

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
CHOIR ROOM
AUGUST 17, 2015
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Board President Timothy Creedon called to order the regular meeting of the Ottawa Township High School District 140 Board of Education at 6:30 p.m. on August 17, 2015. Members present: Timothy Creedon, Gene Duffy, Donald Harris, David Keely, Andree-Marie Koban, John Levy, and George Shanley.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Cushing, Patrick Leonard, Jeff DeWalt, Janet Pearson, Kelly Schmitt, OTHSEA representative Melissa Basil, media representatives: The Times newspapers, and WCMY radio.

BOARD MINUTES: Motion made by Koban, seconded by Shanley, to approve the minutes as submitted from the regular meeting on July 20, 2015, and the special meeting on August 12, 2015. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

BILLS/PAYROLL: Motion made by Harris, seconded by Duffy, to approve the district treasurer's report, financial statements, bills and payroll for July 2015. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/VISITORS: OTHSEA Melissa Basil – Thanked the administration for the breakfast that was provided on teacher institute day. Thanked Mr. Cushing and Mr. Leonard for their open communication.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: Our main summer construction projects, which consisted of restroom renovations on the 500 and 600 floors, uninvent and ceiling replacement on the 700 and 900 floors, floor replacement on the 400 floor and the replacement of the main entrance steps are complete. Work on the pool area will continue over the next few weeks and we are hopeful we will be able to use that space during the month of September. A special thank you Brad Johnson and OTHS Custodians, Kevin Anderson, Kevin Cavanaugh, Randy Greene, Owen Hampson, Candee Katrein, Martin MacDonald, Larry Martin, Mark Olson, Jerry Schott and Les Shepard for all of their work over the last two weeks in having the building ready for students tomorrow.

The Drive One 4 UR School Event will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2015.

Next month's Board meeting will be held on Monday, September 21, 2015. We will be meeting with and having a light dinner with the new faculty and staff members at 5:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

The Starved Rock Division of the Illinois Association of School Boards will be having their annual fall meeting on October 6, 2015.

PRINCIPAL: I would like to report that I received many positive comments about early registration and registration held on August 12. We had over 860 students take advantage of the early registration option. A special thank you to Janet Pearson and Cheri Pagakis for all of their work in the organization and implementation of the entire registration process. In addition to Cheri and Janet, I would also like to thank Linda Horsley, Cheryl Palmer, Kathy Stebing, Deb Niedzwecki, Rick Denk and Pat Myers in the technology department, the entire guidance department, and all the office staff for all of their work during registration, which took place on August 12, 2015.

We officially started the 2015-16 school year with a Teacher Institute today. All students will report tomorrow at 8:00AM and will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m. We will continue with 2:30 dismissals until Friday, August 28, 2015. Starting on Monday, August 31, 2015 we will begin our regular "A" schedule with 3:05 dismissals.

I would like to thank Mr. Matt Gross, OTHS Freshman Academy Coordinator, for all of his work in the organization and implementation of the Freshmen Open House, which took place last Thursday, August 13; and Freshman Orientation, which took place this afternoon from 1:15 to 3:15.

Also, as you are aware, we have multiple new staff members in the building. I would like to welcome the following staff members to the OTHS family: Karra Badakhshanian - English Teacher, Steven Bruck - Special Education Teacher, Juliana Dzurisin - CNA Instructor, Chad Gross - Physical Education Teacher, Ryan Gunderson - Business Education Teacher, Trisha Modeen - from CNA Instructor to School Nurse, Atlee Stalker - Physical Education Teacher, Brittany Terando – Paraprofessional.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: I would like to invite all of the OTHS school community, as well as parents and students of all of our feeder schools to an evening presentation with Cary Trivanovich on Tuesday, September 1st, at 7:00 PM in the OTHS auditorium. Cary is an expert on the topic of bullying and its prevention and has been touring schools for over 25 years. We will have High School and grade school presentations during the day, but would also like to have parents attend that evening as their input and assistance is of the utmost importance in the fight against bullying in our school and community.

CLOSED SESSION: None

PERSONNEL

DEAN OF STUDENTS: Motion made by Harris, seconded by Koban to hire Natasha West as Dean of Students for the 2015-16 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

CHOIR INSTRUCTOR: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Duffy to hire Spencer Rockford as Choir Teacher/Instructor for the 2015-16 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Harris to hire Lacey Kasap as Special Education teacher for the 2015-16 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PARAPROFESSIONAL: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Levy to hire Brittany Terando as a paraprofessional for the 2015-16 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET HEARING DATE AND TIME: To briefly summarize the 2015-2016 budget, total revenue is \$19 million, total expenditures are \$24 million, resulting in a deficit of \$5 million. For comparison purposes, revenue in the 2014-2015 budget was \$19.2 million, expenditures were \$24.2 million, resulting in a \$5 million deficit. All in all, 2015-2016 should be very familiar to 2014-2015.

- Property tax revenue increased \$117,000 (from \$12.6 million to \$12.7 million).
- Replacement tax increased \$30,000.
- General State Aid increased \$30,000.
- Title I grant revenue increased \$63,000.
- Athletic participation fees brought in \$60,000.
- Salaries are budgeted to increase \$200,000.
- There are 14 people in the retirement pipeline receiving 6% increases.
- Budgeted benefits decreased \$10,000. Blue Cross health insurance increased 3% (about \$50,000).
- The Ottawa Elementary transportation contract increased \$175,000.

During fiscal year ending 6/30/15, Working Cash and Life Safety bonds were issued for \$4.735 million and \$3.31 million.

A \$2.9 million transfer from the Working Cash fund to the Education fund was needed last year and is also budgeted for this year.

The tentative budget will be on display in the main office and posted on the OTHS website for the required 30 days.

That being said motion made by Koban, seconded by Harris to set September 21, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ottawa Township High School auditorium as the date, time, and location for the public hearing on the adoption of the 2015-2016 budget. The regular board meeting will follow. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY: Motion made by Levy, seconded by Shanley, to approve the Title I Parent Involvement Policy. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Board President Creedon adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

President

Secretary