

**OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education Minutes**  
**January 27, 2020**  
**Report 19-192**

President Jenc called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 5:32 pm. The meeting was held in the media center located at Owosso High School, 765 E. North Street, Owosso, Michigan.

Present: Jenc, Keyes, Krauss, Mowen, Ochodnicky, Quick, Webster

Absent: All members were present

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Amendments**

President Jenc informed the Board that the meeting's agenda had been amended as follows: The "Oath of Office" was removed from the agenda, a revised copy of the General Fund Budget Revision I was at place, and the Middle School Purchase Agreement was also at place. Secretary Ochodnicky made a motion to accept the amended agenda, Vice President Mowen supported the motion. The motion was unanimous.

**Election of Officers**

Superintendent Dr. Andrea Tuttle shared the process to be used by the Board of Education for the annual election of officers. She explained that she will open up the nominations for Board President by taking the first nominations. The same process will be used by the newly elected President for the offices of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. When the elections are completed, the meeting will continue with the new officers in place.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle opened the nominations for the office of Board President. Rick Mowen nominated Tim Jenc for the office of Board President and Mr. Jenc accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Board President. Mr. Mowen moved to close the nominations. Mr. Tim Jenc was unanimously elected to serve as Board President effective immediately through January 25, 2021.

President Jenc opened the nominations for the office of Vice President. Marlene Webster nominated Rick Mowen for the office of Board Vice President and Mr. Mowen accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Vice President. Mrs. Ochodnicky moved to close the nominations. Mr. Rick Mowen was unanimously elected to serve as Board Vice President effective immediately through January 25, 2021.

President Jenc opened the nominations for the office of Secretary. Rick Mowen nominated Shelly Ochodnicky for the office of Board Secretary and Mrs. Ochodnicky accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Secretary. Mr. Mowen moved to close the nominations. Mrs. Shelly Ochodnicky was unanimously elected to serve as Board Secretary effective immediately through January 25, 2021.

President Jenc opened the nominations for the office of Treasurer. Shelly Ochodnicky nominated Marlene Webster for the office of Treasurer and Mrs. Webster accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Treasurer. Mr. Mowen moved to close the nominations. Mrs. Marlene Webster was unanimously elected to serve as Board Treasurer effective immediately through January 25, 2021.

**Building Reports**

As part of the Celebrate Kids! segment of the meeting, Bryant Elementary Principal Shelly Collison introduced Mrs. Stacey Coleman, First Grade Teacher at Bryant. Mrs. Coleman informed the Board that on the Friday prior to Martin Luther King Jr. Day, her students read a book about Mr. King, which inspired her to conduct a social experiment with her students based on the book titled The Sneetches, by Dr. Seuss. Similar to the book, a select group of students were given a star when they arrived at school and were made to feel special, while the other students did their regular work and were not treated any different than normal. After a while Mrs. Coleman informed the students that she made a mistake and the students with the stars had to give them to those that did not have one. Mrs. Coleman explained that her

goal was to have the students experience how it feels to be excluded. The students were asked to create posters about how they felt when they were excluded and were reminded that we are all the same and equal. The students also completed a book on the things that make us alike. First grader Isabella O'Brien explained that when she received a star she was very happy; however, she felt sad for the students that did not have one. She stated that she also felt left out when she was asked to give her star away. Wyatt Shrum stated that he felt really sad when he didn't have a star but when he was given one, he felt bad for his classmates that had their star taken away from them. The students remarked that the lesson reminded them of the Martin Luther King book and how differently the blacks and whites were treated.

Vice President Rick Mowen stated that the student's comments are to be applauded and this was a great lesson for them.

Bryant Elementary Principal Shelly Collison introduced Bryant Teacher Mrs. Jenny LaMay. Mrs. LaMay stated that she has the privilege of working with elementary teachers to bring the Primary Years Programme (PYP) teaching philosophies into the elementary classrooms. This year, it was decided to add on the fifth grade exhibition project. The focus of the fifth grade exhibition is to encourage students to look at issues that are occurring around the world, create an action plan for these issues, complete their action plan, and celebrate the impact that was made as a result of the action plan. The fifth grade exhibition was kicked off across the District in January.

