

# OTWELL MILLER ACADEMY SCHOOL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 25, 2018

The meeting of the Otwell Miller Academy School Board convened at 6:00 p.m.

Otwell Miller Academy Board Members present: Lou Fort via telephone, Jenny Byrd, Kim Elliott, Heather McCandless, Jordan Hill, and Steve Schoppenhorst.

Otwell Miller Academy School Board student members present: 0

Otwell Miller Academy staff members present: School Director Rick Fears

### **I. Call To Order**

Mr. Fears called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- I. Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. Prayer**
- III. Student Board Member Reports:**
- IV. Board Meeting Minutes Approval**

Jenny Byrd read the minutes from the June 25, 2018, OMA board meeting. Steve Schoppenhorst made the motion to approve the June 25, 2018, meeting minutes. Lou Fort seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **I. Personnel**

Two items were discussed. Rick recommended the board hire Star Riecker as the new speech pathologist at 15 hours a week; 30\$ an hour pending a background check. Same hours as previous speech pathologist, less pay. Her main priority will be that of the speech pathologist; however, if time allows, she may be able to fill in additional time with tutoring students in order to retain her full 15 hours. Looking at 5 hours, 3 days a week. Steve Schoppenhorst made the motion to approve the hiring of Star Rieker as the new speech pathologist for OMA. Jenny Byrd seconded the motion. Kim Elliott abstained from the vote. The motion passed.

Rick also recommended the board to hire Gene Markum as the north route school bus driver pending a background check. She currently drives for the Pike County School Corp; however, has grandchildren that attend OMA and is looking forward to driving for us. Jenny Byrd made the motion to approve the hiring as the north route school bus driver pending background check. Kim Elliott abstained from the vote. Jordan Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## **I. Operations and Facilities**

**Textbook rental fees** were discussed at:

Kindergarten- 77.78

Grade 1- 82.17

Grade 2- 71.70

Grade 3- 90.96

Grade 4- 87.17

Grade 5- 96.65

These prices include textbook fees, consumables, & technology fees. Jordan Hill verified that the textbook fees were set at the state level across the board for each school, and also asked if we had tracked consumables for the previous year. Rick stated that they had and these fees would help OMA tremendously. Jenny Byrd made the motion to approve the rates for the 2018/19 school year. Kim Elliott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**School board dates** were set for the 18/19 school year for the third Monday of the month at 6pm. Steve Schoppenhorst noted that the first Monday of the month the Ruritan meets and the second Monday of the month the Community Center meets. Due to some of the members being donors for the school and interest in attending the OMA school board meetings, it would be best to move the OMA school board meetings to be moved to the third Monday of the month at 6pm. Steve Schoppenhorst made the motion to approve the moving of the OMA school board meetings from the first Monday of the month to the third Monday of the month at

6pm. Next meeting is scheduled for August 20th at 6pm, and the third Monday of every month following. Lou Fort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. Finance**

**III. Education and Outreach**

**I. Status of School (Rick)**

**1. Other**

**Secretary Position;** Rick stated that with the resignation of OMA school board secretary Emily Willis, we would need to appoint a new secretary tonight. Steve Schoppenhorst stated that he thought FoOE floating members were not allowed to serve as an officer on the OMA board. Lou Fort stated that the bi-laws say that you cannot have a directors position on the Friends board and carry a position on the OMA board but does not prevent a Friends member holding a position on the OMA board. Jenny Byrd volunteered to take the secretary position pending she receive the materials necessary to do so. Rick stated the school would supply a computer to do so. Steve Schoppenhorst made the motion to accept Jenny Byrd as the new OMA school board secretary. Heather McCandless seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Food Service Program** update; Rick stated that he had been in touch with the people at the DOE. Our application was approved. There were 5 questions we had to submit to Sarah Kenworthy with the DOE. Rick stated that he's pretty confident that we are very close to food service. The local health department had come in today to look at the two rooms that are possible sights for the cafeteria. Next step will be to advertise the bids for vendors. We have everything ready to go, it's all coming together, we just have to get the DOE approval prior to advertising for vendors. Rick mentioned a thank you to Ben Readle for his help in the application process and his help in getting us in touch with the correct people to help rush the process along. Two weeks is the timeframe that bids must be in putting us very close to the beginning of school for food service.

**Pest Control** will be coming in the morning. They are the same company we used for the 17/18 school year.

**Fuel Supplier;** Rick asked Lou if he had been able to get any info on the local fuel suppliers. He had not gotten the info yet, as he was waiting for a request letter to submit from the school. Due to the fact he was unable to attend the meeting in person tonight, he was unable to do so. Rick stated it would have to be advertised either way.

### **1. Public Comment**

Rick stated this would be his last meeting to direct. He enjoyed working with all of us and appreciated everything we have done for OMA. He stated that we were to be commended for all being able to get along as he's seen many other boards not be able to do so. He wished us well in the future and that things continue in that way and that we all continue to work together for the betterment of the school and the students. He reminded us that its always about the students best interest even if we're unable to agree on everything all the time. Jenny Byrd thanked Rick for everything he has done for the board, the school, and the students.

At 6:42 p.m. Jordan Hill made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jenny Byrd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.