

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION
ROOM 801, CHOIR ROOM
APRIL 18, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Creedon asked for a moment of silence for OTHS English Teacher Mr. Ryan Nevins who passed away on April 8, 2016.

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 April 18, 2016. Members present: Timothy Creedon, Gene Duffy, Donald Harris, David Keely, Andree-Marie Koban, John Levy, 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.

PUBLIC HEARING (DRIVER EDUCATION FEE): President Creedon opened the public hearing at 6:31 p.m. to discuss the driver's education fee resolution. Public comment was solicited for the driver's education fee not to exceed \$250. No public comment was presented. Creedon closed the public hearing at 6:32 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion made by Levy, seconded by Shanley to accept and approve the minutes for the regular meeting on March 14, 2016 as submitted. On roll call all members present vote yea. Motion carried.

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS: Lindsay Wheeler spoke regarding having the graduation ceremony outside.

OTHSEA: Melissa Basil thanked the administration for their sensitivity and the way they handled the passing of Mr. Nevins. Staff and students were very appreciative.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: On Tuesday, April 5, 2016 the building and grounds committee met and reviewed the projects completed over spring break and also previewed the projects included in our summer life safety work.

On Tuesday, April 12, 2016 the policy committee met. The committee reviewed the proposed changes to the parent-student handbook and reviewed the Press Plus Policies that are due for a first reading at this board meeting and will need to be approved at the May board meeting.

As you aware on Friday, April 8, 2016 we received notification that OTHS English Teacher Mr. Ryan Nevins lost his battle with cancer. In response to this on Monday, April 11, 2016 we utilized the services of the ROE SCAT (School Crisis Assistance Team). The purpose of SCAT is to provide support and consultation to LaSalle, Marshall, and Putnam County schools, at the request of school personnel, in times of significant crisis

impacting children and adolescents. SCAT provides on-site assistance to the school's crisis teams and help implement the school's crisis plans. The intention of SCAT is to support the students and staff and to enable schools to resume regular activities in a timely fashion following a school/community crisis. SCAT also provides consultation, printed resources, and referral information to schools, at their request in times of crisis. On behalf of the District I would like to thank the following individuals for their assistance on 11th: Martha Small, Marie Bulfer, and Tyler Amm from the LaSalle Co. ROE, Robin Campbell and Jennifer Rhode from Earlville CUSD 9, Jennifer Leonard and Cindy Komater from Streator Elementary, Shannon Stephenson from Circuit Breaker and Mallory Wassman from Ottawa Elementary.

Also I would like to thank and recognize our counselors, Mrs. Basil, Mrs. Riordan, Mrs. Rios, Mrs. Stachowiak and Mrs. Swords our school psychologist Mrs. Wrublik and our social worker Mrs. Hiland for all of their work in meeting the needs of our students over the last week regarding the loss of Mr. Nevins.

Updated calendar for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year – please be aware that with the use of the emergency day on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 our final day of the 2015-16 school year is now scheduled for Wednesday, May 25, 2016.

A final reminder that the annual Regional Office of Education Excellence in Education banquet will be held at Celebrations on Thursday, May 5, 2016.

PRINCIPAL: Current enrollment as of April 18, 2016 is 1,391.

Congratulations to the Ottawa High School music students and their successful day at the IHSA State Organizational Music contest. The OHS band and choir students competed as large ensembles on Saturday, April 16th at Manteno High School in Manteno, Illinois.

- The OHS Treble 2 Chorus received a Division 2 rating.
- Earning Division I ratings include: the OHS Treble Chorus 1, the OHS Bass Choir, the OHS Mixed Chorus, the OHS Jazz Choir, the OHS Symphonic Band, the OHS Wind Ensemble, and the OHS Jazz Band.
- The OHS music department earned the 300 maximum points toward the IHSA State Music Sweepstakes. This total, coupled with the 744 points earned from the IHSA Solo & Ensemble contest, puts Ottawa High School in first place for Class A schools.
- In addition, the point total of 1044 points is the highest point total amongst all schools in all classes for the IHSA State Music Sweepstake Competition.
- This is the 20th consecutive state music title Ottawa High School has won. Congratulations to all the OHS music students as well as Ms. Sarah Reckmeyer and Mr. Spencer Rockford!