Mrs. Karla Tuma, fifth grade teacher at Bryant explained that the fifth grade exhibition is a culminating project for the students k-5 learning experience and skills. The students were given four cornerstone choices that they could choose from for their exhibition project that included 1) safety of ocean life and water environments for animals, 2) the 4North Project, 3) conservation, 4) the Homeless Angels.

Bryant fifth grade student Brooklyn Crain reported that she chose the cornerstone of helping to keep the ocean clean and safe for ocean life as her exhibition project. She explained that it was difficult to choose a cornerstone because she wanted to help her community, but she is worried about animals and the environment of sea turtles and fish.

Bryant fifth grader Lukas Lawrence reported that he chose the Homeless Angels as his cornerstone project. He explained that while visiting Detroit he witnessed a homeless man that was living on the streets and it made him sad. Lukas stated that he feels like society is broken and if kids get involved in causes, they will come up with creative solutions to problems.

Bryant fifth grade student ShiAnne Rowell stated that she also chose the cornerstone of Homeless Angels because there are a lot of people in our own hometown that struggle with being homeless. She believes that we can help these people by donating food, clothing, and blankets.

Mrs. Tuma informed the Board that she is also one of Bryant's Student Council teachers. The students were very involved in the canned food drive throughout December and wanted to do something extra when they became aware of the Homeless Angels. During the week prior to Christmas the students collected 12 boxes filled with diapers, baby wipes, and microwave meals that they delivered to the shelter on the last day of school prior to their holiday recess.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle commented that the students did a wonderful job articulating their thoughts. She also thanked the children's parents for taking the time to bring them to the meeting.

In honor of School Board Recognition Month, Superintendent Dr. Tuttle expressed her sincere gratitude for Board of Education President Tim Jenc, Vice President Rick Mowen, Treasurer Marlene Webster, Secretary Shelly Ochodnick, Trustee Sara Keyes, Trustee Ty Krauss, and Trustee Olga Quick for proudly supporting our community, our team of educators which includes all of us who comprise this wonderful District and most importantly, they serve as our student's greatest advocates. We are fortunate to live in a District where our Board members care for all of us and trust that the decisions we make are in the best interest of our students. A token of appreciation was given to each member of the Board.

Mr. Mike Gregory, Business Teacher at Owosso High School showcased the Career and Technical Education opportunities that are available to students. Jayme Zelenka, President of the FFA introduced

Brook Stechschulte, Vice President of FFA. Ms. Zelenka stated that FFA has been reestablished at Owosso High School after 20 years and there are currently 20 members involved in the organization. Projects that the students are involved in was shared by Ms. Zelenka.

Board President Tim Jenc commented that he is happy to learn that FFA has been reestablished at Owosso High School.

Mr. Mike Gregory thanked the Board for the opportunity to showcase the CTE programs prior to the start of the meeting. He informed the Board that competitions are part of the state's requirements for the CTE programs that are either student led organizations or actual classes. He provided a brief summary of the CTE student competitions that students participate in. Mr. Gregory stated that Mr. Nick Krueger is the CTE Coordinator and Engineering teacher but was unable to attend the meeting. He introduced CTE teachers Mr. Jason Krantz, Wood Technology; Mr. Rob Mallory, Construction Trades; Mr. Greg Freeman, FFA and AgriScience; and Chef Hannah Poyner, Culinary Arts.

Chef Hannah Poyner informed the Board that two years ago the OHS Culinary Arts program were required to apply to participate in the CTE Showcase in Lansing. She stated that it is a huge honor to participate in the Showcase that features 14 CTE programs from across the state. Chef Poyner announced that this year, the state sought us out to participate in the CTE Showcase on April 29<sup>th</sup> as one of the 14 programs. Additionally, this will be the second year that her students will participate in a "Chopped" competition that will require participants to create an entrée in an hour and a half. The event will be judged by local restaurant owners. Winners of the competition will receive a scholarship to the Mott Community College Culinary School and have an opportunity to design an entrée that will be featured at the Wrought Iron Grill.

