

**OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**May 23, 2022**  
**Report 21-158**

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

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**

Dr. Tuttle began by introducing Mr. Bruce Holladay, Owosso High School Principal, to recognize the OHS retirees.

Mr. Holladay said the following regarding retiree Scott Gerstler. “Scott Gerstler has taught all biology courses except bio-med at Owosso High School since 1996. Mr. Gerstler coached basketball for around ten years...mainly freshman but also served as the varsity assistant for one year and was girls varsity assistant and JV for a year. Scott is passionate about his field and easily makes connections between the sciences and his students’ daily lives. He is a risk-taker in the classroom and has high and unwavering expectations for his students. If you have ever walked by his classroom at the start of class, you would know he is a music connoisseur and likes it loud! In retirement, Scott is spending as much time as his wife will allow on Beaver Island. They have a place up there his family built when he was growing up. Scott loves to kayak to the surrounding islands and to fish for giant smallmouth bass. He also plans to attempt to survive a winter on the Island before his wife retires from teaching (Byron Elementary)....stay tuned!”

Of Mr. Pringle, Mr. Holladay said “Devin Pringle has 33 years in education as a teacher, coach, and high school principal. Mr. Pringle started at Owosso High School in 2017 to be the head football coach and teach P.E. Over the years, he added teaching credit recovery classes, coaching baseball, as well as running the after-school strength training program. Devin is skillful at building relationships with kids and getting them to love P.E. Mr. Pringle led the charge and design for the new student fitness center. Devin is one of the most positive people you will ever meet. Everything he does is with the best interest of students and athletes in mind. Devin is willing to measure student success in a number of ways—not just A’s and B’s or school athletic records. He is an advocate for ALL students, but especially for at-risk students. He hopes to be remembered as an educator who loved kids and helped them rise above their circumstances. In retirement, Mr. Pringle plans to continue to live out his purpose of making great things happen for other people. Selfishly, he hopes to spend a little more time on the boat, working out, and

getting on the motorcycle. If you ask his wife, Devin will be volunteering in her classroom every day.”

Of Mr. Clevenger, Mr. Holladay reported “Ryan Clevenger has taught P.E., STC, and Psychology in Owosso since 1997. He also coached track and field, middle school football, boys’ varsity golf, and J.V. and varsity baseball. Mr. Clevenger served as varsity wrestling coach for 23 years. Mr. Clevenger was also a class advisor for 12 years, attended countless proms, and worked the football game clock for 20 years. In fact, Mr. Clevenger is not here tonight because he is currently running the baseball scoreboard. Ryan teaches by example. He is a great motivator, state-recognized wrestling coach, and all-around positive role model at OHS. Ryan has always risen to the challenge of getting the best out of students, inspiring and trying to motivate young men and women to reach their full potential. In retirement, Ryan would like to keep on working out and golf as much as possible. He also wants to spend more time with his family up in Shepherd, MI and spend more time with his kids, Dan, and Katie.”

Emerson Elementary Principal Mrs. Jessica Aue then recognized retiree Beth Ramirez. “Beth has given 28 years to the District. The first five years she was a volunteer and would come every day to the school. She then hired in as a Title I paraprofessional, a special education paraprofessional, and most recently became a kindergarten paraprofessional. Mrs. Ramirez has a special knack for making special connections with all of our students but specifically with some of students who have very high needs. She has a big heart, and she holds a special place in Emerson’s heart. She has been a joy to watch. Beth has also taken great care of her coworkers; she is always asking if anyone is in need and how she can help. Beth is a great team player and very dear to many of our staff members. She is a little bit scared of retiring as she doesn’t sit still very long, but she is looking forward to spending more time with her family. Thank you, Beth.”

