

**OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL #140
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING/CLOSED SESSION
ROOM 202 – BOARD ROOM
OCTOBER 28, 2013
6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Board President Timothy J. Creedon III called to order the regular meeting of the Ottawa Township High School District 140 Board of Education at 6:30 p.m. on October 28, 2013. Members present: Karen Fisher, Gene Duffy, Bill Byczynski, George Shanley, Don Harris, Timothy Creedon, and Anita Kopko.

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Winchester, Mike Cushing, Laura Pastirik-Bankowski, Jeff DeWalt, OTHSEA President Wendy Sheridan, members of the media: Times, News Tribune newspapers, and WCMY radio.

MINUTES: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Duffy to approve the minutes from the budget hearing and the regular meeting on September 23, 2013 as presented. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS: Duane Lockas from Roenfeldt & Lockas presented the 2012-13 audit report.

CLOSED SESSION: Motion made by Creedon, seconded by Shanley to enter into closed session at 6:59 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 its validity; student discipline matter; and negotiations update; with possible action to be taken.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Creedon to return to open session at 7:35 p.m. Members present: Karen Fisher, Gene Duffy, Bill Byczynski, George Shanley, Don Harris, Timothy Creedon, and Anita Kopko.

DENY GRIEVANCE: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Byczynski to deny the grievance filed by SEIU Local 73 on behalf of employee Christine Mathes and directs the school attorney to notify the grievant and the SEIU Local 73 union of the Board of Education decision. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: Our compliance and Health/Life-Safety building check with the Regional Office of Education will be held this week. There is a forty-six page

compliance document that is reviewed during the two day visit. We will receive a report indicating compliance areas and also identify any areas that need addressed.

I would like to thank Mrs. Bankowski, Mr. Dewalt, Mr. Gross, and Mrs. Swords for the excellent work they did in preparing for and organizing “Career Day” for our Freshman Academy students. We had over fifty guest presenters from various occupations present to our students. I know Laura and Jeff will be speaking about this during their report but I wanted to thank them for bringing the business community into OTHS to provide opportunities for our students to learn about a wide variety of careers.

The OTHS Hall of Fame decade committees forwarded their nominees to the selection committee as part of the 2014 Hall of Fame inductee selection process. The selection committee will be meeting this week to choose this school year’s award recipients. The OTHS Educational Foundation Hall of Fame banquet and induction ceremony will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2014.

Last week was Principal’s Appreciation Week and this past Friday was Principal Appreciation Day. I would like to mention the proclamation from Governor Quinn recognizing the work principals do each and every day for our students. Thank you to our administrative staff for the work they do.

As of September 30th, the State owes OTHS \$262,199.55

PRINCIPAL: The fall housing enrollment data submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education on October 17, 2013 reflected an enrollment of 1,442 students. I would estimate that our official IHSA enrollment will be around 1,400 for the 2014-15 school year.

The end of the 1st nine weeks of the 2013-14 school year was Friday, October 18, 2013.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are taking place tonight and also on Wednesday, October 30, 2013 from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. We operated on a “C” schedule today and also on Wednesday.

On October 9, 2013 we were notified that OTHS Science Teacher, Mr. Bryan Leonard, has been selected to receive a Division of Chemical Education Travel Award to participate and present a paper at the 23rd Biennial Conference on Chemical Education.

Congratulations to National Merit Scholar Commended Students Kyle Durango and Madeline Goetz, National Achievement Scholarship Program Semifinalist Miah Edwards-Froisland, and National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalist Nathanael Nelson. Miah will be notified in January 2014 if she is selected as a finalist for the National Achievement Scholarship Program and Nathanael will be notified in February 2014 if he is selected as a finalist for the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Congratulations to the OTHS Girls Tennis Team and Coach Steve Johnson for winning the sectional and for advancing to the state tournament, which was held last Thursday and Friday. The doubles team Mariah Cavanaugh and Bailey Bradish and singles player Molly Angell represented OTHS.

SES Provider Information for the 2013-14 School Year

Over 90 providers were contacted to provide Supplemental Educational Services to the students at Ottawa Township High School for 2013-14 school year.

Of those providers contacted, thirty-one agreed to provide SES and those thirty-one were included in a parent selection letter that went home to the parents/guardians of students receiving free or reduced lunch in September.

As of the September 30, 2013 due date we received twenty-two responses back from parents/guardians and have narrowed our SES providers down to three. These are Babbage Net School (Pompano Beach, FL), 24 Hour Tutoring (Niles, IL), and the Sylvan Learning Center (Peru, IL). Babbage Net School and 24 Hour Tutoring provide Internet based educational services while Sylvan only offers onsite services for students.

