

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
OXFORD AREA BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

The regular meeting of the Oxford Area Board of School Directors was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, in the LGIA Room of Hopewell Elementary School. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Joseph E. Tighe, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ATTENDING WERE:**

**ROLL CALL**

Joseph E. Tighe, President  
Mark V. Patterson, Vice President  
Robert F. Tenga, Treasurer (via phone)  
Michael P. Blessington, Member  
Jennifer M. Harrison, Member  
Jennifer L. Kehs, Member  
William C. Kloss, Member  
Eric W. Owens, Member

**ABSENT WAS:**

Kristen Dean, Member

**ALSO ATTENDING WERE:**

Dr. David A. Woods Superintendent  
Brian P. Cooney, Business Administrator

On motion by Mr. Kloss, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the April 25, 2023, agenda as presented.

**APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

On motion by Mrs. Kehs, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the minutes of the March 14, 2023, Work Session, the March 21, 2023, Regular Meeting as presented.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

Dr. Woods recognized Dr. Margaret Billings-Jones who presented the District Report for the Month of April 2023.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Family Read Night was held at Elk Ridge on April 18, 2023.

First Friday is May 5, 2023, and Elk Ridge will be on site with activities for children.

Oxford Reading Club will take place May 17, 2023, at Jordan Bank School. This will be Young Authors Night where students will present their books.

Jordan Bank held their "Be A Kind Hero" dress up day in support of Autism Awareness Week.

Oxford Area High School National Honor Society held a Dance Marathon and raised \$10,665 to benefit Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The Oxford Area High School Reading Olympics Team won all three rounds in the Chester County Reading Olympics Competition against Owen J. Roberts and Garnet Valley.

The Curriculum Committee Meeting will be held on April 19, 2023, for Science and Social Studies and April 27, 2023, for Family and Consumer Science, STEM, Business Education and Health/PE.

The PSSAs for Grades 3rd-8th will be given on April 25-27, 2023, in English Language Arts, May 2-3, 2023 in math and May 4-5, 2023, in science.

Penn's Grove students will take the Keystone Exams May 16-17 and May 24-25, 2023, in Algebra I, May 18-19, 2023, in Literature and May 23-24, 2023, in Biology.

President Joseph Tighe, recognized Mr. Howard Robinson who recently retired from the Board. Mr. Robinson graduated from Oxford Area School District, returned to OASD as a teacher for 31 years and served on the Board for 15 years.

**RECOGNITION OF  
RETIRED BOARD**

Mr. Robinson was presented with a token of appreciation by the Board.

Mr. Robinson expressed his thanks to the Board for all he has learned as a member of the Board of Directors.

On motion by Mrs. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the following financial reports as presented:

**FINANCIAL  
REPORTS**

1. General Fund
  - a. Treasurer's Report
  - b. Revenue Report
  - c. Expenditure Report
2. Cafeteria Fund Treasurer's Report
3. Capital Projects Fund Treasurer's Report

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

On motion by Mrs. Kehs, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the student activities and athletic officials accounts as presented.

**STUDENT ACTIVITY  
AND ATHLETIC  
OFFICIALS  
ACCOUNTS**

Penn's Grove School  
Oxford Area High School  
Athletic Officials Account

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

On motion by Mrs. Kehs, seconded by Mrs. Harrison, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the following bill lists for payment:

**PAYMENT OF  
BILLS**

**April 2023**

General Fund	\$6,805,048.54
Cafeteria Fund	\$106,916.95
Capital Projects Fund	\$ .00
Payroll Distribution	\$1,858,687.30

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

April 25, 2023

Mr. Kloss reported the Chester County Intermediate Unit Board met on April 19, 2023, at TCHS Pennock's Bridge. Students showcased programs they are enrolled in. Kara Hotchkiss, a third year Health Career Pathway student placed first in the District Competition.

**REPORT OF  
CHESTER COUNTY  
INTERMEDIATE UNIT  
AND TECHNICAL  
COLLEGE HIGH  
SCHOOL**

The Marketplace Budget was approved.

