

OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2019
Report 19-12

President Jenc called the Board of Education Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 5:28 pm. The meeting was held at the Washington Campus, 645 Alger Street, Owosso, MI 48867.

Present: Tim Jenc, Ty Krauss, Rick Mowen, Shelly Ochodnicki, Olga Quick
Absent: Sara Keyes, Marlene Webster

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Participation

President Jenc stated that the Board of Education is a public body and recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues. Time has been included in the meeting's agenda for public participation. Members of the audience were reminded that they should announce their name and group affiliation when applicable and to limit their participation time to three minutes or less. Comments should be directed to the Board and be relevant to the business of the Board of Education. This is not an opportunity for dialogue with the Board of Education. The rules of common courtesy should also be observed.

There were no comments from the public.

Budget Update

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle provided the Board with an update on the preliminary and unaudited general fund for the period ending on June 30, 2019. She explained that the District only spent 98% of its total revenue and expenditures came in better than expected as well. As of June 30, 2019 the actual fund balance was \$4,381,568.87 with a variance of \$660,228.60 over the amount that was estimated. This leaves a 14.33% fund balance based on the preliminary/unaudited 2018-19 expenses. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reminded the Board that the District is still anticipating to be down 75 students for the 2019-20 school year. She also stated that the District has tried to keep the budget on track over the past few years by not filling a lot of positions when staff members leave.

Staffing

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle informed the Board about recent teacher resignations. She explained that special education teachers are in very high demand. The high school needs to fill a special education and family consumer science teaching position before the start of school.

Back to School Events

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reminded the Board that professional development will be held on August 28 at the Stone House Farm in Bancroft. She welcomed the Board to join OPS staff for an activity during one of the two sessions (8 – 11 am or 12 – 3 pm). Superintendent Dr. Tuttle also shared a document that contained information on back to school events. The upcoming events include the following:

August 13-14: Lincoln High School Registration, 9 am-2 pm

August 20: OHS Fall Sports Parent Night, 6 pm

August 21: OHS Trojan Days, 8-11 am, 12-3 pm and 4-6 pm

August 21: Elementary New Construction Open Houses 4-6 pm

- Bryant Elementary New Construction Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 4-4:15 pm
- Central Elementary New Construction Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 4:45-5 pm
- Emerson Elementary New Construction Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 5:30-5:45 pm

August 21: Community Cookout (formerly known as the Community Pep Rally) at Willman Field, 6:30-8 pm

August 27: OHS Open House and Trojan Days Make-up Date, 4-6 pm
August 27: Bentley Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center Open House, 5-7 pm
August 28: Owosso Middle School Open House, 4-6 pm
August 28: Bryant Elementary Open House, 5-7 pm
August 28: Central Elementary Open House, 5-7 pm
August 28: Emerson Elementary Open House, 5-7 pm
September 3: First Full Day of School
September 3: Tuition Preschool and Early Childhood Special Education classes at Bentley Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center begin
September 9: Great Start Readiness Program Full Day & Half Day Preschool First Day of School at Bentley Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center
September 11: Lincoln High School Open House, 5-7 pm

New Classes

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks reported that Medical Interventions (3rd segment) is a new course that will be taught at Owosso High School by Mr. Alan Dorman. The middle school will also begin piloting Trojan Time, which is similar to a smart hour. A total of four minutes is being pulled from each class period to allow for the Trojan Time class. Mr. Brooks stated that Trojan Time will be an opportunity for teachers to share their expectations of students, Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS), the 15 emotional systems that have been developed by teachers, and homework help if needed. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle explained that the middle school will return to a regular schedule if Trojan Time does not prove to be beneficial to students. If Trojan Time is successful, the high school may consider implementing it as well.

Keyless Entry

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle announced that the security grant and bond has provided resources to allow staff members access into their buildings using a key card entry system. All staff will be provided with a key card that they must scan in order to gain access into their building. The new system will dictate who has access to buildings and the timeframes that access is allowed. The key cards will also be used to release jobs on the new copiers. In addition, the intercoms and camera systems have been updated at all buildings.