Congratulations to the OTHS Envirothon team who took 4th place on April 6, 2016 at the Livingston/LaSalle/Grundy County Envirothon. They placed 4th out of 14 teams. Please congratulate: Maddie Trolinger, Caitlin Bruemmer, Angelica Briones, Amy Vandervelde, and Marielena Castillo.

Junior/Senior Prom will take place on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at the high school. A big thank you to Kellee Granados for all of her work in the organization of this event.

The OTHS drama department will be performing *Romeo and Juliet* on Friday, May 6th and Saturday, May 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

Our annual athletic open house for incoming freshman and their parents/guardians will be Wednesday, May 4, 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Kingman Gym.

Honors Day will take place on Friday, May 13, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the OTHS auditorium.

The first day of final exams will be Monday, May 23, 2016 as students will be taking their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd period exams.

PERSONNEL

BAND INSTRUCTOR: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Shanley to approve and hire Andrew Jacobi as band instructor. This position will become available with the retirement of Sarah Reckmeyer. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

MATH TEACHER: Motion made by Levy, seconded by Shanley to approve and hire Tyler Wargo as math teacher for the 2016-17 school year. This position will become available with the retirement of Brian Huebner. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Levy to approve and hire Jennifer Rhode as guidance counselor for the 2016-17 school year. This position will become available with the retirement of Karen Stachowiak. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

VOLLEYBALL COACH: Motion made by Levy, seconded by Harris to approve and hire Michelle Masny as head volleyball coach for the 2016-17 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

RESIGNATION: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Levy to approve the resignation of Sara Wilson, part time custodian. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' RESOLUTION: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Harris to adopt the resolution and recognize the secretarial/custodial/maintenance staff for Administrative Professionals' Day, on April 27, 2016. All members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ABATEMENT RESOLUTION: Motion made by Harris, seconded by Levy to adopt the following resolution whereby Ottawa Township High School District 140 in LaSalle County, IL will abate \$1,100,000 from the Working Cash Fund to the Education Fund. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2016-2017: Motion made by Koban, seconded by Shanley to approve the student handbook for the 2016-17 school year as presented by Assistant Principal Jeff DeWalt. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

TECHNOLOGY LEASE PURCHASE PROPOSALS: Motion made by Harris, seconded by Duffy to seek proposals for technology equipment. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

CLERICAL CONTRACT: Motion made by Harris, seconded by Creedon to approve the Clerical Contract, which is a one year extension of their previous collective bargaining agreement and calls for the clerical staff

members to receive 0% increase to the 2011-12 salary. On a date to be determined (before the end of the 2016 fiscal year), a one-time bonus of \$655, or monetary equivalent of a half (1/2) step, whichever is greater will be paid to each full-time bargaining unit member employed by the Board on the date the bonus is paid, pro-rated for part-time bargaining unit members. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PRESS PLUS POLICY UPDATES - FIRST READ: There are nine policies that are due for a first reading. These policies are 6:130 Program for the Gifted, 6:300 Graduation Requirements, 7:150 Agency and Police Interviews, 7:190 Student Behavior, 7:200 Suspension Procedures, 7:210 Expulsion Procedures, 7:220 Bus Conduct, 7:240 Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities and 7:305 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries. The policy committee met on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 and reviewed these policies as these policies will need to be approved at the regular board of education meeting in May. There is no action on this item as this is only a first reading.

DRIVER EDUCATION FEE RESOLUTION: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Duffy to approve the driver education fee resolution as required by Public Act 97-145 to charge up to \$250 to enroll in driver's education. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PARAPROFESSIONAL CBA ADDITION: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Duffy to approve the addition of an RN position to the current collective bargaining unit for the paraprofessionals. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: Motion made by the President Creedon, seconded by Harris to enter in to closed session at 7:09 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, 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 9:04 p.m. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

STUDENT #2015-16-05: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Harris that the 2 day out of school suspension and 30 day social probationary period remains in effect. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

STUDENT #2015-16-06: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Shanley that the 2 day out of school suspension and 30 day social probationary period remains in effect. 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 9:06 p.m.

Timothy J. Creedon III, President

Patrick Leonard, Secretary