Mrs. Kehs reported Senator, Carolyn Comitta attended the meeting on March 22, 2023. Senator Comitta gave information on the Governor's Budget and an update on her involvement on the Senate Education Committee.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
REPRESENTATIVE**

Governor Shapiro's Budget was discussed along with the need for mental health care and school safety.

The Legislative Breakfast was held on April 20, 2023, at TCHS Brandywine.

March is Music in the Schools Month and Senate Bill 38 was introduced to make it official. Senator Comitta's Office in West Chester is holding an Open House during the Spring Gallery Art Walk on May 5, 2023, and all are welcome.

A legislative update was provided with a break-down of the budget that will be discussed at the next Education Committee meeting.

Elizabeth Evans-Ralston reported that the PTO held a mother and son event at Timber Lanes which was well attended. PTO also held the father and daughter Dance on April 15, 2023. This event had the largest turnout PTO has ever seen.

**PTO LIAISON**

Pretzels were provided to all bus drivers to show appreciation for getting students to and from school safely.

Lunch will be provided to all staff the week of May 8 through May 12, 2023, during Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week.

Hopewell Elementary School's field trip and Reading Olympics were sponsored in part by PTO.

The Senior Bus Ride will take seniors on the last bus ride on May 30, 2023.

The committee met and reviewed the progress on the Softball Field. Weather permitting, everything looks to be on schedule.

**ATHLETICS AND  
STUDENT  
ACTIVITIES**

On motion by Mrs. Kehs, seconded by Mr. Blessington a motion to add Boys and Girls Lacrosse at Penn's Grove was added to the agenda.

**ADDITION OF A  
RESOLUTION TO  
AGENDA**

Aye: 8    Nay: 0

On motion by Mrs. Kehs, seconded by Mr. Blessington the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the addition of Boys and Girls Lacrosse teams at Penn's Grove for the 2023-24 school year.

**BOYS AND GIRLS  
LACROSSE AT PENN'S  
GROVE**

Aye: 8    Nay: 0

Drills conducted by the State Police at Hopewell during the recent break, were discussed as well as the findings during those drills.

**FACILITIES AND  
SAFETY**

Mrs. Kehs stated that the committee met on Monday, March 27, 2023, at Hopewell in the LGIA Room.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

There was a presentation to raise awareness of the "Oxford App". This is currently unavailable but will be republished soon. The App is tied to the district website calendar and should be available in the next few weeks. Notifications are sent out in real time as the calendar is updated. The App is available through Android and Apple App stores.

Tim Lamb and Brian Owens gave a presentation on Aevidum. This club is a student run, suicide prevention group. One of the group's goals is to break stigma around mental health and encourage students to speak up and seek help. Events and fundraisers will increase awareness and make a positive change in the community.

The 339 plan was discussed. Guidance counselors shared parts of the plan with the committee. Academic, Career and Personal/Social Goals are all considered in the plan. This plan is in line with the American School Counselors Association

Mr. Tenga reported that the Finance and Budget Committee met on April 18, 2023. The committee recommends an increase to 4.1 percent, which is the statewide index. This should help with budget shortfalls for the upcoming year.

**FINANCE AND BUDGET  
COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Harrison reported that the Policy Committee met and reviewed Policies in the 7000 series. Policy 6330 and 6310 will remain in committee at this time.

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

Miss Emily Koza reported Jordan Bank's Reading with the Barnstormers reading log is due April 28, 2023. Reading with the Barnstormers Night is May 6, 2023.

**STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVE'S  
REPORT**

Jordan Bank will be taking field trips to Delaware Children's Museum on May 11 and 12, 2023.

Elk Ridge will be celebrating National Pretzel Day on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, the Scholastic Book Fair will be at Elk Ridge from April 24 through April 28, 2023, and Maroon and White Spirit Day is May 5, 2023.

Students will enjoy a field trip to Plumpton Park Zoo on May 10 and 11, 2023, and Reading Bingo Logs for the Barnstormers Night are due on Friday, April 28, 2023. Reading with the Barnstormers Night is Saturday, May 6, 2023.

Nottingham students will be taking the PSSA's April 25 through May 5, 2023.

