

**OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**  
**January 13, 2020**  
**Report 19-158**

President Jenc called the Board of Education Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The meeting was held at the Owosso High School, 765 E. North Street, Owosso, MI 48867.

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

Absent: All members were present

**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.

**Tour Facility**

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle gave the Board of Education a tour of the high school and the new construction that has been completed to date. After completing the tour, the Board reconvened in one of the new classrooms.

**Middle School Purchase Agreement**

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle shared the middle school purchase agreement that has been proposed from Community Housing Network (CHN). It has been discovered that the Northwest portion of the property is on a 100-year floodplain which has become an issue. The installation of a seawall to redirect the water flow is a possible solution; however, the redirection of the water flow will cause issues elsewhere and needs to be addressed. CHN may have to postpone submitting their application for MSHDA grants until this is resolved. There is also a possibility that MSHDA would allow moving forward knowing that the floodplain issue will be addressed.

**Important Upcoming Dates**

- State Superintendent's Visit: Superintendent Dr. Tuttle announced that State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice plans to visit the District on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. A schedule of his visit was shared with the Board. Dr. Tuttle stated that Dr. Rice has very high standards and she is very excited to have him at the helm. She stated that it is her intention to provide Dr. Rice with a unique perspective of the District during his visit.
- January 27<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting: Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reminded the Board that the organizational meeting will occur during the January 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
- Kindergarten Registration: Superintendent Dr. Tuttle explained that kindergarten registration is one of the bigger events to occur in the District each year. The theme for this year's kindergarten registration is "The Ingredients for Success are ALL IN Owosso's Kindergarten Program!" Steve Brooks and Jessica Thompson are working on the creation of a video that will be utilized as a promotional tool on the District's webpage, during registration, etc.
- State of the District Address: The Board was invited to Dr. Tuttle's annual State of the District address on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm. The Teacher of the Year and Staff Person of the Year will be announced during the address.

### **Proposed Board Policy 5330.02 – Opioid Antagonists**

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle informed the Board that Board Policy 5330.02 will be presented as a first reading at the January 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The policy will allow the District to purchase opioid antagonists (Narcan) and administer to an individual that is experiencing an opioid-related overdose. She stated that the District's Liaison Officers currently carry Narcan.

### **GST Michigan Works!**

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that during the January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting the Board will be presented with the Michigan Works contract. This agreement provides on-the-job training and assist the participant in attaining knowledge and skills essential to the job outlined in the training plan. It is determined that the occupation(s) in which training is proposed is a demand occupation in the local labor market. GST will provide payment of extraordinary training costs on the basis outlined in the Training Plan. Payment shall be made according to the provisions agreed upon in the payment schedule. This amount shall not exceed 50/75% of the regular wages, not exceeding the wage cap paid during the training period, as supported by the employer's monthly time and attendance records and payroll records.

### **2020-2021 Calendar and Professional Development**

- First Day of School: September 8, 2020
- Christmas Break: December 21, 2020 to January 1, 2021
- Spring Break: March 29, 2021 to April 2, 2021

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle shared the above dates with the Board. She explained that the delayed start of school for the 2020-2021 school year will benefit the construction schedule for the secondary campus. The City of Owosso plans to begin the reconstruction of North Street in May 2020. It expected that this street project will be completed by the middle to end of September 2020. During this time, traffic will be redirected to the Middleton Road access and the road to the baseball fields. Christmas break and spring break are consistent county-wide. The balance of the 2020-2021 school calendar will be determined during negotiations.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle explained that the state is now allowing school districts to count professional development days. A district may count up to 38 hours of qualifying PD time for teachers as hours of pupil instruction if all requirements are satisfied. She stated that for this year only, she would like to count PD as student contact time. The 2020-2021 calendar of PD events will be discussed further during negotiations.

### **Curriculum**

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks informed the Board that he has been working on preparing and collecting health related materials for the upcoming Health Advisory Board (HAB) meeting. The state requires this committee to meet every two years with a committee consisting of clergy, administrators, Board members, teachers, students, health professionals, and parents. This committee will charge the District with collecting health related data. Mr. Brooks explained that his role is to inform the committee of state requirements and what is allowed and/or not allowed to be taught using guidelines from the Michigan Health Model curriculum. The HAB will report back to the Board of Education on recommendations, strategies, and improvements to the curriculum. Mr. Brooks remarked that sex education can be quite controversial and there are two types of curriculum which can be taught: abstinence only and abstinence based. He stated that the OPS curriculum is abstinence based. The first HAB meeting of the school year will be held on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Brooks explained that anytime there are changes to the Michigan Health Model, a meeting must be held. Changes to the curriculum in regards to opioids prompted the meeting.

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks reported that he is working with a video company on a series of short video clips highlighting the District and its programs. The intent of the video is to promote Owosso Public Schools.

### **Budget**

Julie Omer, Chief Financial Officer announced that budget revision I will be shared during the January 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

### **Bond Budget**

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle shared an update on the bond budget.

### **Round Table**

Trustee Olga Quick stated that she assisted at the high school on January 6<sup>th</sup> with the new student lockers. She remarked that it was a lot of fun and she was amazed with how efficient the process went. She was especially impressed with the staff and their willingness to help the students.

Trustee Sara Keyes remarked that it is very nice and exciting to see everything come together at the high school.

Secretary Shelly Ochodnicki stated that she was able to help with the kindergarten pancake breakfast at Central before Christmas break. It was a fun event and great to be in the building.

President Tim Jenc commented that the tour of the new construction at the high school was impressive. He stated that the industrial ceilings are great and he is impressed every time he comes into the building.

President Tim Jenc reminded the Board that the Snow Globe Classic special Olympics basketball game is scheduled for Saturday, January 18 in the OHS gym.

Trustee Ty Krauss stated that the new construction looks great and he is very impressed.

Vice President Rick Mowen commented that this was the first time he has toured the new construction at the secondary campus and he is amazed at how well everything is coming together. The additions blend in very well with the existing building.

Vise President Rick Mowen stated that it is obvious how much the OPS staff cares about students. He shared a conversation he recently had with man that was a substitute at the middle school and how much admiration the man had for Dr. Dallas Lintner.

Secretary Shelly Ochodnicki reported that the Homeless Angels Shelter has been able to place 15 people into housing since October 2019. Some of these people are OPS students. She remarked that this is so exciting. She is very proud of how much the community has supported the shelter.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm

Minutes recorded by Clara Pitt

Respectfully submitted,

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Shelly Ochodnicki, Secretary