2)
sixty-six (66)-passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of $127,000 each; and
four (4) thirty-four (34)-passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of $69,000
each; and be it further

May 9, 2020
RESOLVED, that the sum of $794,000 (which includes certain up-front financing costs and is the total of the aforesaid estimated maximum costs), plus an amount for interest thereon, shall be funded by the imposition of a tax which is hereby authorized to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board and, in anticipation of such tax, (i) bonds or other obligations of the District are hereby authorized to be issued and (ii) the District shall be authorized to enter into lease or lease/purchase arrangements (having a term of up to five years) if approved by the Board in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that New York State Transportation Aid funds expected to be received by the District are anticipated to offset a substantial part of the cost of the buses hereby authorized, and such funds shall, to the extent received, be applied to offset and reduce the amount of taxes herein authorized to be levied.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that a public hearing for the voters of the District on the District’s 2020-21 budget and expenditure of funds will be held remotely via Zoom video conference through a livestream link accessible on the District’s website on either May 26, 2020 or June 2, 2020 commencing at 7:00 o’clock p.m. prevailing time.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that military voters who are qualified voters of the school district may apply for a military ballot. Applications for military ballots may be obtained from the District Clerk’s Office and the military voter may designate a preference to receive the application by mail, fax, or email. Completed applications for military ballots must be received by the District Clerk or her designee by no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 14, 2020.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that optical scan voting machines will be used to record the ballots compatible with such voting machines the votes on the Board election, the budget, and the other propositions presented, pursuant to the District’s Rules for the Use of Voting Machines and the Submission of Questions or Propositions to be Placed Thereon. Printed copies of the Rules are available at the office of the District Clerk located in the District Office, 2240 Southwestern Blvd., West Seneca, New York.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the Board will have prepared and completed a detailed statement in writing of the amount of money that will be required during the District’s 2020-21 fiscal year for school purposes, specifying the several purposes and the amount for each. The amount of each purpose estimated as being necessary for payments to boards of cooperative educational services shall be set forth in full with no deduction of estimated State aid. Such statement will be available, upon request, to taxpayers within the District. Please contact the District Clerk to request such statement.

By Order of the Board of Education
Orchard Park Central School District
Dated: May 5, 2020
Cheryl A. Connors
District Clerk

Yes – Tinnesz, Nielsen, Eagan, Mateer, Kane, Mahany and Cimo
No – n/a
Motion Unanimously Carried 7-0
Motion by Mr. Eagan, seconded by Mr. Nielsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby adopts the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Orchard Park Central School District Board of Education hereby sets the Public Hearing for the 2020-21 Operating Budget for May 26, 2020 at 7 pm, and schedules a meeting on June 16, 2020 at 7 pm and cancels their regular meetings on May 19 and June 9.

Yes – Tinnesz, Nielsen, Eagan, Mateer, Kane, Mahany and Cimo
No – n/a

Motion Unanimously Carried 7-0

Motion by Mr. Eagan, seconded by Mr. Nielsen, upon the recommendation of the, adopts the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Orchard Park Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the proposed 2020-21 Operating Budget as presented in the amount of $107,453,198 and presents it as Proposition No.1 on the Official Ballot of the Annual School District Vote for residents of the Orchard Park Central School District.

Yes – Tinnesz, Nielsen, Eagan, Mateer, Kane, Mahany and Cimo
No – n/a

Motion Unanimously Carried 7-0

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Eagan, seconded by Mr. Nielsen, to adjourn the meeting:
Yes – Tinnesz, Nielsen, Eagan, Mateer, Kane, Mahany and Cimo
No – n/a

Motion Unanimously Carried 7-0 to adjourn 10:31 am

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Connors,
District Clerk

Other Meeting Attachments
1. Official Meeting Announcement
2. Meeting Agenda