

# 2020 report template

For Boards, Committees, and Commissions (BCCs)

Approved by official entity action on: August 17, 2020

Submitted by: Aaron Manders, Ph.D, Chair

OBC Liaison: Brandon Stevens, Vice-Chairman

OBC Liaison: Ernie Stevens III and Daniel Guzman King

## ONEIDA NATION SCHOOL BOARD

### **Purpose:**

The Board was established to coordinate existing and future education programs of the Oneida Nation; per directive of the Oneida General Tribal Council, to be an autonomous administrator of the Oneida Nation School System ("System") under a Memorandum of Agreement with the Oneida Business Committee; and to administer the Oneida Nation School System Endowment in accordance with the Nation's Endowments law as authorized under resolution BC-02-27-19-B

### **BCC Members**

Aaron Manders, (At-large)  
Chair  
7-31-2021

Sacheen Lawrence (parent)  
Vice Chair  
7-31-2021

Sylvia Cornelius (Parent)  
Secretary  
7-31-2021

Melinda K. Danforth (Parent)  
Member  
7-31-2021

Vacant (Parent)  
Member  
7-31-2020

Vacant (Parent)  
Member  
Enter term end date

Vacant (Parent)  
Member  
Enter term end date

Vacant (At-large)  
Member  
7-31-2022

Vacant (Parent)  
Member  
7-31-2021

**Substantiated Complaints (if applicable)**

Per § 105.12-4.(a) of the Boards, Committees and Commissions law, annual and semi-annual reports shall contain information on the number of substantiated complaints against all members of the entity.

Per § 105.3-1.(q) a "Substantiated complaint" means a complaint or allegation in a complaint that was found to be valid by clear and convincing evidence.

NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINTS: 0

**Meetings**

Held every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month and scheduled 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting as needed.

Emergency Meetings: None

**Contact Info**

CONTACT: Jolene Hensberger

TITLE: Administrative Assistant

PHONE NUMBER: 920-869-1676

E-MAIL: school\_board@oneidanation.org

**MAIN WEBSITE:** <https://oneida-nsn.gov/government/boards-committees-and-commissions/elected/#Oneida-Nation-School-Board>

**Status report of Three-Year Outcomes/Goals**

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Outcome/Goal # 1

Complete Strategic Planning for the Oneida Nation School System (ONSS)

IS THIS A LONG-TERM OR QUARTERLY GOAL? Long-term

GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Participation - Fostering a system in which the public feels that they are part of decision-making processes, including freedom of expression and assiduous concern for the best interests of the Tribe and community in general

HOW OUTCOME/GOAL SUPPORTS THE GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

The Strategic Planning process the ONSS is working through Plan that will involve not only the school and its staff; parents and the community-at-large will also be able to participate.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The current situation of the Coronavirus Pandemic has put a bit of a halt to the progress that was being made in regards to the strategic planning process. The focus of the school during this difficult time has been to provide strong instructional resources and support to our students and families. Much work has been done in order to provide the best education settings during these unprecedented times. That being said, the district will continue to work with Mr. Aaron Malczewski from CESA 7 to continue to develop a long term strategic plan for the school system. Sessions were held in January/February with Aaron Malczewski from CESA 7.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The next step is Action Planning (30-40 hours over a few week period). This process has been placed on hold due to COVID-19 and will continue when it is deemed appropriate and timely.

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Outcome/Goal # 2

Increase communication

IS THIS A LONG-TERM OR QUARTERLY GOAL? Long-term

GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Responsiveness - Availability to the public and timeous reaction to the needs and opinions of the public

HOW OUTCOME/GOAL SUPPORTS THE GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Increased communication will increase the Board's ability to respond to the needs of the community and the school.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The Board determined they would start with the staff of the school and, working with the Nation's statistician, developed a survey for all employees in the ONSS. This survey was issued in December 2019. Results will be compiled in January/February and reviewed/shared in March.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The original intent was to survey again to have comparative data but other COVID-19 related tasks became a priority. The Board will work with the administration to communicate the results and work to improve areas of concern as well as continue to support areas of strength.

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Outcome/Goal # 3

Finalize bylaws

IS THIS A LONG-TERM OR QUARTERLY GOAL?      Quarterly

GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Rule of Law - Ensuring the rules are known and applied equally to all with clear appeal (if needed) and are enforced by an impartial regulatory body, for the full protection of Oneida Nation stakeholders

HOW OUTCOME/GOAL SUPPORTS THE GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Completing the bylaws ensure compliance with the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The bylaws were deferred to the 2nd BC meeting in November 2019. The Board reviewed the bylaws and determined that some of the changes they had requested would need to go before General Tribal Council to change (i.e. number of members, number of parent members). As such, the board decided it was not ready to take the changes to the General Tribal Council. The Board has approved a final draft to be processed through the LRO.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The intent was to have approval completed by March 2020. As mentioned previously, the COVID-19 pandemic has created greater urgency in the immediate day to day activities and approvals of the board. The finalization of the bylaws will be worked on when the school system is able to regain a sense of normalcy, whatever that may be in the coming months.



