

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
BOARD OF EDUCATION – AUDITORIUM
REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION
JUNE 16, 2014
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Board President Tim Creedon called to order the regular meeting of the Ottawa Township High School District 140 Board of Education at 6:30 p.m. on June 16, 2014. Members present: Tim Creedon, Gene Duffy, George Shanley, Don Harris, and Anita Kopko. Member(s) absent: Karen Fisher and Bill Byczynski.

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Winchester, Mike Cushing, Jeff DeWalt, Laura Bankowski, Brenda O'Donnell, Susan MacDonald, OTHSEA President Wendy Sheridan, media representatives from The Times and News Tribune newspapers and WCMY radio.

MINUTES: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Kopko to approve the minutes as submitted for the regular meeting on May 19, 2014, and the special meeting/ graduation on May 30, 2014. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS: Four individuals – Mr. Brewer, Mrs. Carus, Mr. Limberger, and Mr. Carus spoke on building trades program, school board and administration, and economic development in the area. Discussion was held regarding options for students interested in trades at SRAVTE in LaSalle or Indian Valley Vocational Center in Sandwich and contacting students that were interested in building trades. Teacher and coach Tim Burgess asked about further cuts and how many teachers at OTHS the cuts will impact. Board President Creedon explained to Mr. Burgess that the question was not in the scope of the present discussion. The suggestion was for Mr. Burgess to ask to be placed on the July meeting agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: As mentioned previously, we have an opportunity to provide some of our students a building trades class through the Area Career Center in LaSalle. This option has been available for a number of years but we chose to pursue it now due to our financial situation and our declining building trades enrollment. The ACC program for the upcoming school year will have students working on building and converting a house for the LP special needs transition program. They are also looking into an additional house to rehab and also work on shed projects as part of their program. The voiced concern of this option was that only 10 of our students could enroll. Fortunately, the Area Career Center

now has room for up to 15 of our students which would accommodate all of our building trades II students and a few building trades I students. In addition, we recently learned about another building trades class option as the Director of the Indian Valley Vocational Center in Sandwich recently met with Mrs. Bankowki and me. The Director indicated they could enroll up to 14 OTHS students for their building trades program. Students would be working in more of a commercial setting; building and completing the interior of a building addition at the IVVC site. Students would also be on-site with union tradesman working in a number of trades areas to provide an even more comprehensive experience. Considering the fact that most all area schools feed into Vocational Centers, I believe both of these options are very exciting for those students that wish to continue their education in the trades. These opportunities are cost effective options of allowing almost every student that expressed interest in taking building trades an opportunity to enroll in a building trades class this fall. We will continue to explore other cost effective options should they become available in the future. Mrs. Bankowski prepared an application and at this time I would like to contact OTHS students that have enrolled in building trades I and II to determine if they wish to enroll in either of these options for the fall semester.

Our summer construction is currently on schedule. The 700, 800, and 900 restroom demolition has been completed and asbestos abatement is ongoing and should be completed within the next two weeks. The lower level restrooms near the West Gym are nearing completion. The concession area restrooms plumbing rough in is completed and walls are re-blocked and floor and ceiling work are in progress. The cafeteria roof drain work has started and roofing work will follow. Barring no unforeseen circumstances, substantial completion is scheduled for August 5th.

We have the opportunity while construction crews are here to remove the steps and retaining wall leading to the boys athletic locker room entrance (where the football team enters and exits the locker area for games). Instead of exiting the locker by climbing stairs and then going back down stairs this would allow ground floor access and exit of this area for safety purposes. With your permission, I would like to proceed with this work this summer.

We are due for the maintenance of our three parking lot areas as it has been close to ten years since our last parking lot patching, crack filling, and striping work have been professionally completed. I will get you a cost estimate as we would like to proceed with the upkeep of our parking lots this summer.

PRINCIPAL: A final and very deserving congratulations to the members of the Class of 2014. I would like to thank them for all of their contributions while at OTHS and wish them all well in their future endeavors. Also, a special congratulations and recognition to our co-valedictorians of the Class of 2014, Quinn Kistenfeger and Madeline Goetz.

We will soon be submitting the District's School Report Card, End of the Year Report, and Discipline Report to ISBE. Also, we are currently in the process of exiting our students from the state system and compiling our graduation rate for the Class of 2014.

As of Monday, June 16, 2014 we have not yet received information from the IHSA about our enrollment classification for the 2014-15 school year. Please note that last school year we were one of the smallest 4A schools in the state in volleyball, boys basketball and girls basketball. We were also moved up from Class A to Class AA in music during the 2013-14 school year.