Mr. Mike Gregory stated that he runs the BPA (Business Professionals Association) program at Owosso High School. BPA students are required to participate in competitions to qualify for the State Competition. Due to poor weather conditions, the qualifying competitions were canceled on two separate occasions and students had to qualify by doing their competition in-house, online, and a lottery in some cases. Mr. Gregory proudly announced that OHS students won their way into the state competition. He introduced OHS students Elizabeth Tolrud, Ruthie Dignan, Jillian Bagwell, and Mackenon Tyrrell that are members of the 10 students that qualified for this year's BPA State Competition that will be held in March.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle pointed out that Culinary Arts II student Lauren Skinner has started her own cupcake business named "Cupcakes by Lauren". She also thanked Mr. Jason Krantz and his class for building the pole barn located on the secondary campus. Mr. Rob Mallory and his students were recognized for constructing the District's baseball dugouts among several other projects. Mr. Mallory was also a teacher that was spotlighted and featured during State Superintendent Dr. Rice's recent visit to Owosso Public Schools. Dr. Rice was extremely impressed with the District's Culinary Arts and Engineering programs. He was especially pleased to learn that Owosso Public Schools provides opportunities for both career and college ready students.

Board of Education Student Representative Cayden Whitehorse reported that Student Government has been working hard on the canned food drive by selling hot chocolate, using funds from the winter dance, and seeking donations from local businesses. He stated that the motto for second semester is "the domino effect," meaning that every action has a consequence, that being positive or negative.

Cayden Whitehorse informed the Board that as of that evening, OHS seniors Kristian Keyes and Colton Blaha are undefeated in their wrestling season. Colton currently has 160 varsity wins throughout his wrestling career.

Cayden Whitehorse commented that the past Friday was a big day for the Owosso Trojans. The OHS Varsity Boys' Basketball team had a great game against the Corunna Cavaliers and won the game at home. After the game, the students held their Winter Dance at the high school. The event was casual and tickets cost \$5 at the door. Approximately 80 students attended the dance and several of them remarked that they had a lot of fun.

Cayden Whiteherse announced that the OHS band and choir programs are hard at work preparing for Festival where they will compete against schools in their division. The band has consistently been awarded straight I's for several decades and the choir has always received high scores.

Cayden Whiteherse informed the Board that two months ago, OHS students Wes LaVigne and Ava Fett were nominated to compete in the Sutton Foster Awards at the Wharton Center for Performing Arts. Many winners of this competition move on to perform on Broadway. Cayden stated that West LaVigne and Ava Fett are an excellent representation of the Owosso Public Schools Performing Arts Program.

Cayden Whiteherse announced that this was his last meeting to report as the Board of Education Student Representative. He stated that he currently has chosen secondary education as his major, but is undecided on where he will attend. Cayden thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to provide a voice for the OPS student body. The new Student Representative will be Tyler Hoag beginning with the February Board meeting.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that Cayden has been a very joyous and entertaining Student Representative and will be missed. She applauded him on his leadership roles in the District and for doing a great job as the Board's Student Representative.

President Tim Jenc commented that Cayden will be missed by the Board. Mr. Jenc asked Cayden how much money was raised for the canned food drive.

In response to President Jenc, Cayden informed the Board that the canned food drive is ongoing up until the month of May.

### **Board Correspondence**

Superintendent Dr. Andrea Tuttle reported that the boys' varsity basketball team brought home a win against Corunna at home on January 24<sup>th</sup>. She remarked that she was very impressed with the number of people that attended the game to support the team. She commented that there were around 1,500-1,600 in attendance which is wonderful. Secretary Ochodnicky and Vice President Mowen were thanked for attending the game.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle informed the Board that bond work at the secondary campus continues to go well and remains on schedule thanks to the accommodations that have been made by teachers. High school staff moved into their new spaces flawlessly over the holidays. She thanked the high school administration and custodians for coming together to make this happen. The 200 and 400 wings are currently being renovated. Work has begun on the connecting corridor to the performing arts center.

