

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION  
FEBRUARY 22, 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 February 22, 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 newspaper.

**MINUTES:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Levy to accept and approve the minutes for the regular meeting on January 25, 2016, and the special meeting on February 4, 2016 as submitted. On roll call all members present vote yea. Motion carried.

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

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS: NONE**

**OTHSEA:** Melissa Basil thanked the board and administration for their support of teachers and students; Working on evaluation tool for next school year; The school improvement team continues to meet; Thanked Mr. DeWalt for all his help with registration. Thanked Mr. Leonard for his support.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT:** On Friday, February 26, 2016 we will be hosting LaSalle-Peru Township High School in boys basketball. 2016 OTHS Hall of Fame inductees will be recognized prior to the start of the varsity contest and we will also recognize our senior basketball players, poms, cheerleaders, band members and athletic trainers. Advanced ticket sales for this game will take place on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 from 5:00 to 7:00PM in the Kingman Gym Lobby. We strongly encourage all non-season ticket holders to purchase their tickets in advance. Based on ticket sales on Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> there may be a limited number of tickets available at the door on Friday, February 26, 2016. All season ticket holders will need to bring their season tickets with them and show them to the tickets takers to gain entry on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Also, all spectators will be required to enter Door P, which is located under the passageway.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Hall of Fame dinner and banquet will be held in our cafeteria and auditorium on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, with a social at 6:00PM and dinner at 6:30PM. Hall of Fame inductees will also be honored at our home basketball game vs. L-P High School on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to this year's inductees: Mary Fennessey Morgan (former OTHS faculty member), Dr. Nancy Rabenstein Pielemeier (Class of 1963), Robert Eschbach (Class of 1970),

Dr. Richard Honer (Class of 1971), Greg Fenza (Class of 1988) and the 1971-72 OTHS Varsity Football Team.

The OTHS Booster Club's annual steak dinner fundraiser will take place on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at Festivities Unlimited beginning at 6:00PM.

A reminder that next month's Board meeting will be on Monday, March 14, 2016 as spring break will begin on Monday, March 21 with students and staff members returning to work on Tuesday, March 29, 2016.

**PRINCIPAL:** OTHS Seniors, Carleigh Cronkright and PJ Schrik, were recognized and honored at a breakfast hosted by the Starved Rock Region of the Illinois Principals Association at Streator High School on February 18, 2016. Congratulations to Carleigh and PJ.

At the Rock Island Swim Sectional on Saturday, February 20, Senior TJ LeSeure qualified for the State Swim meet on Friday, February 26, 2016, by winning the Breaststroke in a school record setting time of 59.15 seconds. This time also set the pool record at Rock Island. Congratulations and good luck to TJ.

Congratulations to OTHS Wrestling Coach Pete Marx and Ottawa's All-State wrestlers, Micah Krueger and Ethan Harsted. Micah Krueger battled and fought his way to All-State status with his 6th place finish at the 132-pound weight class. Ethan Harsted, on route to the finals upset the undefeated number 2 seed and number 3 seeded wrestler. Ethan came up just short in his bid to upset the number 1 ranked wrestler in the state, losing 5-2 and ending his season with an impressive 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the state. Congratulations to both Ethan and Micah for an outstanding finish and an incredible season.

Congratulations to the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) academic team for taking 1<sup>st</sup> place in the 1500 Division team competition held at IVCC on Friday, February 5, 2016. Individually, we had 8 medalists.

- Dayne Coveyou brought home 1<sup>st</sup> place in Physics along with 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mathematics, while Seamus McGettigan walked away with the 2<sup>nd</sup> place award in Physics.
- Ottawa also placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in English with Mara Briones winning 1<sup>st</sup> and Claire Schaibly taking 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Engineering Graphics was another one, two finish for Ottawa. Nathaniel Wilson captured the 1<sup>st</sup> place medal and Jason Bessett took the 2<sup>nd</sup> place award.
- Additionally, Andrew Felty came home with the 2<sup>nd</sup> place medal in Chemistry.
- The WYSE team will now move on to the sectional competition held on Thursday, March 10, 2016, at Parkland College.

On Thursday, February 18, 2016, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Career Day was held at OTHS. A big thank you to Mr. Gross, Mrs. Parrott, Mr. Le, Mrs. Gross, and all of the Freshman Academy teachers for their organization and implementation of this activity. Also, a big thank you to the 50 professionals from the local community who came in and presented to our freshmen students.

Registration of current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will conclude on Thursday, February 25, 2016. Work on creating the 2016-2017 master schedule will begin following the completion of the registration process.

The Winter Band Concert will take place on Thursday, February 25, 2016 and the Winter Choir Concert will take place on Thursday, March 10, 2016. Also, the OTHS Music Department will be competing for their 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive state championship, 21<sup>st</sup> overall, at the IHSA solo and ensemble contest on Saturday, March 5, 2016.

This week is National FFA week. Several activities will be held during the week, highlighted by the teacher/staff appreciation luncheon on Wednesday, February 24, 2016.

Current enrollment as of Monday, February 22, 2016 is 1,393.

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:** The annual task of updating the OTHS Parent-Student Handbook for next year is upon us. A meeting has been scheduled on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, in OTHS Room 420 to discuss and make further recommendations for updates. Parents, students, staff and community members who have suggestions for or questions about the handbook are welcome.

#### PERSONNEL

**VOLUNTEER SPRING COACHES:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Shanley, to approve the following spring volunteer coaches: Baseball - Corey Kimes, Brent Anderson, Ben Diss, and Doug Wisler; Softball - Kendra Brenbarger and Brittany Terando. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**2016 LIFE SAFETY BIDS:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Levy to approve the bid of \$2,057,950. from Vissering Construction for the summer 2016 Life/Safety work. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASBESTOS ABATEMENT BIDS:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Harris to approve the asbestos abatement bid from Colfax Corporation, Colfax IL, at a total cost of \$26,400. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**LEVEE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROPOSAL:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Shanley to approve the Levee Improvement Project. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Shanley to enter in to closed session at 7:17 p.m. to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the 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, and negotiations - with possible action to be taken. Media recess ended at 7:29 p.m. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:** Board President Creedon returned the board to open session at 8:08 p.m. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business, President Creedon adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

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**Timothy J. Creedon III, President**

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**Patrick Leonard, Secretary**