In early July OTHS students and their families will be receiving a letter about registering for the 2014-15 school year. Students wishing to complete the preregistration process should return all of their forms and fees by Thursday, July 31, 2014 in Room 201 during normal summer business hours.

Finally, our 2014 retirees are Mrs. Connie Wultzen, Payroll, and Mr. Kevin Cleary, Agriculture Teacher. I would like to wish both of our retirees the best of luck and thank them for their service to Ottawa Township High School.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Last week Brenda O'Donnell and I completed and submitted the English Language Learners grant. This is a yearly task and provides us the opportunity to access funds that are available through the State to assist and provide support to students whose secondary language is English.

The FY 2015 NCLB Consolidated Application is now available. The grant opened last week and we have begun working on it. This is the Title I & II grant and is very specific on how we use funds. In the past we have used funds to purchase reading and math interventions, for professional development, and for our reading specialist and aide. We will have the grant completed and ready for your approval at the July Board Meeting.

We are in week two of summer credit recovery. We have 24 students working to recover a total of 30 credits. Students may recover credit in English I, Algebra I, English III, and Contemporary Literature.

PERSONNEL

RESIGNATION(S): Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Duffy to accept the resignation from Special Needs secretary Trisha Cooper effective June 30, 2014. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to accept the resignation from Math teacher Dan Le as assistant boys basketball coach for the 2014-15 school year and seek permission to post the position. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PARAPROFESSIONAL(S): Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Harris to recall Paraprofessional Pollyanna Neumann for the 2014-15 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Harris to recall Paraprofessional Marie Smith for the 2014-15 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

CERTIFIED NURSE ASSISTANT(S): Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to hire Haley Marmion as a Special Needs CNA for the 2014-15 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Harris to hire Kendra Brenbarger as a Special Needs CNA for the 2014-15 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

GUIDANCE SECRETARY: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Shanley to grant permission to post the guidance secretary position for retiring Sandy Carlson in February 2015. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Shanley to grant permission to post the Chief Financial Officer and the Superintendent's Secretary positions with the retirement of Brenda O'Donnell and Susan MacDonald in December 2014. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ASSISTANT VOLLEYBALL COACHES: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Shanley to hire Rob Tyne and Meghan Wiesbrock as assistant volleyball coaches for the 2014-15 season. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to approve Special Needs teacher Heather Dorton as an assistant volleyball coach for the 2014-15 season. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

FALL VOLUNTEER COACHES: Motion made by Harris, seconded by Duffy to approve Fall Volunteer Coaches for the 2014-15 school year. Football – Pete Sutton, Adam Haase and Brad Wignes; Volleyball – Jami Thompson; Girls Tennis – Dan Le; and Boys Soccer – Sean Porter. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ADVERTISING: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Harris to hire Allan Treest as the Director of Community Outreach/Advertising independent contractor. Allan will earn 20% on the revenue generated from this position. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

SEEK PERMISSION FOR TWO REPLACEMENT VEHICLES: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Kopko to seek replacements for two vehicles based on mileage, depreciation

and warranty expiration. The vehicles are a 2007 Dodge Caravan and a 2007 Saturn Relay. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PREVAILING WAGE RESOLUTION: Motion made by Harris, seconded by Duffy to adopt the prevailing wage resolution ascertaining the prevailing wages of laborers, workmen, and mechanics when employed by the district. (June 2014) On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

PRESS PLUS POLICY UPDATES: FIRST READ – areas for review: Insurance Management, Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds, Safety, Convicted Child Sex Offender; Criminal Background Check and or Screen, Notifications, Duties and Qualification, Home and Hospital Instruction, Student Support Services

RESOLUTION FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND TRANSFER: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Shanley to adopt the resolution calling for the transfer of \$20,305 from the Capital Projects Fund to the Operation/Maintenance Fund. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

BOND UNDERWRITER/PLACEMENT AGENT: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Harris to name William Blair & Company, L.L.C. as the Bond Underwriter/Placement Agent relating to the preparation for the public offerings of one or more issues of bonds. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

IL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARD: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Harris to recommend and submit data information on behalf of Board Member Karen Fisher for IASB Office of President for a 2nd one year term. 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 7:21 p.m. to discuss 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 body to determine its validity - with no action to be taken. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried. (7:38 p.m.)

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Shanley to return to open session at 7:55 p.m. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion made by Kopko, seconded by Duffy to adjourn the meeting, Board President Creedon adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

President

Secretary

