

OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Minutes
Regular Meeting
December 14, 2022
Report 22-68

Present: Adam Easlick, Sara Keyes, Ty Krauss, Rick Mowen, Shelly Ochodnicki, Marlene Webster, Olga Quick

Absent:

President Rick Mowen called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Washington Campus Gymnasium, 645 Alger Street, Owosso MI 48867.

Pledge of Allegiance

Building Reports

CFO Julie Omer recognized the retirement of Human Resources Director Bev White. CFO Omer sincerely thanked Ms. White for her 19 years of service to the district and said her expertise, knowledge, and dedication to Owosso schools will be sorely missed by the OPS staff. CFO Omer wished Ms. White a restful retirement and joyful time with her children and grandchildren.

For the Celebrate Kids demonstration, Owosso High School counselor Mr. Jerry Ciarlino gave a short presentation on the mentor program he created. 25 high school students volunteer to work with three to four younger students on a daily basis, to role-model Trojan spirit and provide guidance on classwork and friendships. The program has been a big hit among the students and administration has received great feedback from those involved. Mr. Ciarlino said both the mentor and the mentee benefit from these interactions. The mentor program will continue to evolve as more students join in.

Student Representative Alayna Scriptor reported to the Board that the high school holiday choir concert is tonight at 7:00pm. Ms. Scriptor said the student government has been focused on the canned food drive the last couple of weeks; the drive will end this coming Friday. She said the seniors have taken the lead with 500 points. Ms. Scriptor ended her report by saying the students are looking forward to the upcoming winter break.

Board Correspondence

Dr. Tuttle reported the holiday performance season is in full swing. The middle school holiday choir concert was last night at the Performing Arts Center. She said she is proud of how hard the students prepare and practice for their concerts, and their preparation is evident in how well the students perform. The high school choir students will be giving their holiday performance tonight in the PAC as well. Dr. Tuttle said the Senior Citizen Holiday Breakfast took place on December 9. The seniors sat in the PAC and watched performances by the OHS Symphony Band, the OHS Madrigals, and the OHS Jazz Band. Each senior received a stocking full of sweet

and savory treats and an Owosso sticker. Dr. Tuttle gave kudos to the fine arts department's Mrs. Kowalczyk, Mr. Sterk, and Mr. Tolrud for the outstanding student shows. On November 30, Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) gave a presentation to parents and students; the presentation consisted of several emotional testimonials from people whose families have been negatively impacted by drug and alcohol addiction. She thanked the community for attending the presentation. Regarding athletics, Dr. Tuttle reported both girls' and boys' varsity basketball athletes competed at the Little Caesars Arena over the weekend. Dr. Tuttle also congratulated student athlete Kendall Ihm for being named Volleyball Player of the Year by the Argus Press. Kendall will be playing volleyball for Saginaw State University after she graduates high school. Dr. Tuttle also gave kudos to Mr. Chris Bird and his work with the Builder's Club. She is very impressed with his leadership and the community projects the students have been taking on. Dr. Tuttle gave an update on academia. On December 3, approximately 160 students from around the county took the SAT at the secondary campus for the Cook Family Foundation Shiawassee Scholarship. 40% of the students who tested were from Owosso. January 16 is a district wide professional development day and the State of the District address where Dr. Tuttle will announce the teacher and support-staff Member of the Year. Dr. Tuttle ended her report by saying the Owosso virtual program continues to do well and she thanked Lincoln High School Principal Carrie Rugenstein for keeping the program running smoothly.

Public Participation

President Mowen stated that the Board of Education is a public body and recognizes the value of public comment on education issues. Time has been included in the meeting's agenda for public participation. Members of the audience were reminded 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.

No public participants addressed the board.

For Action

- Moved by Webster, supported by Easlick, to approve the November 16, 2022 regular meeting minutes, the November 16, 2022 closed session minutes, and the current bills and financials as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Krauss to authorize the Owosso Public School's Maintenance department to dispose of a truck that can no longer meet the operational needs of the district. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Krauss, supported by Quick to adopt the completed year-end evaluation for Superintendent Dr. Tuttle. In addition, resolve that the Board extend the Superintendent's contract two years to be employed under a five-year contract from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2028. Secretary Webster conducted a roll-call vote. Krauss, Keyes, Easlick, Webster, Quick and Mowen voted aye. Vice President Ochodnicki voted nay. Motion carried in 6-1 vote.