Superintendent Tuttle stated that the District has been working extensively with City Manager Nathan Henne and City Council on the repavement and reconstruction of North Street. North Street will be closed for these improvements from May through September. Alternate routes for traffic flow through Middleton Road and possibly the Gould Street drive are being worked out

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle proudly displayed the Kindergarten registration promotional packet and an apron that will be given to all prospective kindergarten students. The theme for this year's kindergarten registration is "The Ingredients for Success Are All In Owosso's Kindergarten Program!" Community Education Director Jessica Thompson was applauded for designing the packet that showcases all of the great programs at Owosso Public Schools. During kindergarten registration students and parents will participate in a scavenger hunt of their building.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reported that the high school recently hosted an eighth grade parent night. CTE staff, counselors, teachers, and administrators attended the event where parents were provided information about early college, advanced placement options, and CTE programs. Superintendent Tuttle remarked that staff did a wonderful job presenting information about all of the great things the high school offers and OPS is truly the District of opportunity.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle invited the Board to her State of the District address that will occur on March 4<sup>th</sup>. This year a Teacher of the Year and Staff Member of the Year will be announced during the address.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice visited the District on January 17<sup>th</sup>. District buildings and opportunities were showcased during the visit. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle commented that she believes Dr. Rice left with a great impression of the District as he has reached out to her numerous times since his visit.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reported that she recently presented information about OPS to the participants of Leadership Shiawassee which is always a wonderful experience. Treasurer Marlene Webster and Lincoln High School Principal Steve Irelan were thanked for participating in the panel discussion. Mr. Irelan also showcased Lincoln High School and the participants were very impressed with the program.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle informed the Board that she met with a representative of the U.S. Census Bureau. She commented that the District will be promoting the upcoming census because the data that is obtained benefits the National School Breakfast Program that provides our students with free breakfast and lunch, Head Start, Title I grants, Supplemental Nutrition programs, Rural Education grants, and Child Abuse and Neglect grants, and several local municipal grants.

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks remarked that after listening to Dr. Tuttle's report he is always in awe of everything that is occurring in the District.

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks announced that the Fifth Grade Exhibition project will take place on March 25<sup>th</sup> at each of the three elementary buildings. The project gives students an introduction to research and study as they build up to their 10<sup>th</sup> grade personal project. Mr. Brooks informed the Board that 10<sup>th</sup> graders are currently in the midst of working on their personal projects that are due in the spring.

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks stated that just a small sampling of the Martin Luther King Jr. day activities was shared during the meeting by Mrs. Coleman. Lessons, videos and activities were taught throughout the District on this day.

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks reported that he is very excited about a series of videos promoting the District that are being put together and will initially be shared during kindergarten registration. A total of nine thirty second videos that are similar to commercials are being created and will be used to promote kindergarten registration, athletics, CTE, high school, middle school, and elementary programming.

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks informed the Board that the District is in the midst of mid-year assessments for students.

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks reported that administrators have begun reviewing perception surveys that were completed in the fall by students, staff and parents. The upcoming Friday Letter will contain data from the surveys that provides information on the District's strengths and areas that need improvement.

### **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 meeting's audience.

### **For Action**

- Moved by Mowen, supported by Ochodnicki to approve the December 9, 2019 regular meeting minutes, January 13, 2020 committee of the whole minutes, current bills, and financials as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Webster, supported by Keyes to adopt the Bylaws for Owosso Public Schools as presented in the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