Career Day at Nottingham is May 18, 2023.

Twenty-seven Fourth Grade students at Nottingham participated in the Chester County Reading Olympics on Monday, April 17, 2023. Teachers Linda Famigletti and Wendy Peterson coached the team. The competition was held at the Technical College High School, Brandywine Campus.

Nottingham will hold a Fine Arts Night April 20, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Student artwork will be on display for all to enjoy. The theme of this year's art exhibit is "A Walk Through the Seasons." There will be live music by Jazz Alive. Nottingham Band, Orchestra and Chorus will perform and live demonstrations by local artists will be available to enjoy. Food Trucks will be on site.

Hopewell held Career Day on March 24, 2023. We welcomed over twenty community members and parents who shared their careers with the students. Thank you to Mrs. Gioffre for organizing this great event and to our community members and parents who made the day possible.

Hopewell students will be taking PSSA's April 24, 2023, through May 4, 2023, and Envirothon students have been preparing for the competitions which will take place April 26 and 27, 2023. Thank you to Mr. Barcus for coaching our students.

Moms and Muffins will be hosted on May 12, 2023, and the Hopewell Spring Concert will be held on May 15, 2023.

Penn's Grove Spring Sports Picture Day will be held on May 9, 2023, The Spring Concert will be held May 11, 2023, and the eighth-grade field trip is May 18, 2023, followed by the seventh-grade field trip on May 30, 2023.

The High School Senior Awards Night is April 26, 2023, AP Exams are scheduled for May 1 through May 12, 2023. The Spring Concert is Friday, May 5, 2023, and Senior Prom is May 5, 2023.

The Job Fair will be held on May 10, 2023, Choral Spring Concert will be May 12, 2023, and Keystone Exams will run May 16 through May 24, 2023.

The Aevidum Club will be promoting Mental Health Awareness in the Month of May.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Tighe allowed time for persons who requested to be placed on the agenda.

#### **RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WHO REQUESTED TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA**

**Lizzie Evans-Ralston**, Oxford Borough, banning books

**Yasmin Smith**, Lower Oxford Township, banning books.

**Jordyn Croft**, Elk Township, banning books.

**Carol Stewart Colangelo**, East Nottingham, books, culturally indoctrinating material.

**Kim Burton**, East Nottingham, books, and policy 6300.

**Ronnie Lutz**, East Nottingham, sexually explicit books, and Policy 6300.

**Mary Higgins**, Oxford Borough, positive effect of all types of books.

**Tenille Dewees**, Upper Oxford, defended the budget, member voting record on Charter School Funding Reform, taxes.

**Deborah Vendrick**, Elk Township, encouraged the Board to vote against resolution H.

**Charles Steckel**, Oxford Borough, books, Nazism, tolerance.

**Niki Bulger**, Lower Oxford, Policy 6300, remove Mrs. Kehs from Education Committee.

**Sherri Matis-Mitchell**, Elk, supported books in the library. Stand up to hateful rhetoric and narrow-minded ideology.

**Lance Bogash**, Upper Oxford, support books, all materials, discuss don't ban.

**Erin Poole**, Upper Oxford, importance of all books in the library.

**Regina Hughes**, East Nottingham, parents need to raise their students not the school, books are information, information is power. Deal with real issues like mass shootings, mental health, bullying, don't ban books.

**Sarah Thomas**, Oxford Borough, West, against banning books.

**Kyle Charlton**, East Nottingham, thanked the Board for their service.

**Jennifer Warren**, Elk Township addressed remarks from the April Work Session regarding her comments at the prior meeting. Policy 6300, 2023-24 Budget, specifically the decade long zero to minimum millage increase impact on current budget, encouraged the Board to adopt the proposed budget.

**Mike Brooks**, East Nottingham, transparency for stakeholders.

**Scott Anderson**, Lower Oxford, commended the students who spoke.

**Ryan Owens**, Oxford Borough, parent choice in reading materials, not banning books.

**Selah Rogers**, Oxford Borough, don't restrict books in library.

**Shelly Meadowcroft**, East Nottingham, don't pull books off the shelf, label adult topic, policy is in place and needs to be followed. Restore-it.org is Mrs. Kehs website which puts down public education.

