

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION
MARCH 16, 2015
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 March 16, 2015. Members present: Tim Creedon, Bill Byczynski, Gene Duffy, Karen Fisher, Don Harris, Anita Kopko, and George Shanley.

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Winchester, Mike Cushing, Jeff DeWalt, Janet Pearson, Kelly Schmitt, representatives from the media: WCMY radio and The Times newspapers.

MINUTES: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Fisher to accept and approve the minutes for the regular meeting on February 23, 2015 and the special meeting on March 11, 2015 as submitted. On roll call all members present vote yea. Motion carried.

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS: NONE

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: On Saturday, February 28th, during the cold streak, Scott Clinch received an alarm call and discovered we had a water line burst in the outside concession stand storage area. Maintenance repaired, insulated, and applied heat trace to the line to prevent future freezing. The water damaged the King Field sound system. We are in the process of getting an estimate from Pentegra Sound Systems to replace the equipment. This will be turned in to insurance.

We also had some minor drain back up in the girls athletic and locker areas on March 6th. Maintenance discovered and repaired a faulty float switch of the sump pump that covers those areas. The maintenance crew will work on installing alarms on our sump pumps to provide protection against backups.

On March 9th, maintenance discovered a frozen roof drain pipe on the outside of the Manual Arts Building. The water back up on the roof caused pressure on the roof drains, which in turn caused leaks in four classrooms and a few areas of the hallway. The maintenance crew was able to dislodge the ice from the line and drain the water from the line and roof. Several ceiling tiles were damaged and one computer keyboard was damaged due to the water.

Duffy recommended looking into shut off valves in this area.

John's Service and Sale finally has the walk-in freezer repaired in the kitchen. Several sensors had to be replaced and the long-term prognosis is good.

On March 25th, 26th, and 27th, OTHS will hold its annual Fine Arts Festival. The festival will conclude with the Finest of the Fine Arts on Friday, March 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

Congratulations to the following OTHS Educational Foundation Grant Award Recipients. Grants totaling \$12,661.08 were awarded. Thank you to the OTHS Educational Foundation for this grant program and the support given to our students, teachers, and school.

Ashley Bansberg- Building Social, Emotional Learning Competencies
Kate McIntyre- Special Education Transition Class Business
Brad Johnson/Randy Greene- Wireless Microphone Systems for Auditorium
Kristy Winchester- TI-83 Plus Graphing Calculators
Sally Taliani/Paula Carroll- Motivational Speaker for the Fine Arts Festival
David Smith- Digital Architecture- Electrical Engineering/Computer Science Lab
Kim Swords- North Central Behavioral Health Systems speaker
Paula Carroll/Kevin Olesen- Griplock Art Display System

The annual Regional Office of Education Excellence in Education banquet will be held at Celebrations on Thursday, May 7th, social at 5:30 p.m. (dinner at 6:00). Please contact Kelly by April 8th if you would like to attend. Tickets are \$21 each.

Category # 1 - Educator Award (Certified only--Teachers and/or Administrators)

Brent Moore David Rhoads
Natasha West Sue Williamson

Category #2 - Support Staff Award (Non-certified only--Secretary, Custodian, etc.)

Scott Clinch

Category #3 - Retiring Educator (+20 years of service)

Heather Reardon Sue Staus

Category #4 - Retiring Support Staff (+20 years of service)

Sandy Carlson Susan MacDonald
Brenda O'Donnell

Category #5 - Board Service (+12 years of service)

None (All of our Board members with 12+ years of service have been previously honored)

Update on State Funding

The state currently owes the OTHS district \$2,172.43

PRINCIPAL: Current enrollment as of March 16, 2015 is 1,360.

The third nine weeks of the 2014-15 school year ended on Friday, March 6, 2015.

