

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET HEARING/REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION
SEPTEMBER 22, 2014 – ROOM 202
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Board President Timothy J. Creedon III called to order the meeting of the Ottawa Township High School District 140 Board of Education at 6:30 p.m. on September 22, 2014. Members present: George Shanley, Karen Fisher, Tim Creedon, Gene Duffy. Members absent: Don Harris and Anita Kopko.

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Winchester, Mike Cushing, Jeff DeWalt, OTHSEA President Matt Gross, Susan MacDonald, FFA student members, representatives from the media: The Times, News Tribune newspapers, and WCMY radio.

VIA PHONE CONFERENCE: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Fisher to allow board member Anita Kopko to join the board meeting at 6:32 p.m. for health related reasons. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Board members present: Creedon, Shanley, Fisher, Duffy, and Kopko.

BUDGET HEARING: Board President Creedon opened the budget hearing at 6:33 p.m. with comments from Superintendent Winchester. Discussion was held on the changes to the 2014-15 budget. The budget for 2014-15 has been prepared with a few minor changes from the tentative budget. Operating Funds (Ed, O&M, Transportation, and Working Cash) indicate revenues of \$12,122,923 and expenditures of \$15,103,225. Changes to the 2014-15 budget were minimal overall. Anticipated revenue in the Education Fund is \$21,886 less than anticipated mainly due to lower than expected State reimbursement for Categoricals and Driver Education. Expenses were reduced by \$64,630 mainly due to changes in insurance levels and retiree insurance. The revised budget for the Education Fund has revenues of \$12,122,923 and expenditures of \$15,103,225 for a difference of -\$2,980,302. We will be utilizing \$2,900,000 of working cash to cover the shortfall. This leaves us with an estimated working cash fund balance of \$207,235.

BUDGET HEARING CLOSED: No public comment, the hearing closed at 6:35 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Ottawa Township High School District 140 Board of Education convened at 6:35 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Duffy to approve minutes from the regular board meeting on August 18, 2014 and the special meeting on August 25, 2014 as submitted. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: The Deficit Reduction/Revenue Enhancement Committee will meet starting on October 1st. There were 25 committee members that participated last school year. I will be contacting members this week to determine their status. Four community members were part of the committee and I would like to add an additional four community members this year. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact District secretary Susan MacDonald.

Our annual Regional Office of Education compliance visit is scheduled for next month. As is required of all schools, the ROE will conduct an extensive compliance check on school policies, procedures, and health/life/safety areas.

The 2014 Life Safety Construction Project is closed out as all punch list items are complete.

There are a number of maintenance projects that are being scheduled. Several areas of the track need to be resurfaced and the track lines are due for repainting. The pole vault lane is also worn in a number of areas and needs resurfacing repairs. This work is scheduled for next month.

While doing routine maintenance and preparing for the cold weather months, maintenance workers discovered several leaks in the north boiler. Repairs are being made and the boiler will be complete and operating properly by the end of this week. All repairs are being performed by OTHS maintenance technicians. The system is still operational with one boiler running.

The Maintenance Department will be working on the electrical feeds for two fuel tanks that will be located east of the Vo-tech building. In addition, they will be working on a fiber optic line to the softball press booth for added security cameras, phones, and wireless units. Several additional security cameras will also be installed throughout campus as part of our safety grant.

The aquatic engineers visited campus to evaluate our pool issues. If choosing to proceed, their recommendation is to completely remove the entire glazed brick interior and drain gutter down to the existing concrete shell structure. They would utilize the shotcrete method of concrete replacement for new interior pool walls. A new gutter overflow system would be installed on top of the new wall. A new filter system with a closed top surge tank would also need to be installed. Their \$156,000 estimate is only a small portion of the estimated total cost. Additional work necessary would include: plumbing, ventilation, mechanical, controls, electrical, and architectural/structural work necessary to prepare and complete the project to current codes and regulations. A rough estimate of the all in cost would be in the \$800,000 to \$1,000,000+ range depending on what would be uncovered when the blocks are removed to expose the concrete shell structure. I ask the Board to discuss how they would like to proceed at this point.

Congratulations to OTHS Board member and Illinois Association of School Board's President Karen Fisher as she was recognized at IASB's Starved Rock division fall meeting. Karen was honored as she maintained her Master School Board Member status through continued extensive Board member training.

PRINCIPAL: Current enrollment as of Monday, September 22, 2014 is 1446.

