

**Oneida Business Committee Agenda Request**

Accept the Oneida Nation School Board FY-2021 2nd quarter report

**1. Meeting Date Requested:** 5 / 26 / 21**2. General Information:**Session: ☒ Open ☐ Executive - See instructions for the applicable laws, then choose one:Agenda Header: ☒ Accept as Information only☐ Action - please describe:**3. Supporting Materials**☒ Report ☐ Resolution ☐ Contract☐ Other:1. 3. 2. 4. ☐ Business Committee signature required**4. Budget Information**☐ Budgeted - Tribal Contribution☒ Budgeted - Grant Funded☐ Unbudgeted**5. Submission**Authorized Sponsor / Liaison: 

Primary Requestor/Submitter:

Additional Requestor:

Additional Requestor:

## Oneida Business Committee Agenda Request

### 6. Cover Memo:

Describe the purpose, background/history, and action requested:

In accordance with §105.12-3 of the Boards, Committees, and Commissions Law: Entities shall provide quarterly reports to the Oneida Business Committee in accordance with the quarterly reporting schedule approved by the Oneida Business Committee.

In the report, please see the request to be part of the conversations pertaining to the distribution and use of federal funds that can benefit the over-all education of our youth, from birth to grave. The school system, students, staff and community depend on all of us to promote the betterment of the school system's educational growth now and for future generations. This includes having highly qualified staff, up-to-date technology, sufficient building space, sound structures, equipment and many other necessities to keep our students engaged.

Our students deserve a better chance of success in life. The School Administration and School Board need our Nation's leaders to be proud of our school system and students. We need to work together to continue to help promote a solid foundation in our students not only academically, but mentally and physically. We are a ladder of support for our students; we are here to educate and help prepare them for their future.

We have the opportunity to teach our Oneida Language to our youth, who can in turn, teach their children and so forth. It will not happen overnight, but we need to start somewhere. The school system needs not only community support, but the support and involvement of our Business Committee, our Nation's leaders.

There are CIP projects involving a new high school and sports complex that were discussed but left unfinished. These projects would serve the students and staff in the high school, as well as the expansion of the Language Nest and Immersion Program. The School Board is requesting that these projects be brought back for discussion as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

The Oneida Nation School Board

1) Save a copy of this form for your records. [Save a Copy...](#)

2) Print this form as a \*.pdf OR print and scan this form in as \*.pdf.

3) E-mail this form and all supporting materials in a **SINGLE** \*.pdf file to: [BC\\_Agenda\\_Requests@oneidanation.org](mailto:BC_Agenda_Requests@oneidanation.org)

# 2021 report template

For Boards, Committees, and Commissions (BCCs)

Approved by official entity action on: May 17, 2021

Submitted by: Aaron Manders, Ph.D

OBC Liaison: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

OBC Liaison: Brandon Stevens, Vice-Chairman

## 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

Vice Chair

7-31-2022

Sylvia Cornelius

Secretary

7-31-2021

Melinda K. Danforth

Member

7-31-2021

Vicki L. Cornelius

Member

7-31-2021

Enter Board Member Name

Enter Board Member Title, if any

Enter term end date

Enter Board Member Name

Enter Board Member Title, if any

Enter term end date

Enter Board Member Name

Enter Board Member Title, if any

Enter term end date

**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 & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday (as needed) of every month at 5:00 p.m.

Emergency Meetings: 0

**Contact Info**

CONTACT: Jolene Hensberger  
TITLE: Administrative Assistant  
PHONE NUMBER: (920) 869-4654  
E-MAIL: [jhensber@oneidanation.org](mailto:jhensber@oneidanation.org)  
MAIN WEBSITE: <https://oneida-nsn.gov/education/oneida-nation-school-system/>

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

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Outcome/Goal # 1

To safely re-open the doors to students for in-person learning.

IS THIS A LONG-TERM OR QUARTERLY GOAL? Choose an item.

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 Board did its best to provide a safe learning environment for staff and students. We were one of the last schools to open our doors as we know the Nation suffered during the pandemic more than many other communities. The district recently extended in person learning days and will continue to do so as more of the community becomes vaccinated and the number of COVID-19 positive cases continue to decrease.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The district was able to provide opportunities for families to choose what type of learning was best for them. The majority of our students chose to have their children return to in person learning, but there was a significant amount of students choosing to remain virtual. The schedule the district chose to provide allowed for educators to be able to teach effectively in person and virtually. We will continue to monitor pandemic as we plan for the start of the 2021-2022 academic year in August.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

Our goal is to provide the safest learning environment possible for our students. We hope to be able to open the 2021-2022 academic year with all students being able to attend school five days a week for the entire school day. However, that is still to be determined.

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Outcome/Goal # 2

To continue the strategic short and long-term planning of the school system.