On Friday, March 6, 2015 OTHS students competed at Joliet Junior College in the 38th Annual Illinois Drafting Educators Association (IDEA) Regional Drafting – Design Competition. For the 3rd year in a row OTHS won the competition and will send seven students to the state championships at ISU on April 11, 2015. The medal winners from OTHS were Duncan Hon, Ethan Mautino, Tim Ferguson, Schuyler Parks, John Girka, Chandler Armstrong, Nick Coglianese and Gavin McGettigan.

On Saturday, March 7, 2015 the NIB 12 Art Conference was held at Sterling High School. The Art Fest invites all schools from the conference to bring 10 of their best pieces. OTHS earned first place overall and the following OTHS students received ribbons for their work: 1st place winners: Abby Jordon, Alayna Byczynski, Kaitlin Power, Moira Hyatt and Katie Varland. 2nd place winners: Kiersten Gromm, Austin Beyer and Megan Pentecost.

Approximately 185 students from the OTHS music department participated in the IHSA's Solo & Ensemble contest on Saturday, March 7, 2015. OTHS students earned a total of 714 points and the competition will

continue on April 18, 2015 at Clifton Central High School. Ottawa Township High School music students are seeking to win their 19th consecutive state title and 20th overall.

We began PARCC testing on March 9, 2015 for all Algebra 2 students and this week we conclude the performance based assessments of PARCC by assessing all students in English 3 classes. I would like to thank Mr. Rick Denk, OTHS Technology Director and Mr. Pat Myers, OTHS Technology Assistant, for all of their work in the organization and implementation of the PARCC testing.

The National Honor Society will hold its induction ceremony on Thursday, March 19, 2015. Congratulations to the 99 students who will be inducted and a big thank you to NHS sponsor, Mrs. Lisa Kerestes, for all of her work in the organization of the upcoming induction ceremony.

On March 25, 26 and 27, 2015 OTHS will hold its annual Fine Arts Festival. The festival will conclude with the Finest of the Fine Arts on Friday, March 27 at 7:00 in the OTHS auditorium.

All students will be dismissed at 2:30 on Friday, March 27, 2015. Spring Break will take place from March 30 – April 6, 2015.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: The Save A Life Tour, a nationally recognized safe driving program will be at OTHS on March 25th. Students will attend an assembly 1st hour with a speaker and multi-media presentation. Throughout the rest of the day students will have the opportunity to “drive” in distracted driving and impaired driving simulators, and also be exposed to additional safe driving presentations. The Save A Life Tour has been presented at over 1500 colleges, 600 high schools and nearly 200 military installations.

Best of luck to the Superfan Club and Mr. Le this weekend at the IHSA Class 3A-4A Championship in Peoria. The Superfans are a finalist in the IHSA’s “Best Fans” Contest, the winner of which will be announced on Saturday.

PERSONNEL

RETIREMENT: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Fisher to approve the intent to retire from Cheri Pagakis, effective at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to approve the intent to retire from Deb Niedzwecki, effective at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

AWARD TENURE: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Harris to award tenure to the following teachers: Director of Special Needs – Dawn Roalson; Science – Angela Priestly; English – Chelsea Kuhel. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

MATERNITY LEAVE EXTENSION: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Kopko to approve the maternity leave extension of Katie Riordan, returning on May 26, 2015. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

VOLUNTEER COACHES: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Fisher to approve Randy Bretag as volunteer baseball coach and Aaron Guenther as volunteer boys’ tennis coach. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

IHSA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Motion made by Harris, seconded by Byczynski to renew our membership with the Illinois High School Association for the 2015-2016 school term. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

SUMMER CUSTODIAL WORKERS: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Fisher to approve the hiring of six part time summer custodial workers (20 hours per week) starting June 1st through August 14th. Three of these positions would be offered to our current part time custodians and custodial helpers. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – CAFETERIA SERVICE: Motion was made by Duffy, seconded by Byczynski to seek proposals from foodservice providers for our cafeteria service for the 2015-2016 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: Motion made by the President Creedon, seconded by Kopko to enter in to closed session at 6:48 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, and negotiations. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Board President Timothy J. Creedon III returned the Board to open session at 7:13 p.m. 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 7:14 p.m.

President

Secretary