

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION  
CHOIR ROOM #801  
MARCH 14, 2016  
6:30 P.M.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** President Timothy J. Creedon III called to order the regular meeting of the Ottawa Township High School Board of Education District 140 at 6:30 p.m. on March 14, 2016. Members present: Timothy Creedon, Gene Duffy, David Keely, Andree-Marie Koban, and John Levy. Absent: Donald Harris and George Shanley

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mike Cushing, Jeff DeWalt, Janet Pearson, Kelly Schmitt, OTHSEA representative Melissa Basil, representatives from the media: WCMY radio and The Times newspapers.

**MINUTES:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Levy to accept and approve the minutes for the regular meeting on February 22, 2016 as submitted. On roll call all members present vote yea. Motion carried.

**BILLS/PAYROLL:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Duffy to approve the district treasurer's report, financial statements, bills and payroll for February 2016. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS: NONE**

**OTHSEA:** Melissa Basil spoke about ACES, Adverse Childhood Experience.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT:** On March 16th, 17th, and 18th, OTHS will hold its annual Fine Arts Festival. The festival will conclude with the Finest of the Fine Arts on Friday, March 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

Congratulations to the following OTHS Educational Foundation Grant Award Recipients. Grants totaling \$19,770.96 were awarded. Thank you to the OTHS Educational Foundation for this grant program and the support given to our students, teachers, and school. Caroline Hannigan-Bressendorf - STEM Science Curriculum; OTHS Social Studies Division - Scholastic Upfront Magazine; Mike Cooper - Panasonic Video Camera High School Cube; Kevin Olesen - DNP DS80 Dye Sublimation Photo Printer Kit; Georganna Greanias - 16 TI 83+ Graphing Calculators; Bryan Leonard - Vernier Melting Point Apparatus; Dan Le - 15 TI 83+Graphing Calculators; Sally Taliani and Paula Carroll - Fine Arts Festival Guest Speaker; Kim Swords and Kim Hiland - Dale Katcher Presentations, North Central; John Atchley - Marine/Saltwater Fish Tank; Brad Johnson and Randy Greene - 4 Microphones and Receivers for OTHS Auditorium.

Please note that over spring break there are multiple projects planned. This includes the installation of the flooring in the pool area and replacement of the flooring in room 709, which will complete our 2015 life safety work. Weather permitting two large pine trees in the courtyard will be removed on Saturday, March 19, 2016. We will begin some of our 2016 life safety work, which will

include masonry tuckpointing in certain areas of the buildings. This tuckpointing will most likely occur throughout the remainder of the school year provided it does not disturb the delivery of educational services.

The annual Regional Office of Education Excellence in Education banquet will be held at Celebrations on Thursday, May 5, 2016. Please contact Kelly by Thursday, March 17, 2016 if you would like to attend as tickets are \$24.50 each.

Category # 1 - Educator Award (Certified only--Teachers and/or Administrators)

Jen Jobst                      Angela Priestley  
Steve Springer

Category #2 - Support Staff Award (Non-certified only--Secretary, Custodian, etc.)

Jean Alicz

Category #3 - Retiring Educator (+20 years of service)

Brian Huebner              Sarah Reckmeyer  
Karen Stachowiak        Dawn Wood

Category #4 - Retiring Support Staff (+20 years of service)

Linda Carretto              Kathy Stebing

Category #5 - Board Service (+12 years of service)

None (All of our Board members with 12+ years of service have been previously honored)

**PRINCIPAL:** Current enrollment as of March 14, 2016 is 1,394.

The third nine weeks of the 2015-16 school year ended on Friday, March 4, 2016.

Congratulations to Pete Marx who was nominated for 2A coach of the year by the Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association (IWCOA). Active IWCOA members vote on nominations up to March 14<sup>th</sup> with the winners announced at the IWCOA All-State Banquet on April 17, 2016. Good luck to Coach Marx.

The Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) academic team competed in the 1500 Division at the Parkland sectional competition on March 10, 2016. Congratulations to Jason Bessett for placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in Engineering Graphics. Jason will now move to the state competition on April 13, 2016 at the University of Illinois.

Congratulations to the OTHS Superfans and Mr. Dan Le. Based on a video submitted by Mr. Le, which showcased the Superfans and student body, OTHS has made the Final Four in the Student Section Showdown contest. On March 19, 2016, prior to the warmups of the 3A championship game, the Final Four videos will be shown in the Peoria Civic Center. At the end of the first quarter, Mr. Le and representatives from the Superfans will be introduced on the floor of the arena. At that time, the winning school from the Final Four will be announced and presented a banner by members of the Student Advisory Committee. Good Luck to Mr. Le and the OTHS Superfans.

On Friday, March 4, 2016 OTHS students competed at Joliet Junior College in the 39th Annual Illinois Drafting Educators Association (IDEA) Regional Drafting – Design Competition. For the 4th year in a row OTHS won the regional competition. This is the first time in the competition's history a school has won 4 regional titles in a row. OTHS will send six students to the state championships at ISU on April 16, 2016. The medal winners from OTHS were Grant Cottingham, Adam Cox, Jake Hall, Nate Wilson, Trevor Keegan, and Tim Ferguson.

Congratulations to Sarah Lyons. On March 4, 2016 at ISU's Redbird Arena, Sarah competed as a finalist in the State 3-pt shooting contest. Sarah ended with a fourth place finish in Class 4A.