- Moved by Quick, supported by Webster, to authorize the renovation of the Bentley playground by GameTime out of Hollywood, MI in an amount not to exceed \$207,882.50 out of ARP Childcare Stabilization funds. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Webster, supported by Easlick to authorize the Superintendent to sign the contract with Technical Building Automation, Inc. (TBA), for yearly maintenance and preventative maintenance for the boiler and HVAC system at a cost of \$5,500 for annual boiler maintenance and CSD-1 and \$29,400 for annual controls service and periodic preventative maintenance services. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Quick to authorize the hiring of the following certified staff: Mallory Irelan, Owosso Middle School Computers teacher and Heidi King-Bigsby Lincoln Alternative Education High School teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

For Future Action

- The board will be asked to approve the contract with Spicer Group, as presented, for retention of their services for the Sinking Fund Project Administration.

For Information

Dr. Tuttle announced the following personnel changes:

Accepted Positions

- Donna Collard has accepted the GSRP Paraprofessional position at Bentley Bright Beginnings.
- Mandy Goldman has accepted the Student Facilitator position at Bryant Elementary.
- Aubrey DeWitt has accepted the Office Secretary position at Bryant Elementary.

Resignations

- Beth Burnett, Bus Driver has resigned effective November 14, 2022.
- Joe Hickey, Grounds/Maintenance has submitted his letter of resignation.
- John Quick, Skilled Trades HVAC has submitted his letter of resignation.
- Katy Voorhies, Executive Secretary at Bryant Elementary has submitted her letter of resignation effective March 31, 2023.
- Curran Jacobs, Physical Education Teacher at Owosso Middle School has submitted his resignation effective November 30, 2022.

Public Participation

No public participants addressed the Board.

Board Comments

Vice President Ochodnicky thanked Mrs. Jessica Thompson for her work on Today's Trojans, she enjoyed flipping through the latest edition. She also thanked the fine arts department for their hard work and wonderful performances, she said it is a joy to see her grandchildren up on-stage having fun. Vice President Ochodnicky is looking forward to the new year.

Secretary Webster thanked OPS for the holiday gifts and treats made for the Board. She echoed Vice President Ochodnicky's comments on the holiday performances and said she's only heard great things from the community regarding the Performing Arts Center.

Trustee Quick thanked Mr. Ciarlino for his work with the OHS mentor program and Mr. Bird's work on the Builder's Club. She said she is in awe of the student's commitment to their community and the time and effort they put in to helping those in need and each other. She ended her comments by saying it has been a joy for her to watch a difference being made in the community.

Trustee Easlick thanked Treasurer Keyes for her presence on the Board over the years. He congratulated Ms. Bev White on her retirement and wished her well. He ended his comments by thanking Mr. Ciarlino for the mentor program, as it has clearly made a difference for the students at the secondary campus.

Trustee Krauss thanked the culinary department for the holiday cookies and thanked administration for the Board gifts. He thanked Ms. Keyes for her presence on the Board and he wished her well in her future endeavors.

President Mowen also thanked Ms. Keyes for her work on the Board over the years. He said her input not only as a community member but as a parent will be sorely missed. He wished her well.

Treasurer Keyes thanked everyone for their well wishes. She said she will certainly miss the monthly meetings but that it is time to move on. She wished Mr. Nick Henne good luck in the coming years and she is looking forward to remaining involved in OPS activities.

Upcoming Dates

December 14: OHS Choir Concert, 7:00pm, PAC

December 16: OMS Fun Night, 3:00pm, PAC

December 20: Half day for students, 12:00pm dismissal

December 20: Emerson Hungry Howies Fundraiser, 4:00pm, Hungry Howies

December 21-January 3: Holiday Recess

January 4: First day back for students

Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to move into closed session at 6:48pm for the purpose of conducting a student hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

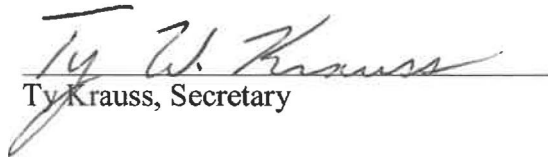
Adjournment

Moved by Webster, supported by Krauss, to move into open session at 7:30pm for the purpose of adjournment.

Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Brooke Barber.

Respectfully submitted,


Ty Krauss, Secretary