## Stipends

*Per the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law, stipends are set via OBC resolution. BC resolution # 05-08-19-B sets the stipend amounts.*

## Budget Information

FY-2020 BUDGET: 54,652.00

FY-2020 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING PERIOD: 18,289.00

## Requests

The Oneida Nation School Board appreciates the Oneida Business Committee's decision to support the school system as much as it can. The school system is doing all that it can in regards to reducing spending as we understand the very difficult financial times we are experiencing. That includes not posting positions that have been vacated, making budgetary adjustments to better reflect grant funded positions, and reducing spending wherever possible. We understand that these are unprecedented times for the Nation and will do what we can to support the Nation.

## Other

The Oneida Nation School Board participates in the hiring process for the Oneida Nation School System. Pursuant to the 1988 MOA, three (3) school board members shall volunteer to participate in this process. There were two scheduled dates in this quarter where only two of the three participants were present due to unforeseen circumstances. First date was July 22, 2020 for the elementary school interviews; retro-approval was obtained by the School Board at their August 3, 2020 meeting. The second date was August 10, 2020 for the screenings of two Health Aides; this was retro-approved by the Board on August 17, 2020.



# Oneida Nation School Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** August 17, 2020

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Place:** Via Microsoft TEAMS

The Oneida Nation School Board is committed and accountable to students, parents, families, staff, and community members to provide regulatory oversight for a safe, positive, culturally diverse, holistic, learning atmosphere based on Onayoté a'ka values. We will provide the expectations, resources, and educational opportunities to encourage students to be productive.

Present: Aaron Manders, Sacheen Lawrence, Sylvia Cornelius, Melinda K. Danforth

Excused:

Unexcused:

Others: Sheri Mousseau, Yvette Peguero, Artley Skenandore, Tony Romandine, Fay LeMense, Tanya Hill, Tracy Christensen, Jackie Summers, Jennifer Tenor, Morgan Clark, Jessie Law, Jolene Hensberger (recorder)

Called to order by: Aaron Manders

Time: 12:00 p.m.

## **I. Adopt Agenda**

Motion by Sacheen Lawrence to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Sylvia Cornelius. Motion carries.

## **II. Follow Up**

### **A. Update of SY20-21 School Re-opening Plans**

Motion by Sacheen Lawrence to accept the update and approve the recommendation from Administration to start the year virtually and to have another update at Q2. Seconded by Melinda K. Danforth. Motion carries.

Discussion: School Board requests weekly updates. Requested virtual school day schedules and structure to be provided to K-12 parents. Provide teacher contact information and how parents can access homework sites. Are there enough Chrome Books and hotspots for families? Can there be a 1:1 teacher assistant help time in person if a student needs the extra help?

### **B. Approve draft of revised School Calendar for Virtual Method of Instruction**

Motion by Sylvia Cornelius to approve the revised calendar. Seconded by Melinda K. Danforth. Motion carries.

\*This item, II.B. is an add-on and was not adopted into the agenda. By School Board consensus, it is added as the action in II.A. approved to start the school year virtually.

### III. **New Business**

#### A. **Q3 Report to the BC (due on agenda August 18th; meeting date is August 26th)**

Motion by Sylvia Cornelius to approve the Q3 School Board report to the BC with one update of including At-Large in one of the memberships. Seconded by Sacheen Lawrence.

#### B. **Retro-approve Hiring Procedural Exception for August 10, 2020 Screenings**

Motion by Sylvia Cornelius to retro-approve the hiring procedural exception for the August 10, 2020 Health Aide screenings. Seconded by Sacheen Lawrence. Motion carries.

Motion by Sacheen Lawrence to go into executive session at 12:19 p.m. Seconded by Sylvia Cornelius. Motion carries.

### IV. **Executive Session**

Present: Aaron Manders, Sacheen Lawrence, Sylvia Cornelius, Melinda K. Danforth

Others: Sheri Mousseau, Jolene Hensberger (recorder)

Motion by Sacheen Lawrence to come out of executive session at 12:23 p.m. Seconded by Melinda K. Danforth. Motion carries.

#### A. **Accept Resignation Letter Dated 8/13/2020 and Request to Post Position**

Motion by Sylvia Cornelius to accept the resignation dated 8/13/2020 from Susan Doxtator. Seconded by Sylvia Lawrence. Motion carries.

Motion by Melinda K. Danforth to approve the posting of Clerk – Accounts Payable position. Seconded by Sylvia Cornelius. Motion carries.

Note: documentation of request to post position is an add-on to item IV.A.

### V. **Adjourn**

Motion by Melinda K. Danforth to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. Seconded by Sacheen Lawrence. Motion carries.