Please note that we no longer have an Annual Yearly Progress report as the state of Illinois received a waiver from the U. S. Department of Education as it relates to No Child Left Behind. This waiver will allow districts to have more flexibility with regard to the expenditure of title money during the 2014-15 school year.

The PSAE was administered for the last time in the spring of 2014 to our current seniors. In reading the percentage of students who met or exceeded was 62.3%, which was our best performance over the history of the PSAE and well above our ten year average of 55.2%. In math the percentage of students who met or exceeded was 51.7%, which was above our ten year average of 48.1%.

The Composite ACT Score for the Class of 2014 was 19.8, which is consistent with our ten year average of 19.84.

Homecoming activities will take place September 22 – September 27, 2014. On Friday, September 26, 2014 we will host Sycamore High School in football and the homecoming dance will be held in Kingman Gym from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 27, 2014. A special thank you to Ms. Hanley, Mrs. Kuhel, and Mrs. Granados and the student groups they sponsor for all of their work in decorating the school for homecoming week.

On Thursday, October 9, 2014 all students will be dismissed at 12:00 and teachers will be involved with professional development improvement activities for the remainder of the day.

On Friday, October 10, 2014 all of Ottawa Township High School's teachers will take part in the annual Regional Office of Education Teacher Institute Day.

A final thank you to Susie Walsh and OTHS Booster Club for all of their work in the Drive One 4R School event.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Sherry St. Clair is with us today and tomorrow, meeting with Department and Division Chairs, and other building leadership. Sherry will be at OTHS 3 more times this school year. Topics discussed today include Common Assessments and PARCC testing updates, as well as continued emphasis on Common Core initiatives across all areas. Sherry will continue work with the district through this year in the areas of curriculum, instruction and assessment.

Beginning of the year Common Assessments have been administered to students across the curriculum. Data from these assessments will be collected and examined, then compared to end-of-semester assessments to show student growth. Results will also provide evidence of an aligned curriculum being taught at the same pace by different instructors teaching the same subject, which is important in that we want all of our students exposed to the same materials. 46 students took part in the 5th Annual doChange Freshman Bean Bag Tournament last Wednesday. I would like to thank all of the mentors who worked to plan and put on the event, as well as Mr. Le, Mrs. Parrott and Mr. Gross for their continued hard work with doChange and the Freshman Academy.

PERSONNEL

WINTER HEAD COACHES: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Creedon to approve the following winter head coaches for the 2014-15 school year: boys basketball – Mark Cooper, girls basketball – Mike Cooper, boys swim – Jenny Borkowski, wrestling – Pete Marx, bowling – Mark Andrews. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

RESIGNATION: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Duffy to approve the resignation of part-time custodian Angie Ross effective September 5, 2014. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PART-TIME CUSTODIAN: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Shanley to move current custodial helper Rodney Spence to a part-time custodian for 20 hours per week on school days with permission to post the helper position. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

MATERNITY LEAVE: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Shanley to approve the maternity leave request by Linda Horsley with a start date of approximately October 24, 2014 for ten weeks. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ADOPT BUDGET 2014-15: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Kopko to adopt the 2014-15 budget for \$23,111,020 with changes made as presented. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

SODEXHO CONTRACT: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Fisher to approve the Sodexho cafeteria contract for the 2014-15 school year with no operational changes or fees from the 2013-14 contract.

NEW BUSINESS

COMPENSATION REPORT: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Shanley to approve and submit to ISBE the staff compensation report for 2013-14 fiscal year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

FLU CLINIC: Motion made by Duffy seconded by Fisher to approve the Board covering the cost of \$25 for staff only that opt to receive a regular flu shot with the LaSalle County Health Department or OSF Medical Center. The clinic will be held at the Health Department located on Etna Road or OSF Regional Center. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

POLICY UPDATES FIRST READ: School Board – Powers and Duties; Operational Services – Purchases and Contracts, Activity Funds; General Personnel – Hiring Process and Criteria, Student Teachers, Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays and Leaves; Students – Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment; Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities.

Board members Creedon and Fisher have agreed to review policies in the five year update.

ISBE RECOGNITION APPLICATION: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to grant permission for Superintendent Winchester to file the 2014-15 application for recognition with IL State Board of Education. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Duffy to support the participation of Ottawa Township High School District 140 in the cooperative buying agreement with BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing program with no fee or obligation. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Shanley to enter into closed session at 6:55 p.m. to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees 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 validity - with possible action to be taken. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried. Media recess ended at 7:10 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Board President Creedon returned the board to open session with a strike of the gavel at 7:26 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Board President Timothy Creedon III adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

President

Secretary