

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 140 – ROOM 801
REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION
MARCH 17, 2014
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 Board of Education of Ottawa Township High School, District 140 at 6:30 p.m. on March 17, 2014. The meeting was moved to the Choir Room (801) for attendance purposes. Members present: Bill Byczynski, Karen Fisher, Tim Creedon, George Shanley, and Anita Kopko. Member absent: Don Harris.

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Winchester, Mike Cushing, Laura Bankowski, Jeff DeWalt, OTHSEA President Wendy Sheridan, representatives from the media; Times newspaper, and WCMY radio. Others present to speak on behalf of the Building Trades program at OTHS were teacher David Keely, Bill Serby, Bill Ragan, Kevin Dale, Wayne Czyz, Rich Larson, Steve Smith, Twila Yednock, Arnie Banstra and David Rabideau.

MINUTES: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Duffy to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on February 24, 2014 as submitted. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

BILLS/PAYROLL: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Shanley to approve the district treasurer's report, financial statements, bills and payroll for February 2014 as submitted. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS, CORRESPONDENCE: The Board President recognized the following speakers regarding the Building Trades program at OTHS: David Keely, Bill Serby, Bill Ragan, Kevin Dale, Wayne Czyz, Rich Larson, Steve Smith, Twila Yednock, Arnie Banstra and David Rabideau. OTHSEA President Wendy Sheridan read a prepared statement. Board President Creedon asked if anyone else wanted to speak.

CLOSED SESSION: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Fisher to enter in to closed session at 7:28 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee(s) of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity - with possible action to be taken. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Board President Creedon returned the Board to open session at 8:40 p.m. in the Choir Room (801). The following board members were present: Karen Fisher, Bill Byczynski, Gene Duffy, Anita Kopko, Timothy Creedon, and George Shanley. Member absent: Don Harris.

PERSONNEL

REDUCTION IN FORCE(RIF): Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Kopko to adopt the resolution to honorably dismiss paraprofessional Pollyanna Neumann for the 2014-15 school year, effective May 30, 2014. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Kopko to adopt the resolution to honorably dismiss paraprofessional Marie Smith for the 2014-15 school year, effective May 30, 2014. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Kopko to adopt the Reduction in Force Resolution to honorably dismiss Building Trades teacher David Keely effective May 30, 2014. On roll call the following board members vote yea: Fisher, Kopko, Byczynski, Shanley, Creedon. Duffy voted no. Motion carried.

AWARD TENURE: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Shanley to award tenure to the following teachers: Special Needs – Kate McIntyre and Sean Porter; Dean of Student – John Alexander; CTE Autos – John Hladovcak; and Family & Consumer Science – Kellee Sandifur. These teachers have successfully completed their four year probationary period. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PAYROLL POSITION: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Shanley to hire Linda Horsley for the payroll position that will be vacated by Connie Wultzen on June 30, 2014. Linda will start on April 1, 2014. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS

IHSA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Fisher to approve the IL High School Association membership renewal at no cost to the district for the 2014-15 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PRESS PLUS POLICY UPDATES – FIRST READ: Items for review include: School District elections, Qualifications, Term and Duties of Board Officers, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment, Hiring Process and Criteria, Compliance with Fair Labor Standards Act, Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct. Temporary Illness for Temporary Incapacity, Teacher Qualifications, Suspension, Attendance and Truancy, Search and Seizure, Preventing Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment (Rewritten), Student Discipline, and Parental Involvement.

REGISTRATION FEE FOR 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Duffy to approve the registration fee for the 2014-15 school year at \$125 per student. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PARTICIPATION FEE: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Fisher to adopt and approve participation fees for sports and other IHSA recognized activities: Football - \$100;

all other IHSA sports - \$75; IHSA activities - \$50; band and choral - \$50. A family cap of \$200 per year for the 2014-15 school year. On roll all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ADMISSION PRICES: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Byczynski to adopt and approve a new scale for admission prices for the 2014-15 school year.. Varsity/Sophomore Football & Varsity/Sophomore Basketball - \$5 adult, \$4 for senior citizens and children. All other sports will be \$4 – adult; and \$3 – senior citizens and children. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ADMISSION PRICES: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to adopt and approve an admission fee for the 2014-15 school year - Choral & Band concerts \$5 for adults and \$4 for senior citizens and children. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ADVERTISING POSITION: Motion made by Creedon seconded by Fisher to set up guidelines for a Community Outreach/Advertising position. The focus will be securing advertising revenue in addition to reaching out to the community to adopt a program or sponsoring larger ticket items. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION TO ABATE WORKING CASH: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Byczynski to approve and adopt the resolution calling for abatement from the working cash fund in the amount of \$1,500,000 to the education fund. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: Congratulations to the following OTHS Educational Foundation Grant Award Recipients. Grants totaling were awarded. The major grant project included upgrading the wireless technology throughout the campus.

Mini-grant recipients included the following:

Kim Swords, Counseling- North Central Behavioral Health Systems presenter \$1,190

Sally Taliani/Paula Carroll- Fine Arts Festival speaker/poet \$1,910.99

Sandrine Clairardin- Science Department Dry-erase clipboards for student feedback \$540

Sally Taliani, Special Education Department- Improving Reading through Technology \$2,000

Sarah Reckmeyer- Music supplies \$815 (Glen Ryan fund from Foundation)

Sue Williamson/Steve Johnson- Speech and Drama materials (Glen Ryan fund from Foundation)

Major Project grant recipient- Rick Denk, Technology, campus-wide wireless technology upgrades \$33,181.93

I thank the OTHS Educational Foundation for providing this grant program and for the financial support they give to our students, teachers, and school.