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

GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Accountability - The acknowledgement and assumption of responsibility for decisions and actions as well as the applicable rules of law

HOW OUTCOME/GOAL SUPPORTS THE GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

The Board authorized the district to purchase strategic planning support from the local Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA 7) beginning in 2019-2020 academic year. Unfortunately, the pandemic put a halt to some of that work. As our staff has returned to the building, that work has continued. We have groups of educator volunteers helping to make sure the strategic plan is one that fits the needs of staff and students.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

Currently, small work groups are working on action steps to meet the overarching goals of the plan. This is a critical step as without this piece, the overall plan is pointless.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The goal is to finalize the entire strategic plan by the end of the 2021-2022 academic year. This will be our guiding plan to help ensure we are making the strides and growth that is essential for our students and staff.

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### Outcome/Goal # 3

Review and update School Board Policies and Bylaws, annually

IS THIS A LONG-TERM OR QUARTERLY GOAL?

Long-term

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:

The Board is pleased to announce that we recently completed the review of our bylaws. This was a requirement of the Nation as well as the Bureau of Indian Education, and a necessity to ensure our district has current policies and practices in place. This had been a long term goal that we were able to accomplish during the pandemic.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The Board completed the bylaws and are in compliance with the Bureau of Indian Education, as well as the annual review to be in compliance with the Nation.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The Board has up to date bylaws to follow and guide the school district.

### **Stipends**

*Per the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law, stipends are set via OBC resolution. BC resolution # 08-12-20-C sets the stipend amounts.*

### **Budget Information**

<u>FY-2021 BUDGET:</u>	54,652
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<u>FY-2021 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING PERIOD:</u>	6,875
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The School Board budget is covered under the school's Administrative Costs grant. There is no Tribal Contribution in the School Board budget.

### **Requests**

Our current request is to be able to be a part of the conversations around the distribution and use of federal funds that the Nation is going to be awarded. With the continued growth of our language revitalization, as well as continuing to practice the Nation's sovereignty, the Board believes the time for a new high school is now. We hope to continue this dialog with the Business Committee and work together to ensure the future of our Nation and its language for the next seven generations.

**Other**

Please let us know how we can work together to continue with the positive growth that is currently being made.





**Oneida Nation School Board**  
PO Box 365  
N7125 Seminary Road  
Oneida, WI 54155  
(920) 869-1676



April 10, 2021

Chairman Hill  
Oneida Business Committee

Dear Chairman Hill and Members of the Business Committee,

I have been directed by the Oneida Nation School Board to forward this communication to your attention with regard to American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Federal Relief Funds (A.R.P.A.). The Oneida Nation School Board would appreciate the opportunity to be involved in the vetting process for determining the best use and priority of potential funds (A.R.P.A.) for the needs of education on behalf of the Oneida Nation.

The School Board and the Oneida Business Committee recently met to initiate a planning dialogue to identify the resources needs to support a widespread long-range Oneida language initiative. The School Board presented a 10-year vision to insure the success of Oneida language development and emphasizing a language learning model; "Spectrum of Learning Language" which is culturally centered and presents holistic educational programming. The language nest immersion project "Tehatiw^nakhwa" is currently housed in partnership with the High School and have demonstrated effectiveness in comprehension and proficiency. The High School and Language Immersion programming are housed in a 66-year-old facility that now hinders adherence to the proposed 10-year plan.

The School Board has three priorities that we hope Chairman Hill and the Business Committee will consider in order to continue to foster, promote and grow the educational programming for the Nation.

Priority One – Continue the planning and programming for the development of a new high school facility. The conceptual design of the High school campus included the language immersion space within the heart of the new facility. The School Board recognizes the urgency of collaboration and desires to remain consistent with this conceptual approach to assure a cultural centered and holistic approach to the Nations educational programming.

Priority Two – The School Board identified within their own strategic planning process the urgency for recruitment and retention of professional staff. The challenge for any School Board is insuring that professional positions are competitive with the surrounding market, insuring the highest level of competent professional staff. The School Board would propose that the Oneida

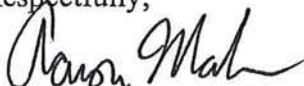


Nation identify the essential steps to align and vest our teacher retirement at par with the surrounding public school systems.

Priority Three – included in the 2009 CIP#06-002 “Oneida Nation High School & Fitness/Adventure/Recreation Facility” planning documents of was a proposal for inclusion of a sports complex to serve the High School extra-curricular activities while also servicing the community recreational programing function.

In closing, the Oneida Nation School Board stands with the Oneida Business Committee as elected officials of the General Tribal Council to develop the best long-term plan to respond to the severe impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We look forward to the opportunity of collaborating on the future of education that the Oneida Nations Schools can provide.

Respectfully,



Aaron Manders, Chairman, Oneida Nation School Board