Bryant Elementary Principal Mrs. Shelly Collison began by celebrating Tami Smith-Schaar. “Tami has been with Owosso Schools for 26 years. She began as a monitor in the lunchroom and worked in four-wings. She continued on as a Title I paraprofessional, she worked under three different principals in that time. The kids all call her Ms. Tami, and they love her, they love her fun projects and all the fun animals she brings to the classroom. She is a lot of fun. In retirement she plans on continuing crafting, and she would like to travel. Tami, it has been my honor to work with you and I wish you all the luck in retirement.”

Mrs. Collison continued by recognizing Missy Bruckman. “Missy has been a teacher at Bryant schools for her entire 27 years of teaching. During that time, she has taught sixth grade, fourth grade, and finally Title I Math. Missy loves math, she lives and breathes math. She has a passion for math and has worked tirelessly to train our elementary staff in Owosso in all things related to math. She has offered intensive math training through math recovery, her extent of math knowledge and how she has helped students is amazing and will take years to replace. In retirement Missy will traveling and helping her husband with the family business. I will her support and leadership. Missy, I wish you all the best.”

Transportation Director Mrs. Renee Secor-Jenks could not be at the meeting, nor could her retiree Denise Hudson, so Dr. Tuttle read Mrs. Secor-Jenks’ remarks to the Board. “Denise has

given twenty-two years of service to the District. She has worked on the food-service team as well as being a bus driver. She served on the safety crew and enjoyed taking the Bentley crew on their summer trip. With safety on the forefront of her mind, Denise has never been in an accident. One of Denise's greatest attributes is building relationships with her students. She always has a smile on her face. She is always willing to help other drivers with her years of experience. She has been a valued member of the OPS team, and she plans on chaperoning some trips with her grand kids in the future. We wish her the best of luck in retirement."

Dr. Tuttle also recognized OMS retiree Shawn Alexander who could not be at the meeting. "Shawn has given 25 years of service to the District. She came to OPS when Mr. Collins was the Dean of Students. Her contributions to the District include leading the Red Cedar River Project and she put together our first newspaper for the secondary campus many years ago. Shawn is a very intelligent, thoughtful, funny teacher that was always trying to do something new in the classroom to engage students. Her creativity, willingness to try new things, and knowledge of students will be missed tremendously. In her future she will be taking care of her farm and visiting friends and family."

Dr. Tuttle then recognized Mrs. Shelly Collison, Bryant Elementary Principal, in her retirement. "As I was looking at Shelly's accomplishments, it reminded me of the song I've Been Everywhere, as she has done a little bit of everything in this District. Shelly was hired in 1997 and has worked in many capacities in the District, including Special Education Teacher at the middle school and elementary level, an Elementary teacher for first, second, and third grade students, a Title 1 reading specialist, summer school instructor and mentor coordinator before becoming the principal at Bryant. I have had the distinct pleasure of getting to know Shelly as a special education teacher when I was the principal at Central Elementary. I saw so many leadership qualities in Shelly and encouraged her to apply to lead Bryant Elementary, who needed a fierce, strong leader at the time. She performed all her duties with grace and grit. Shelly takes risks, and she does the right thing all the time. She has been a tremendous advocate for students in the District and always goes the extra mile to help those in need. Shelly will always control her own destiny and in her retirement, she plans to travel and volunteer. Thank you to Shelly for being a leader and being such a tremendous advocate for Owosso." Mrs. Collison briefly reflected on her time at OPS and said she will always be a part of the District.

Student Representative Ashley Squires gave the student report as Madalyn Hasyn could not be at the meeting. "Good evening. I am the current student government secretary. Today was our first meeting of our 2022-2023 student government. Our new president is Alayna Scriptor, our vice presidents are Raj and Simranjit Kaur, our treasurer is Abby Dryer, and our social media manager is Elizabeth Rood. In our meeting today we discussed the following: Homecoming dates are October 7 and October 8. We talked about previous dance theme ideas and upcoming theme ideas for spirit days and dances. Our government is a strong group of students who work very hard in their classes, maintain strong GPAs, are great role models, and are committed to our school. Our meetings will be once a month or every six weeks. We will work closely with the Flint Metro League for upcoming projects. Thank you."