**Brian Washburn**, West Nottingham suggested diversity equity and inclusion training.

**Glenn Loatman**, Upper Oxford, For parental consent of books.

**Elizabeth Dewees**, Upper Oxford, Policy 6300,

**Kendra Scott**, Elk, more books should be going into our library. Removal should not be based on an individual's opinion. Follow the policy.

**Matthew Stevens**, Upper Oxford, requested report for verification that CRT is/isn't being taught in our schools. People are here to push a political agenda.

**Allen Derbin**, Oxford Borough, book banning, suggested these books be brought out of the closet for intelligent discussion.

On motion by Mrs. Harrison, seconded by, Mr. Owens, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the following personnel items:

## PERSONNEL

### Professional Personnel

#### Retirement

Name: Constance Orlando  
Position: Grade 2 Teacher, Elk Ridge School  
Effective: Last day of 2022-2023 school year

#### Resignation

Name: Debra McCaskey  
Position: Music Teacher Jordan Bank/Nottingham School  
Effective: Last day of the 2022-2023 school year

#### Appointment

Name: Ashton Baker  
Position: Food Service Director, District  
Salary: \$77,500 (prorated)  
Effective: April 11, 2023  
Replacing: Alison Weir, resigned

**Change Effective Date**

Name: Daniel Cook  
 Position: Grade 4 Teacher, Nottingham  
 Appointment: Professional Employee  
 Salary: 10 M \$66,438.00 (prorated)  
 Effective: From: To be determined  
 To: March 31, 2023  
 Replacing: Nick Hafycz, transferred

**Non-Professional****Retirements**

Name: Lynne Mundy  
 Position: Kindergarten Instructional Aide, Jordan Bank School  
 Effective: June 12, 2023

Name: Rodger Poe  
 Position: Maintenance, District  
 Effective: June 5, 2023

Name: Elizabeth Poole  
 Position: Food Service, Jordan Bank School  
 Effective: June 9, 2023

**Appointments**

Name: Christopher Davis  
 Position: Maintenance, District  
 Salary: \$15.00 per hour  
 Effective: May 1, 2023  
 Replacing: James Spencer, retired

Name: Kelly Willis  
 Position: Float Nurse, District  
 Salary: \$26.93 per hour  
 Effective: April 17, 2023  
 Replacing: Kelly Willis, resigned

**Volunteers**

Bethany Atkinson (OEF), Melanie Coldiron, Tenille Dewees, Dennis Donovan, Heather Engrem, Jennifer Flores, Kevin Hallowell, Philip Harris, Jordan Hultz, Alyssa Kilby, Emily Kmecz, Kaitlyn Lester, Joseph Meara Jr, Christian Neskie, Sandra Onick, Zoraida Ortega, Hannah Painter, Heather Powell, Michael Quear (OEF), Cecilia Rodriguez, Joshua Thogersen, Laura Toto, Lauren Voshell, Margaret Westfall, Karen Williams, Matthew Woolston

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

As required by the Public-School code, Section 1108, the Superintendent has certified to the Board Secretary, that the work of the Temporary Employees named below are satisfactory since they have now completed their probationary period. The Code requires the Secretary to note that they have attained Professional Employee status in the Board records. They will be notified of this fact and offered a regular contract of employment. This action is ministerial. The power

**AWARDING OF  
PROFESSIONAL  
CONTRACTS**

of rating Temporary Professional Employees and certifying them for tenure is reserved to the Superintendent; no Board action is involved. The Secretary will place the following name in the minutes as having attained the status of Professional Employee:

Kristen Kilcur

On motion by Mrs. Kehs, seconded by Mr. Patterson, BE IT RESOLVED, That **TUITION WAIVER** the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the attached tuition waiver for student ID# xxx-xx-8215, for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year.

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

On motion by Dr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Kehs, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the students named on the attached list to be considered residents of the school district for the 2022-2023 school year in accordance with Section 1302 of the Public-School Code.