Our per pupil allotment for the 2013-14 school year is \$879.40 per student.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS: OTHS' first Freshman Career Day took place on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 23rd. 54 professionals with careers ranging from the trades to medicine, education to agriculture, and many in between shared details of their education and occupations with our students. Speakers were assigned to one of twenty panels, based upon the career cluster their profession falls into. Examples of panels available to students were:

- Carpenter and electrician
- Doctor, dentist and optometrist
- Graphic and webpage designers
- Civil Engineer and architect
- Newspaper and radio journalists

Students' first step toward participating in Career Day was the completion of a career interest inventory in September. Results of the inventory suggested to students the career clusters best suited to each of them. This information was then used by students to sign up for the appropriate panels. Finally, students will help us determine the success of Career Day by completing a survey this week. The feedback that we have received informally from presenters, teachers, and students has been overwhelmingly positive, and we're confident the data will support this.

Thank you to all of our professionals for taking time out of their schedules to support our students, to the teachers who supervised rooms during Career Day and to Mrs. Bankowski, Mr. Gross, and Mrs. Swords for their assistance in making it happen.

October 18 we had 43 students take the PSAT. This test is an evaluation tool in Reading Skills, Math Problem Solving, and Writing. October 23, freshmen took the EXPLORE test and on October 24, sophomores took the PLAN test. On November 2, 2013 the 8th graders

will take the EXPLORE Placement test. This test helps with placement and extra if needed for students in reading and math as an incoming freshman.

PERSONNEL

RETIREMENT: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Fisher to approve the retirement request for Career/Technical Ed teacher Ed Frankenberger effective at the end of the 2017-18 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

WINTER VOLUNTEERS COACHES: Motion made by Shanley, seconded by Harris to approve winter volunteers – boys basketball - Bret Lockas, Ryan Gunderson and Brent Anderson; wrestling - Mark Gretzinger for the 2013-14 season. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

EXTENDED MATERNITY LEAVE: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Duffy to grant a two week extension to the current maternity leave for Special Needs teacher, Holly Hall. Mrs. Hall will return on December 13, 2013. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

MATERNITY LEAVE: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Kopko to approve a ten week maternity leave request for Special Needs teacher Sarah Heuser from January 25, 2014 (approximate). On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRESS PLUS POLICY UPDATES: Motion made by Byczynski, seconded by Kopko to adopt the Press Plus Policy updates in the following categories: Ethics/Gift Ban, Board Member Development, Fund Balances, Workplace Harassment Prohibited, Education of Children with Disabilities, Misconduct by Students with Disabilities, and Student Records. The following are existing policies that are due for a five year review: Board Member Code of Conduct, Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Services, Educational Philosophy and Objectives, Organization of Instruction, Library Media Program, Student/Family Privacy Rights, Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer, Expulsion Procedures, and Student Use of Buildings-Equal Access. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

SES PROVIDERS: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Harris to approve the following Supplemental Education Services (SES) providers for the 2013-14 school year: Babbage Net School (Pompano Beach, FL), 24 Hour Tutoring (Niles, IL), and Sylvan Learning Center (Peru, IL). Our per student allotment for the 2013-14 school year is \$879.40. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

STATE LIBRARY GRANT APPLICATION: Media specialist Dan Heaver spoke on ebooks advantages. Dan feels that our library rating has improved from basic to proficient. Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Kopko to approve the IL Secretary of State Library Grant application/evaluation for submission. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

CAFETERIA ROOF BID: Motion made by Duffy, seconded by Shanley, to seek cafeteria roof bids for Life Safety summer 2014 work. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

MOWER/SPRAYER: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Creedon to seek permission to sell a nine year old Grasshopper 721D mower for parts and a 200 gallon truck mount levee sprayer. The money from the sale of these two items will be used toward a new snow thrower. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT: Motion made by Kopko, seconded by Byczynski to grant permission to seek and apply for a matching Energy Efficiency Grant up to \$250,000 with the state. We will replace the lighting in Love Gym with LED lighting, and install a instantaneous hot water heater for the cafeteria. Estimated lighting cost in Love Gym \$39,000 and the water heater for the cafeteria \$30,000. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

MAINTENANCE GRANT: Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Shanley, to grant permission to seek and apply for a matching Maintenance Grant up to \$50,000 with the state for the 2013-14 school year. On roll call all members present voted yea. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion made by Duffy, seconded by Kopko to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. All members present voted yea. Motion carried.

President

Secretary