

**OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Board of Education  
Committee of the Whole Meeting  
August 14, 2024  
Report 24-19**

Present: Adam Easlick, Ty Krauss, Rick Mowen, Shelly Ochodnicky, Olga Quick  
Absent: Nick Henne, Marlene Webster

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

**For Action**

- Moved by Easlick, supported by Quick, to authorize the purchase of High School Choir Uniforms with a General Fund cost not to exceed \$12,000. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Krauss, supported by Easlick, to table the July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, Tentative Agreement between the Owosso Education Association and the Owosso Board of Education. Mowen and Quick abstain due to a conflict of interest. Webster and Henne were absent. Not enough votes to carry.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following certified staff:

Name	Building/Grade	Recommending Administrator	Salary Schedule Step
Sara Schneider	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher/Bryant	Superintendent Steve Brooks	BA Step 1 \$43,332
Patrick Hunt	Economics, Civics, and Social Studies Teacher/LHS	Superintendent Steve Brooks	MA Step 1 \$46,257
Allison Shay	Special Education Teacher/OHS	Superintendent Steve Brooks	BA Step 1 \$43,332
Nicholas Lee	Technology Teacher/OMS	Superintendent Steve Brooks	BA Step 1 \$43,332

Motion carried unanimously.

**For Information**

**Facility Needs Planning**

Superintendent Brooks introduced Darrick Huff from Spicer to the Board, highlighting that he has been our facilities engineer for over 23 years. Superintendent Brooks directed the Board to the Facility Needs Update document in their Board Packet. This document has evolved, with items added or removed as projects were completed. Recently, Darrick, Mike Hendrickson, and

Superintendent Brooks reviewed this list to identify the most pressing needs for facility planning and improvements.

Darrick wanted to emphasize that this is a snapshot of August 2024, and the situation may change. This document has been presented to the Board every few years for the past two decades, and historically, the needs have ranged between \$30 to 45 million. A study from 1991 estimated that our district's maintenance and renovation needs were about \$50 million back then, so the work is ongoing. Many projects, like parking lot renovations, have been done before but are now reaching the end of their lifecycle and must be addressed again. The highlighted items in the document represent needs that district staff identified as priorities, but they are not ranked in any particular order. For instance, while some gyms and bleacher systems have been improved, others, like those at Bentley, still require attention. There are ongoing needs for parking lot and sidewalk maintenance, masonry repairs, and bathroom renovations—many of which are still original to the buildings. We've also allocated funds for specific projects, such as building bathroom facilities at the secondary campus to support exterior activities like baseball, softball, soccer, track, and tennis. Other needs include classroom renovations, window replacements, fencing repairs, and the ongoing discussion around the transportation maintenance facility.

The list includes improvements like turning the high school soccer practice field into a competition field, enhancing building management systems, and updating the swimming pool area to add more seating and improve lighting and filtration systems. There are also more long-term considerations, such as fire suppression systems for older buildings that currently lack sprinklers and asbestos abatement, particularly at the secondary campus. The list totals around \$45 million in potential projects, with \$27 million identified as more immediate priorities within the next five to six years.

Superintendent Brooks wanted to point out that while we've discussed building a new pool, the current \$4 million proposal is focused on renovating the existing one, enhancing seating, and upgrading necessary systems, not constructing a new competition pool. We'll need to prioritize these projects as we move forward, especially considering our limited funding. With about \$4 million remaining in our fund balance, it's crucial that we carefully evaluate and prioritize these needs. We should plan to revisit this list, perhaps in October or November, to finalize our priorities and prepare for bid documents. This will allow us to move forward with projects for the following summer.

### **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.

The following participants addressed the Board:

None

### **Upcoming Board Meeting Dates**

- August 28: Board of Education Regular Meeting 5:30 PM, Washington Campus Gymnasium
- September 11: Board of Education Committee Meeting 5:30 PM, Washington Campus Gymnasium
- September 25: Board of Education Regular Meeting 5:30 PM, Washington Campus Gymnasium

### **Adjournment**

Moved by Easlick, supported by Ochodnicky, to adjourn at 5:56 p.m. for required MASB Superintendent Evaluation Training. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Stephanie Goetzinger.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ty Krauss, Secretary

