

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION  
ROOM 801, CHOIR ROOM  
APRIL 24, 2017  
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 April 24, 2017. Members present: Timothy Creedon, Gene Duffy, Donald Harris, David Keely, Andree-Marie Koban, John Levy, and George Shanley.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mike Cushing, Pat Leonard, Jeff DeWalt, Janet Pearson, Kelly Schmitt, OTHSEA representative Tracey O'Fallon, and representatives from the media.

**MINUTES:** Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Levy to accept and approve the minutes for the regular meeting on March 13, 2017 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, travel expenses, and payroll for March 2017. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:** None

**OTHSEA:** Tracey O'Fallon congratulated the board members who won the election and welcomed back Karen Fisher.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT:** Finance Update – The State of Illinois currently owes District #140 approximately \$537,036, which is down from the \$673,667 that we were owed just a couple of weeks ago. The great majority of the revenue that is owed to the District is in the form of regular transportation and special education mandated categoricals such as special education transportation, special education personnel reimbursement, special education private facility tuition reimbursement and general funding for special education students. We are not alone in this situation as Districts across the state are in the same situation as some of this revenue has been vouchered to the comptroller's office but has not yet been dispersed to the Districts. We are all hopeful that these dollars will be released to Districts before the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30, 2017. In support of public schools receiving revenues from the state I recently joined the Pass Illinois' Budget movement along with 388 other superintendents from across the state.

Wireless Upgrade Project – I would like to update you on wireless upgrade project. We are hopeful that our proposal to E-Rate will be accepted and the District can move forward with an upgrade to our wireless infrastructure. Please remember that E-Rate is a federally funded program through the Federal Communications Commission, which provides public school districts and other public entities monetary assistance in the form of rebates and assistance on technological related items. We have been

told by our E-Rate consultant that this program will possibly be discontinued in the future. While we are hopeful this is not the case we are very excited that we may get up to 70% of this proposed wireless upgrade project paid for through our participation in the E-Rate program. Unfortunately, in recent conversations with our E-Rate consultant we have been informed that we will not get the final approval of this project until September or October. This puts us in a unique situation as we need to complete this project if we are going to move forward with increasing our technology related opportunities for our students and faculty. Late last week our consultant informed us that he is fairly certain that we will get the funding for this project. After having gone through the mandated bidding process for this project the total cost of the project came back at \$134,450. The recommended bid for the equipment was \$84,112 and the recommended bid for the installation of this equipment was \$50,338. If our proposal is accepted by the E-Rate commission they will contribute (70%) \$94,115 toward the cost of this project, with the District responsible for the remaining \$40,335. I will bring a recommendation to the May board meeting for your approval if it is determined that this project would be best completed this summer.

The ten-year life safety survey will take place this summer and will be completed by Basalay, Cary & Alstadt. The last ten year life-safety survey in the District was completed in the 2007. The survey is something that we are mandated to do and based upon the results of this survey a determination will be made about what needs to be accomplished over the course of the coming school years.

A special reorganization board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 5:00PM in order to seat the new board member and reorganize the board.

A final reminder that the annual Regional Office of Education Excellence in Education banquet will be held at Celebrations on Thursday, May 4, 2017.

**PRINCIPAL:** The WYSE academic team competed in the 1500 Division at the University of Illinois state competition, on April 20, 2017. Congratulations to James Hart who placed 4th in the WYSE State Engineering Graphics Competition.

Junior/Senior Prom will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2017 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 A Wrinkle in Time on Friday, May 5th and Saturday, May 6th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

Our annual athletic open house for incoming freshman and their parents/guardians will be Wednesday, May 3, 2017 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Kingman Gym.

Honors Day will take place on Friday, May 12, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the OTHS auditorium.

The first day of final exams will be Thursday, May 25, 2017 as students will be taking their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd period exams. Final exams will conclude on Tuesday, May 30th.

On June 26th-29th, several members of the OTHS staff will attend the Model Schools Conference in Nashville, TN. This conference is completely funded with Title money and will provide valuable professional development opportunities for staff and for overall school improvement. Attending the

conference will be a team of administrators, school improvement team members, division chairs, and instructional leaders from the building.

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:** Congratulations to the Ottawa Township High School Band and Choir on earning the maximum score of 300 points at the IHSA Organizational Contest over the weekend and earning a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the IHSA State Music competition. OTHS earned 1,029 points in the State series competition, just 12 points off the pace of State Champion Bradley-Bourbonnais. For reference, the 1029 points ties the OTHS State Champion scores of 2002-2003 and 2009-2010, and is better than the totals that won 11 of OTHS' previous State Championships. Additionally, this point total would have won the championship in any other year in IHSA history. Congratulations to all OTHS music students, Choir Director Mr. Spencer Rockford and Band Director Mr. Andrew Jacobi.

The band and choir will be performing several concerts before the end of the school year, as the jazz band and jazz choir will host a concert on Wednesday, May 10; the Spring Band Concert is Thursday, May 18; and choir's Pop Concert is Friday, May 26. All shows begin at 7:00 p.m. and will take place in the OTHS auditorium.