On Saturday, March 5, 2016 the NIB 12 Art Conference was held at Rochelle High School. The Art Fest invites all schools from the conference to bring 10 of their best pieces. OTHS earned first place overall and the following OTHS students received ribbons for their work: 1st place winners: Sami Thompson, Shannon Roberts, and Lindsay Wheeler. 2nd place winners: Zach Berger, Paige Faley, and Casey Baxter. 3rd place winners: Abby Jordan and Grace Reinhardt.

The National Honor Society will hold its induction ceremony on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 7:00PM. Approximately 100 students will be inducted. Thank you to NHS sponsor, Mrs. Lisa Kerestes, for all of her work in the organization of the upcoming induction ceremony.

All students will be dismissed at 2:30 on Friday, March 18, 2016. Spring Break will take place from March 21 – March 28, 2016. Classes will resume on March 29, 2016.

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:** The annual OTHS Parent-Student Handbook Committee meeting took place on Tuesday, March 8, 2016. I would like to thank the six parent, and Officer Riva and Detective Booras from the Ottawa Police Dept. for joining Board Member Shanley and I to review updates for next year's edition of the handbook. The updated version has been distributed to all Board members, and we'll ask that they approve the handbook at the April meeting.

Congratulations to the following OTHS students for their efforts these past weeks and months and wish those still competing good luck as they continue on this year:

- Senior Sarah Lyons made 11 of 15 three pointers to qualify for the IHSA State Tournament on her way to finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in Class 4A in the Country Financial Three-Point Showdown.
- OTHS earned first place at the NIB Big 12 Conference Art Show at Rochelle. The following students earned ribbons: 1st place: Sami Thompson - graphic design; Shannon Roberts-mixed media; Lindsay Wheeler- Computer generated design. 2nd place: Zach Berger- drawing neutral; Paige Faley- graphic design; Casey Baxter- mixed media. 3rd place: Abby Jordan-watercolor/ tempera; Grace Reinhardt-printmaking
- Several OTHS Agriculture Students won their district competitions and will be competing at State in April. Those students are: Jordan Ovanic in Home and Community Development; Carter Gualandri in Beef Placement; Austin Walter in Beef Entrepreneurship. Austin will also be competing for State Star Farmer, awarded to just 5 FFA members across the state.
- The OTHS Music Department scored 744 points at the IHSA Solo and Ensemble Contest, giving them a commanding lead going into Organizational Contest on April 16<sup>th</sup>. A solid performance there would earn the music program their 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive State Championship.

- 3 Vocational Autos Students, Dakota Marti, Nick Fascetta and Tom Lamb, joined Mr. John Hladovcak in going to Streator High School to instruct SHS students on how use a new wheel alignment machine there. OTHS has had a similar machine for three years. This exercise provided a great opportunity for our students to share their knowledge and help SHS to continue building within their program.
- Congratulations to the varsity boys' basketball team on winning a share of the NIB 12 West Championship. Continuing their seasons, Blake Burress and Issac Gassman will represent OTHS this weekend in Peoria as they try to advance to Friday's Class 4A Championship of the Country Financial Three-Point Showdown. Both players qualified for the preliminary round by advancing out of the Collinsville Sectional last week.
- Finally, I would like to recognize and commend our students for their conduct this season during boys and girls basketball games. Many OTHS alumni and other community members have commented to me that they are proud of the number of students that show up to support our student-athletes and the class that they display in doing so. The Superfan Club and Mr. Le have created a video documenting OTHS's school spirit and are a Class 3A-4A Finalist in the IHSA's "Best Fans" Contest, the winner of which will be announced this Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters of the Class 3A championship game.

Again, congratulations to all of these OTHS students and their coaches or teachers, and best of luck to those still competing.

#### PERSONNEL

**AWARD TENURE:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Koban to award tenure to the following teachers: English – Erin Byrd; Library – Dan Heaver; Special Education – Stacy Dorsey; Social worker – Kim Hiland. These teachers have successfully completed their four year probationary period. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**RESIGNATION:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Levy to accept the resignation of Erin Hanley as pom coach at the end of the 2015-16 season. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**VOLUNTEER COACH:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Keely to approve Neil Hanley as volunteer baseball coach. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**MATERNITY LEAVE COVER:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Koban to approve the hire of Kimberly Kaschke to cover the maternity leave of Mrs. Kari Mooneyham, speech pathologist. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**FALL COACHES:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Keely to approve the list of 2016 fall coaches as presented. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** Motion made by Keely, seconded by Levy to approve Dan Heaver as an assistant cross country coach (boys and girls) for the 2016-17 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - none

**NEW BUSINESS**

**IHSA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Koban to renew the membership with the Illinois High School Association for the 2016-2017 school term. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**SUMMER CUSTODIAL WORKERS:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Koban to approve the hiring of six part time summer custodial workers (20 hours per week) starting June 6<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>. Three of these positions would be offered to our current part time custodians and custodial helpers. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Motion made by the President Creedon, seconded by Levy to enter in to closed session at 6:57 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public to determine its validity, student discipline, and negotiations - with possible action to be taken. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:** Board President Timothy J. Creedon III returned the Board to open session at 7:45 p.m. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business, motion made by Creedon to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

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**Timothy J. Creedon III, President**

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**Patrick Leonard, Secretary**