

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BUDGET HEARING/REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2013 – 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 23, 2013. Members present: George Shanley, Karen Fisher, Tim Creedon, Gene Duffy, Don Harris, and Anita Kopko. Member absent: Bill Byczynski.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Matt Winchester, Mike Cushing, Laura Pastirik, Jeff DeWalt, OTHSEA President Wendy Sheridan, Darren Walter, Susan MacDonald, members of the media: The Times, News Tribune newspapers, and WCMY radio.

**BUDGET HEARING:** Board President Creedon opened the budget hearing at 6:31 p.m. with comments from Matt Winchester. Discussion was held on the changes to the 2013-14 budget. The budget for 2013-14 has been prepared with a few minor and one very large change from last month's tentative budget. We were recently notified that OSF St. Elizabeth and the south side St. Mary's medical center meet the qualifications for property tax exemption and their parcels are no longer part of our tax base. This results in a total revenue reduction of \$227,010.47 from our distribution and this reduction is included as part of the 2013-14 budget. Operating Funds (Ed, O&M, Transportation, and Working Cash) indicate revenues of \$15,129,095 and expenditures of \$17,949,495. As indicated in the past, we continue to hold the line on expenses, but declines in revenue make it very difficult to catch up. The budget indicates a transfer of \$2.8 million in working cash to cover the deficit which leaves us with an estimated working cash fund balance of \$2,924,331 as the end of the fiscal year.

**BUDGET HEARING CLOSED AT 6:34 p.m. – no discussion from public**

**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 19, 2013 as submitted. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**BILLS/PAYROLL:** Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Shanley to approve the district treasurer's report, financial statements, bills and payroll for August 2013. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT:** The OTHS Educational Foundation is working in conjunction with our landscape design class to maintain the courtyard landscaping. A courtyard clean-up was held last spring and students continue to assist with plantings and upkeep this fall. I thank the Foundation and students for their participation.

Our Special Needs Transition students have been utilizing the transition house for several days. They are still in the process of stocking household items and would welcome donations. Faculty and staff have donated a number of items already. Teacher Kate McIntyre indicated kitchenware items would be greatly appreciated.

I will be meeting this week with the Regional Office of Education in preparation for their compliance visit 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.

Congratulations to Science Division Chair Bryan Leonard as several of last year's OTHS Chem Club students are featured (on the cover, during May, and July) as part of the American Chemical Society 2013-14 calendar. Students from the OTHS club are featured in photos presenting to elementary students in Ottawa.

**PRINCIPAL:** Current enrollment as of Monday, September 16, 2013 was 1455.

The AYP status report was received in August and was calculated based on approved assessment data submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education. Our PSAE scores demonstrated that 54.4 % of students tested met and/or exceeded state standards in Reading and 48.8% of students met and/or exceeded in Mathematics. In order to meet the AYP target, 92.5% of the students tested must have met and/or exceeded state standards. Since 2003 the AYP target has increased 7.5% each year until 100% of students are required to be meeting and/or exceeding in 2014. Even though we did not make AYP this year, I believe it is important to note that the test groups are different each year, but we are making progress and moving in the right direction. OTHS will continue our school improvement efforts to provide our students with the best possible opportunities to succeed. The Composite ACT Score for the Class of 2013 was 19.6, which is consistent with our ten year average of 19.84.

Homecoming activities will take place September 23 – September 28, 2013. On Friday, September 27, 2013 we will host Sycamore High School in football and the homecoming dance will be held in Kingman Gym from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 28, 2013.

On Thursday, October 10, 2013 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 11, 2013 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 4UR School event and also for painting the pirate on Main Street.

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:** Last Tuesday I had the opportunity to attend the meeting of the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Economic Development Task Force meeting and discuss with members of that committee the Freshman Career Day that is being planned for October 23<sup>rd</sup>. I would like to thank the Chamber for having me, for the input provided by a number of members present and for their enthusiasm in offering assistance with planning as we move forward.

On September 12<sup>th</sup> the guidance counselors, school social worker, school psychologist and I met with Carolyn Hadley, President of Hope for All. Hope for All is a non-profit organization that is new to Ottawa and is offering a variety of supports to citizens who are having financial difficulties and/or health issues. The meeting was productive on a number of fronts, as we learned not only about the programs Hope for All has available to our students and their families in need, but also that they would like to hire students who have completed OTHS's Certified Nursing Assistant program to work for them and have opportunities for our students needing to complete community service hours.

### **PERSONNEL**

**PART-TIME CUSTODIAN(S):** Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Fisher to hire Angela Ross and David Kennedy from Ottawa as part-time custodians for 20 hours per week on school days. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**CUSTODIAL HELPERS:** Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Harris to hire Bryon Long from Grand Ridge, Rodney Spence from Ottawa and Greg Matas from Streator as custodial helpers for 15 hours per week on school days. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASSISTANT GIRLS BASKETBALL COACH:** Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Duffy to hire Special Needs teacher Sean Porter as assistant girls basketball coach for the 2013-14 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASSISTANT BOYS BASKETBALL COACH:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Harris to hire Media Specialist Dan Heaver as assistant boys basketball coach for the 2013-14 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASSISTANT BASEBALL COACH:** Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Duffy to hire P.E./Driver Ed teacher Ryan Voitik as baseball assistant coach for the 2013-14 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASSISTANT BOWLING COACH:** Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Fisher to hire Kathryn Long as assistant bowling coach for the 2013-14 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**WINTER ASSISTANT COACHES:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to approve the following assistant winter coaches for the 2013-14 school year: boys basketball – Brent Moore, Dave Wultzen, Dan Heaver and Dan Le; girls basketball – Pete Armstrong, Luke Windy, Jeff Davis, and Sean Porter; boys swim – Janna Greanias; wrestling – Steve Doerrer and

Kevin Aughenbaugh; bowling – Kathryn Long. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**ASSISTANT SPEECH COACH:** Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Harris to hire Consumer Family Science teacher Kara Wolff as assistant speech coach for the 2013-14 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT ACCOMPANIST:** Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Kopko to hire Camille Galvan as the accompanist to the music department at \$13/hour for less than 10 hours weekly. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**ADOPT BUDGET 2013-14:** Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Harris to adopt the budget as presented for 2013-14 for \$24,131,223. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**ISBE RECOGNITION APPLICATION:** Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to grant permission to file the 2013-14 application for recognition with IL State Board of Education when the website becomes available. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**FLU CLINIC:** Motion made by Fisher seconded by Kopko 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. The clinic will be held at the Health Department located on Etna Road. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

### **POLICY UPDATES – First Read**

**NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND RISING STAR REPORT:** Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Harris to authorize Principal Mike Cushing to submit the School Improvement Plan with the IL State Board of Education. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Harris to enter into closed session at 6:58 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 and negotiations, with possible action to be taken. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried. Media recess ended at 7:15 p.m.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:** Board President Creedon returned the board to open session with a strike of the gavel at 8:24 p.m.

**NOTICE OF REMEDY:** Motion made by Harris, seconded by Fisher for the OTHS Board of Education to issue a “Notice of Remedy” to employee 2013-14-01. On roll call the following voted yes – Harris, Fisher, Creedon and Shanley. Duffy and Kopko voted no.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the motion was made by Shanley, seconded by Kopko to adjourn the meeting. Board President Timothy Creedon III adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

---

**President**

---

**Secretary**