On Saturday April 22, 2016 Ottawa Township High School competed in the Illinois Drafting Educators Association State Championship held at Illinois State University. Ottawa out performed all high schools in the state by having 4 medal finishers and also became the first school in the history of the competition to have two State Champions in the same year. Earning 3<sup>rd</sup> place medals in Architecture were Mia Carrera and Kain Schott. Andrew Walker was awarded the State Championship in CAD and Natalie Rodeghier claimed the State Championship in Mechanical Drawing. Congratulations to all of these students on their tremendous accomplishments.

Saturday Success School will be implemented during the 2017-18 school year. The program will allow students the opportunity to complete missing assignments on alternating Saturdays throughout the year. Getting credit for these assignments will improve students' success, reducing failures and, in turn, raising OTHS's graduation rate. The program will be funded entirely with Title I money from the Federal government. No local funds will be used to implement or support the project.

#### **PERSONNEL**

**ASSISTANT VOLLEYBALL COACH:** Motion made by Harris, seconded by Levy to accept the resignation of Lacy Kasap, OTHS Special Education Teacher, as an assistant volleyball coach. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Koban to accept the resignation of Ryan Gunderson, OTHS Business Education Teacher, as an assistant football coach. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASSISTANT SOFTBALL COACH:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Harris to accept the resignation of Eric Buscher, OTHS Physical Education Teacher, as an assistant softball coach. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASSISTANT GOLF COACH:** Motion made by Harris, seconded by Shanley to approve Ryan Gunderson as an assistant golf coach commencing with the 2017-18 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ENGLISH TEACHER:** Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Harris to approve the hire of Mrs. Krystal Johnson as an English Teacher commencing with the start of the 2017-18 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**SCIENCE TEACHER:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Koban to approve the hire of Mr. Gregory Hughes as a Science Teacher commencing with the start of the 2017-18 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**OSF AGREEMENT:** Motion made by Harris, seconded by Levy to approve the agreement with OSF Healthcare to assist in the delivery of athletic training services for a total cost of \$3,900 for the 2017-18 school year. On roll call the following members voted yea: Creedon, Duffy, Harris, Keely, Koban, and Levy. Shanley abstained due to possible conflict of interest. Motion carried.

**INTERQUEST CANINE CONTRACT:** Motion made by Levy, seconded by Shanley to approve the Interquest Detection Canine Contract for school year 2017-18 at \$345 per visit. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ABATE WORKING CASH TO EDUCATION FUND:** Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Harris to adopt the following resolution whereby Ottawa Township High School District 140 in LaSalle County, IL will abate \$2,400,000 from the Working Cash Fund to the Education Fund. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ABATE WORKING CASH TO OPERATION and MAINTENANCE FUND:** Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Shanley to adopt the following resolution whereby Ottawa Township High School District 140 in LaSalle County, IL will abate \$200,000 from the Working Cash Fund to the Operation and Maintenance Fund. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**TECHNOLOGY LEASE PURCHASE PROPOSALS:** Motion made by Koban, seconded by Shanley to seek proposals for technology equipment. On roll call the following members voted yea: Creedon, Duffy, Keely, Koban, Levy, and Shanley. Harris abstained due to possible conflict of interest. Motion carried.

**PRESS PLUS POLICY UPDATES - FIRST READ:** There are ten policies that are due for a first reading. These policies are 2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest, 3:70 Succession of Authority, 4:15 Identity Protection, 4:130-E Free and Reduced-Price Food Services; Meal Charge Notifications, 5:120 Ethics and Conduct, 5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline, 5:285 Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers, 5:300 Schedules and Employment Year, 6:70 Teaching About Religions, and 7:100 Health and Eye Examinations; Immunization; and Exclusion of Students. The policy committee met on Tuesday, April 18, 2017 and reviewed these policies. There is no action on this item as this is only a first reading.

**SCHOOL POLICES (First Reading):** There are four policies that are being recommended for revision by the District's School Improvement Team. These policies involve graduation recognition, the creation of a testing center, physical education classes being included in the grade point average of students and a revision to the final exam schedule. The policy committee met on Tuesday, April 18, 2017

and reviewed all of these proposed policies. There is no action on this item as this is only a first reading.

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' RESOLUTION:** Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Levy to adopt the resolution and recognize the secretarial/custodial/maintenance staff for Administrative Professionals' Day, on April 26, 2017. 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 7:11 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, negotiations, litigation, and student discipline – with any necessary action to be taken in open session. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

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

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

**STUDENT 2016-17-09:** Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Levy to approve the expulsion of student 2016-17-09 for the remainder of the 2016-17 and all of the 2017-18 school year with the Apex Online Learning system being made available to the student as a means of continuing to earn credits toward graduation. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**STUDENT 2016-17-10:** Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Koban to approve the placement of student 2016-17-10 at the ROE Safe School for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year and all of the 2017-18 school year. 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 7:49 p.m.

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**Donald Harris, President**

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**Patrick Leonard, Secretary**