**SECTION 1302  
STUDENTS**

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

On motion by Mr. Kloss, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the following:

**PROPOSED FINAL  
GENERAL FUND  
BUDGET**

1. The proposed Final General Fund Budget of the School district for the 2023-2024 fiscal year on form PDE 2028 as presented to the School Board shall be considered the proposed Final General Fund Budget of the School District for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and shall be made available for public inspection after this date.
2. At least ten (10) days before the date scheduled for adoption of the Final General Fund Budget, the Secretary shall advertise Notice of Final Budget. The Notice shall be advertised once in a newspaper of the general circulation and shall be posted conspicuously at the School District offices.

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

On motion by Dr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby adopts the 2023-2024 Capital Projects Budget.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS  
FUND BUDGET  
2023-2024**

Aye: 8      Nay: 0



On motion by Mr. Kloss, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby restricts the attached list of library titles/books from circulation for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days or until an appeal under Policy #6300 is filed and properly completed.

**LIBRARY BOOK  
CIRCULATION**

Aye: 2      Nay: 6 (Owens, Kloss, Harrison, Tighe, Kehs, Tenga)  
**Motion failed.**

On motion by Mrs. Kehs, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby allows Mr. Cooney to compile property the district owns along with its cost and potential value of said property.

**DISTRICT PROPERTY**

Aye: 1      Nay: 7 (Owens, Kloss, Harrison, Blessington,  
Patterson, Tighe, Tenga)  
**Motion failed.**

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves a K-12 Act 80 Day for Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

**ACT 80 DAY**

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

The Oxford Area Board of School Directors is considering the revision of the following policies:

**POLICY REVISION  
SECOND READING**

**6000 Series - Instruction**

Policy #6300 - Materials Selection -Libraries  
Policy #6310 - Resource Materials

On motion by Mr. Kloss, seconded by Mr. Blessington, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors approves the revisions to the following policy:

**POLICY REVISION**

**6000 Series - Instruction**

Policy #6340-Electronic Devices

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Patterson, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oxford Area Board of School Directors hereby approves the readoption of the following policies.

**7000 Series - Programs**

Policy # 7300 - Migrant Students  
Policy # 7310 - Limited English Proficiency Program  
Policy # 7320 - Homeless Students  
Policy # 7400 - Title I Parent/guardian and Family Engagement  
Policy # 7500 - Special Education

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Policy # 7510 - Discipline of Students with Disabilities  
Policy # 7520 - Gifted Students: Screening & Identification  
Policy # 7540 - Gifted Education  
Policy # 7550 - School Counseling  
Policy # 7600 - Charter Schools

Aye: 8      Nay: 0

*A copy of the policies listed is available in the Administration Building, 125 Bell Tower Lane, Oxford, PA, for examination and comment. The policies can be viewed on the website at [www.oxfordasd.org](http://www.oxfordasd.org). The public is encouraged to stop in and read these policies or visit our website.*

Mr. Tighe read the following dates and times for upcoming events.

**CALENDAR**

Monday, April 24, 2023, Education Committee, 4:15 p.m., Hopewell Elementary, LGIA Room  
Tuesday, May 9, 2023, Facilities & Safety Committee, 6:00 p.m., Administration Building  
Tuesday, May 9, 2023, Athletics & Student Activities Committee, 6:15 p.m., Administration Building  
Tuesday, May 9, 2023, Policy Committee, 6:30 p.m., Administration Building  
Tuesday, May 9, 2023, Work Session, 7 p.m., Administration Building  
Monday, May 22, 2023, Education Committee, 4:15 p.m., Hopewell Elementary, LGIA Room  
Tuesday, May 23, 2023, Regular Meeting, 7 p.m., Administration Building

Mr. Tighe announced the Board met in executive session on April 18, 2023, to discuss legal items.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF  
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Blessington, the regular meeting of the Oxford Area Board of School Directors adjourned at 10:15 p.m. by a unanimous vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,



Brian P. Cooney  
Board Secretary

***All or a portion of this meeting may be video recorded for the purpose of public broadcast.***