- Moved by Ochodnicki, supported by Quick to authorize the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee to conduct and manage any school elections for the calendar year of 2020. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Mowen to retain Thrun Law Firm, P.C. as the District's attorneys. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Webster, supported by Mowen to authorize the superintendent or a Board designee to accept professional staff resignations on behalf of the Board. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Mowen, supported by Quick to approve the depository and withdrawal authorized signers for Owosso Public Schools' financial and banking transactions for the 2020 calendar year as presented including authorization for necessary ACH transactions and/or bank transfers. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Ochodnicki, supported by Quick to appoint Vice President Rick Mowen as a representative and Trustee Sara Keyes as the alternate for the Shiawassee County School Board Executive Board and at the SRESB Budget Review and Election. Mr. Mowen and Mrs. Keyes accepted the appointments. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Ochodnicki, supported by Keyes to approve the contract with Clark Construction Management, as presented for the retention of their services for the Sinking Fund Project Administration of the roofing project at the secondary campus for the spring/summer of 2020. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Keyes to approve the out-of-state travel for Owosso High School Choir students and teacher Jessica Nieuwkoop on a trip to New York City, NY on March 11-14, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Mowen, supported by Ochodnicki to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a three-year fair market value lease agreement with the option to purchase two new 77 passenger gasoline buses at an annual cost of \$27,402.74. Secretary Ochodnicki conducted a roll call vote. Ayes: Webster, Quick, Ochodnicki, Mowen, Jenc, Keyes, Krauss. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policies 1420 – School Administrator Evaluation and 3220 – Professional Staff Evaluation as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt new policy 2265 – Child Care Center Staff and Volunteers as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 2450 – Community and Adult Education as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 2628 – State Aid Incentives as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 3210 – Staff Ethics as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt new policy 5230 – Late Arrival and Early Dismissal as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 5330.02 – Opioid Antagonists as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 6800 – System of Accounting as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 7300 – Disposition of Real Property as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt new policy 7440.03 – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 8462 – Student Abuse and Neglect as a first reading. Trustee Olga Quick asked that the policy be corrected and all references of the Family Independence Agency be changed to what is now known as the Department of Health and Human Services. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 2410 – Prohibition of Referral or Assistance as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 2414 – Reproductive Health and Family Planning as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

- Moved by Keyes, supported by Mowen to adopt revised policy 2418 – Sex Education as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

### **For Future Action**

- The Board of Education will be asked to adopt the revised resolution to the appropriations of the General Fund for the 2019-20 fiscal year. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle explained that the 2019-20 Budget Revision #1 Executive Summary was at place. The projected fund balance as of June 30, 2020 is \$3,563,000 or 10.79% in fund balance, which is higher than the 6.46% fund balance that was originally projected.
- The Board of Education will be asked to adopt the revised resolution to the appropriations of the School Service Fund for the 2019-20 fiscal year. The original budget projected a 3.87% fund balance and revision #1 shows 0.23% in fund balance. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reminded the Board that the state requires the District to spend down this budget yearly.
- The Board of Education will be asked to authorize the purchase of fitness center equipment for the new fitness center that will be located in the secondary campus. The report was brought before the Board without bids being received given the time sensitive nature of ordering the equipment in time to be of use to the District. A response date for the bids are required by February 4, 2020.
- The Board of Education will be asked to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contract with GST (Genesee Shiawassee Thumb) Michigan Works through June 30, 2020 to take effect immediately upon signature at the February 24, 2020 meeting. Michigan Works has proposed a contract with the District to provide On-The-Job Training (OJT) for eligible employees whereby the GST Michigan Works would reimburse the District training costs associated with “onboarding” new support staff as outlined in the agreement.
- The Board of Education will be asked to authorize the Superintendent to sign the contract for the audio system for the secondary campus with Digital Age Technologies from Davison, MI in an amount not to exceed \$75,910 (base bid of \$70,944 with 7% or \$4,966 for contingencies).
- The Board of Education will be asked to authorize the Owosso Public School’s transportation and food service departments to authorize the disposition by sale, donation, trade, or discard of two buses and one Hobart mixer.
- The Board of Education will be asked to authorize the Superintendent to sign the proposed purchase agreement with CHN (Community Housing Network) for the sale of the current Middle School located at 219 N. Water Street. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle commented that CJ Felton of CHN has been great to work with and his company is very reputable. The Purchase Agreement was at place and listed the sale price as \$500,000. The timeline had to be extended due to the floodway in the northwest corner of the building. The closing shall be held no later than June 30, 2022; however, it is hoped to occur sooner than this date. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle commented that CHN has been very generous and have indicated that they will pay a portion of the utilities once the building has been vacated. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle stated that the purchase agreement is the result of a community effort and she her expressed gratitude for the contributions of Justin Horvath, Nathan Henne, Josh Adams, and Jeff Deason. There have been lots of great partnerships that will ultimately benefit the community as a whole. Justin Horvath commented that the Shiawassee Economic Development Corporation is very excited about the relationship with Community Housing Network. They have been very impressed with CJ Felton of CHN and his team. CHN has a lot of experience and Mr. Horvath remarked that they have a lot of confidence in them. Mr. Horvath thanked the Board of Education for their support of the purchase agreement.