Update on State Funding

The state currently owes the OTHS district \$251,534.89

PRINCIPAL: The OTHS Technology Students Association competed at Joliet Junior College on Friday, February 21, 2014 in the "robotic engineering challenge" competition. OTHS won second and third place in the novice division. In the expert division OTHS placed fourth.

The National Honor Society inducted 111 new members on Thursday, March 6, 2014.

Congratulations to these inductees and a big thank you to NHS sponsor, Mrs. Lisa Kerestes, for all of her work in the organization of the induction ceremony.

The WYSE academic team competed at Illinois Central College in sectional competition on March 5, 2014. OTHS had two individual medal winners – Adam Hines placed 3rd in the Physics competition and Nathanael Nelson took 2nd in the Chemistry competition. Nathanael will now move on to the state competition on April 9, 2014 at the University of Illinois.

The third nine weeks of the 2013-14 school year ended on Friday, March 7, 2014.

Congratulations to OTHS Senior Girls Basketball player Jasmin Bailey, as she won the IHSA 4A 3 – Point Contest on Friday, March 7, 2014.

On Friday, March 7, 2014 OTHS students competed at Joliet Junior College in the 37th annual Illinois Drafting Educators Association (IDEA) regional Drafting -Design competition. For the second year in a row Ottawa had the most medal winners and won the overall competition. OTHS had a medal winner in every category it entered, won a total of eight medals, and has five students advancing to the IDEA state championship held at ISU April 12, 2014. The five students advancing are Nick Coglianese, Zack Cofoid, Chandler Armstrong, Nate Goodchild, and Nate Killelea.

Approximately 225 students from the OTHS music department participated in the IHSA's Solo & Ensemble contest on Saturday, March 8, 2014 here at OTHS. OTHS students earned a total of 726 points and the competition will continue on April 12, 2014 at Reed-Custer High School. Ottawa Township High School music students are seeking to win their 18th consecutive state title and 19th overall.

On Saturday, March 15, 2014 OTHS hosted the Northern Illinois Big 12 Conference Art Show. All conference schools were invited to bring 10 pieces of artwork to showcase. OTHS earned first place. Congratulations to those students who placed at the showcase and also a big thank you to Mrs. Carroll, Mr. Olesen, and Mr. Alvarado for all of their work in the organization of this event.

The OTHS Athletic Trainers annual fish fry will be held Friday, March 21, 2014 in the high school cafeteria from 4:30 to 6:30.

On March 19, 20, and 21, 2014 OTHS will hold its annual Fine Arts Festival. The festival will conclude with the Finest of the Fine Arts on Friday, March 21 at 7:00 in the OTHS auditorium.

All students will be dismissed at 2:30 on Friday, March 21, 2014. Spring Break will take place from March 24, 2014 through March 28, 2013. School will not be session at OTHS on Friday, April 18, 2014 or Monday, April 21, 2014 for Easter Break.

Current enrollment as of March 17, 2014 is 1,365.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS: Jeff DeWalt thanked those that participated in the updating of the Parent-Student Handbook. Anita Kopko represented the Board of Education.

Laura Bankowski stated that On April 23 and 24, 2014 OTHS Juniors will be taking the ACT and PSAE. According to the most recent information provided by ISBE, this will be the last year that students participate in the PSAE as next year students at the 9th, 10th, and 11th grade levels will be required to participate in two rounds of PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) Testing.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion made by Fisher, seconded by Duffy to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. All members present voted yea. Motion carried.

President

Secretary

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL #140
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING – ROOM 202
APRIL 4, 2014
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: Board President Timothy J. Creedon III called to order the special meeting of the Board of Education of Ottawa Township High School, District 140 at 8:04 a.m. on April 4, 2014. Members present: Bill Byczynski, Tim Creedon, Gene Duffy, George Shanley, Don Harris and Anita Kopko. Member absent: Karen Fisher.

BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATE VIA PHONE CONFERENCE: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Harris to allow board member Karen Fisher to participate in the meeting via phone conference at 8:04 a.m., as she is serving the good of the public body in her capacity as President of IASB. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Winchester, Mike Cushing, Laura Pastirik, and Jeff DeWalt, representative from the media; News Tribune newspaper.

CLOSED SESSION: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Harris to enter into closed session at 8:05 a.m., to discuss student discipline matters, with possible action to be taken. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Motion made by President Creedon, seconded by Shanley to return to open session at 8:45 a.m. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried. Communication via phone conference with board member Karen Fisher was disrupted. Board Member Fisher no longer participated in meeting.

STUDENT 2013-14-A: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Kopko to modify Student 2013-14-A's record to appropriate consequence based upon facts presented with time served. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

STUDENT 2013-14-B: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Kopko to amend disciplinary record on Student 2013-14-B's with discipline to stand and served affirmed. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

STUDENT 2013-14-C: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Harris to amend disciplinary record on Student 2013-14-C's with discipline to stand and served affirmed. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

STUDENT 2013-14-D: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Kopko to modify Student 2013-14-D's record to appropriate consequence based upon facts presented with time served. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

STUDENT 2013-14-E: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Harris to deny request for Student 2013-14-E's record change and discipline to stand as stated. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion made by Shanley, seconded by Byczynski to adjourn the special meeting at 8:49 a.m.

President

Secretary