Liaison Officer Interviews

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle informed the Board that Liaison Officer interviews will be held on August 15. Owosso Police Chief Kevin Lenkart and Lieutenant Eric Cherry are working on scheduling the candidate interviews.

Trojan Times Contract

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle and the Board discussed the Trojan Times 2019-20 school year contract.

Foundation

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle explained that the OPS Foundation has implemented a nomination procedure for recognizing a teacher of the year and support staff of the year beginning with the 2019-20 school year. Documents containing information about the selection process and guidelines was shared with the Board. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that the recipients will be announced in March 2020 during her State of the District address. The recipients will be formally announced at the April 27, 2020 Board meeting. The OPS Foundation will also sponsor "Welcome Back" mini grants for OPS staff members. Information detailing the purpose, criteria, expectations, and timeline for the mini grants was shared with the Board.

Bond Projects

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reported that the bond project is progressing. She stated that she should know where we are at with value engineering by the end of August. Kingscott has stated that they are still working on the value engineering drawings. A list of everything related to the bond and on the docket to be completed this summer was requested by Superintendent Dr. Tuttle.

Sinking Fund Update

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle announced that the Middleton Road access and elementary abatement sinking fund projects are going very well. A list of all the contractors that are on site will be included in the August 16th Friday Letter. A PowerPoint showing the bond's progress will be shared with staff during opening days.

Staffing

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle informed the Board that an emergency certification will be requested for Rebecca Gillett who will fill in for Trudy Schneider after her recent resignation.

The Health Department, under the direction of Mr. Larry Johnson, has graciously afforded Lincoln High School a part time nurse for the past two years at no cost to the District. Mr. Johnson informed Dr. Tuttle that because of lack of funding, they were no longer able to do this unless the District could share in the cost. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that the District will contribute \$6,500 to the nurse's salary and Mr. Johnson was therefore able to continue this program for us. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that she thinks this is a very valuable program for all students, but especially for our Lincoln students.

New Teacher Orientation

The Board was reminded that they are invited to join new teachers for breakfast on August 20 from 8-9 am in the middle school media center.

Community Pep Rally

A community cookout (formerly known as the Community Pep Rally) will take place on August 21 at Willman Field beginning at 6:30 pm. The Board was encouraged to participate in this event.

Opening Days

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks provided information on the August 28 and 29 professional development. He explained that all buildings will hold school improvement meetings on August 28. In addition to an activity with Dr. Tuttle at Stone House Farm. On August 29 elementary staff will rotate between writing, math, and International Baccalaureate unit design sessions. A team of middle school teacher developed student expectations and 15 lessons on social emotional behaviors over the summer that will be presented to students during Trojan Time. The middle school's professional development will include Illuminate instruction, Trojan Time Social Emotional, and positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS) strategies. Professional development at the high school and Lincoln Alternative High School will include social emotional training and school improvement PBIS strategies.

Mr. Brooks informed the Board that all support staff have been invited to attend the opening days' professional development and work on completing their required Safe Schools training.

IB Learner Profile

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle commented that Owosso Public Schools is an International Baccalaureate school and everything we do focuses on the IB Learner Profile.

Post Labor Day Start for Next Year

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that a waiver must be requested for a post labor day start of school. This has already been submitted to the SRESB for the 2020-21 school year.

Committee of the Whole and Board Meetings

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reminded the Board that all Board and Committee of the Whole meetings will be held in the Washington Campus until further notice.

Comments

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle informed the Board that she has been working with Mr. Tom Mynsberge of Critical Incident Management on providing staff with a refresher course on the differences between a lock down and secure mode.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that on Monday, August 19 from 1:30-3:30 pm in the OMS auditorium Mr. Kevin Huneycutt will present on mental health issues. The SRESB has invited all OPS employees to attend Mr. Huneycutt's presentation. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle commented that the administrative team plans to attend this event that is optional for staff.

President Tim Jenc remarked that he listened to Dallas Lintner's talk show interview on WOAP of Owosso with Hondo Carpenter of Spartan Nation Radio. He praised Mr. Lintner on his outstanding representation of Owosso Public Schools.

Adjournment

Moved by Krauss, supported by Mowen to adjourn at 6:33 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Clara Pitt

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Ochodnicki, Secretary