### **For Information**

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reported that Jacob Basgall has accepted the Computer Technician position effective January 13, 2020. Tyler Coleman, Computer Technician, has submitted his letter of resignation effective January 2, 2020. Kerry Baker, Food Service Worker at Bryant Elementary has submitted her letter of resignation effective January 11, 2020. Pam Kurtz, Student Services Center at Owosso High School has submitted her letter of retirement effective at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 school year after 27 years of service with the District.

### **Public Participation**

Justin Horvath of the Shiawassee Economic Development Corporation commented that everything that is happening with the CTE programs is impressive. He announced a new partnership opportunity that is

now available through their affiliation with Lansing. A youth entrepreneurial expo is coming up in late March for students in grades 5-12 that either have a business or are interested in starting one. The competition will be similar to Shark Tank and students have the possibility of winning more than \$10,000 in cash prizes in over 20 different categories. Mr. Horvath encouraged teachers and administrators to share this information with students that may have an interest in this.

Curriculum Director Steve Brooks commented that he is aware of some students that would be interested in the youth entrepreneurial competition and is certain that Owosso will be represented at the event.

### **Board Member Comments/Updates**

Trustee Ty Krauss expressed his appreciation for everyone's effort to make the District look great during the State Superintendent's visit. He remarked that the CTE Showcase prior to the start of the meeting was awesome and it was great to witness the students involvement in this. Mr. Krauss also congratulated the boys' varsity basketball team on their recent win against Corunna.

Trustee Sara Keyes agreed that the OPS CTE programs are phenomenal. She stated that both of her boys have been involved in construction trades, wood working and BPA and have nothing but positive feelings about the programs, enjoy what they are learning, and love their teachers. Mrs. Keyes remarked that when she was in high school she felt that college was promoted and she is a little jealous of the career opportunities that students now have available to them. She stated that she also enjoyed the CTE Showcase.

Trustee Sara Keyes stated that she will miss having Cayden Whiteherse at the meetings.

Trustee Sara Keyes remarked that she had several people text her about Martin Luther King Jr. Day and asked if OPS had school on this day. She stated that the lessons that were taught that day cannot be replicated at home. She praised the Bryant first graders that presented during the meeting on their articulation of how impactful the inequality lessons were to them.

Trustee Sara Keyes stated that her son informed her that he thought the winter dance was awesome. She encouraged Student Government to do the same thing again next year.

Trustee Sara Keyes commented that she was happy to learn that the boys' varsity basketball team beat our cross town rivals after having a losing streak.

Vice President Rick Mowen also praised the District for the lessons that were taught to students on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. He stated that he feels that OPS was doing the right thing by having school on this day as was demonstrated by the first grade student presentation.

Vice President Rick Mowen stated that the Board's January committee meeting was held in the new wing at the high school. The meeting also included a tour of the improvements. Mr. Mowen remarked that it is wonderful to see the progress and the bond project come to fruition.

Vice President Rick Mowen remarked that high school sports are awesome and are even better when your team wins. He stated that he was impressed with the fair and honest basketball game against Corunna but he was most impressed with the team going to the student section to celebrate immediately after their win.

Secretary Shelly Ochodnický echoed Mr. Mowen's comments about the Corunna basketball game. She remarked that it was a great win for Owosso and our teams' sportsmanship always goes above and beyond their opponents.

Secretary Shelly Ochodnický commented that she was excited to participate in State Superintendent Dr. Rice's visit. It was great to showcase the District and its programs. She thanked the staff members that assisted with the visit. Mrs. Ochodnický remarked that she enjoyed having lunch with Dr. Rice and listen to him interact with students. She stated that Dr. Rice also commented on how impressed he is with Dr. Tuttle and has asked for her assistance on some education projects in Lansing.

Secretary Shelly Ochodnický referenced data from an online student health survey that is included in a MiPHY report. She expressed her concerns with students struggling to be happy. Almost 40% of the county's 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> graders do not see many exciting things happening in their future. She remarked that she hopes a committee can be formed to address these health concerns.

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle commented that the MiPHY data referenced by Mrs. Ochodnický is more than a year old and the District is aware of these concerns. New data will be obtained in the next month or so. Superintendent Dr. Tuttle explained that it is a school districts choice to participate in the MiPHY student survey and some schools choose not to participate; however, OPS has been involved in this.

Treasurer Marlene Webster stated that two years ago the Alliance for a Drug Free Shiawassee encouraged more school districts to participate in the MiPHY survey. The hospital does a community health needs assessment every four years and the MiPHY is completed every two years. The data obtained from these surveys is incorporated into some of the Alliance for a Drug Free Shiawassee programs.

Trustee Olga Quick reminded everyone that the Jazz Band Dinner Dance will occur on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at D'Mar and tickets are now on sale. She stated that the event is very enjoyable and encouraged everyone to attend.

Trustee Olga Quick commented that she is really excited to see the FFA program reinstated and growing. She added that she was the secretary and leader president of her FFA Chapter when she was younger. The experience, leadership skills, and parliamentary procedures that members receive from FFA is incredible.

Trustee Olga Quick stated that she has enjoyed witnessing the growth of the District's CTE programs over the past few years. She is pleased that the programs are being developed to suit the needs of every child.

Trustee Olga Quick commented that State Superintendent Dr. Rice's visit is a great compliment to the District. She also applauded Chef Poyner and the Culinary Arts Program on their personal invite to participate in the CTE Showcase in Lansing.

Trustee Olga Quick complimented the creativity of the kindergarten registration theme and packet.

Treasurer Marlene Webster reported that she had an opportunity to speak with this year's Leadership Shiawassee group. Prior to this she reflected on the past ten years she has served on the Owosso Public Schools Board and the changes that have occurred during this timeframe such as students being allowed to use Google and the concerns that were expressed about this at that time. Remarkably, this is not even on the radar anymore and the District has moved so far with hands-on learning opportunities. Mrs. Webster praised the students that presented on their programs during the CTE Showcase and the professional articulation they demonstrated. The students that presented during the Celebrate Kids! segment of the meeting were also praised for their presentation, speaking skills and the pride in their work that they displayed in front of a large audience. Mrs. Webster remarked that the District has been through an amazing transition over the past 10 years and believes it is due to IB and the focus on real world learning. She commented that Superintendent Dr. Tuttle's leadership has been phenomenal.

President Tim Jenc remarked that a few years ago he traveled with the middle school eighth graders on their annual Washington, DC trip and asked if students still visited the Dr. Martin Luther King monument. He stated that this was a very powerful moment on the trip.

Mr. Rich Collins, Principal at Owosso Middle School stated that the visit to the Dr. Martin Luther monument is still part of the trip's agenda.

**Upcoming Board Meeting Dates:**

February 10: Board Committee of the Whole Meeting, 5:30 pm

February 24: Regular Board Meeting, 5:30 pm

**Important Upcoming Dates:**

January 31: LHS Community Breakfast, 7:30 am

January 31: MAAA State Volleyball Tournament @ LHS Gym, 10 am – 2 pm

February 1: Drama Districts @ OHS, 9 am – 3 pm

February 5: OMS & OHS Drama Clubs MIFA Performance @ OMS Auditorium, 7 pm

February 8: District Band Solo & Ensemble

February 8: Drama Regionals, Holland

February 12: Pupil Count Day

February 14: Half Day for Students & Optional Teacher Work Day (PM)

February 14-15: Drama States

February 17: No School: President's Day

February 18: OMS Choir Concert, 7 pm

February 19: OHS Band Concert @ OMS, 7 pm

February 22: Jazz Band Dinner Dance @ D'Mar Banquet Facility, 6 pm

**Adjournment**

Moved by Mowen, supported by Quick to adjourn at 7:08 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Clara Pitt

Respectfully submitted,

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Shelly Ochodnicki, Secretary