## **Board Correspondence**

Dr. Tuttle thanked Ashley for her report. She started her correspondence by commending the OHS cabaret performance, particularly Madalyn Hasyn for her outstanding rendition of “Winner Takes it All”. Dr. Tuttle said the District has enjoyed or will soon enjoy many events for students, including graduations of kindergarten, fifth grade, eighth grade, and of course the graduation ceremony for seniors that took place on May 19. The District has had honor convocations and athletic awards night, and this is a time for commemoration for all students. Dr. Tuttle congratulated Macy Irelan and Chris Ott for being named Athletes of the Year. The OPS softball team is once again first in conference and Dr. Tuttle hopes the team is headed for a repeat of last year’s win. The graduating seniors had their cookout and traditional walkthroughs of the elementary buildings. Dr. Tuttle thanked the food service team and Mr. Klapko for their work at the cookout and providing all the delicious food, and commended Mr. Klapko’s work with the operations department to keep the school grounds looking clean and pristine. She also thanked the administration team for helping and ensuring the events ran smoothly. Dr. Tuttle acknowledged Community Education Director Mrs. Jessica Thompson for her outstanding work on Today’s Trojans, a keepsake for students to look back on and reflect on events that were happening during their time in the District. Dr. Tuttle gave kudos to Transportation Director Renee Secor-Jenks for her tireless effort to maintain her department and relationships with her staff. There is a national bus-driver shortage, but OPS transportation department continues to run smoothly. Dr. Tuttle thanked the Owosso Police Department for their relationship with OPS, saying Chief Lenkart, Lieutenant Cherry, Officer Stone, and Officer Fiebernitz, and all the OPD officers have been a tremendous ally to the District and have worked tirelessly to provide safety and security for all students and staff. Dr. Tuttle ended her report with a reminder about the Pontoon Raffle put on by the High School, and there are still tickets available to purchase. The funds will go towards the CTE program.

Curriculum Director Mr. Brooks began his report by saying that as the school year winds down, the summer planning begins. About 275 Pre-K–12 graders will be attending the summer school program. The District will be offering direct instruction Pre-K–8 grade, focusing on math, reading and science. Credit recovery for grades 9–12 will be offered for Lincoln High School and the North Campus. All summer school students will have breakfast and lunch available for them. Mr. Brooks said the District continues to look at math resources 6–12 grade and will soon have a representative visiting the District to look at online options, including the possibility of online tutors. Mr. Brooks said the District is exploring ALEKS, a research-based online learning program that will cater to individual student needs. All summer the curriculum department will be updating rubrics, assessments, budgets, expectations, behavior models, lessons, guest speakers, and so on. Mr. Brooks reminded everyone that Brooks at Bryant is scheduled every Tuesday at 7:00pm all summer long and Culvers will be providing ice cream for visitors. Lastly, Mr. Brooks said that the District is planning Bryant’s 9<sup>th</sup> annual golf outing and the mailer for that has been sent out.

## **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 individuals addressed the Board:

- Justin Horvath

### **For Action**

- Moved by Webster, supported by Keyes to approve the April 25, 2022, regular Board meeting minutes, the current bills, and financials as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick, to authorize the change of the June 2022 Board meeting from Monday, June 27, 2022, to Monday, June 20, 2022, as both the Superintendent and Curriculum Director will be out of the District. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to authorize the Superintendent to award contracts in amounts not to exceed \$693,600 to Roofing Innovations out of DeWitt, MI for renovation to the Bryant elementary roofing, \$79,803.20 to Mike & Son Asphalt out of Laingsburg, MI for renovation of pavement (site improvements) at Emerson Elementary, and Owosso Carpet out of Owosso, MI for floor renovations at Bryant elementary (removal of carpeting in rooms with carpeting and replacing with flooring with less maintenance/better air quality). These contracts, combined with the approved door renovation contract (April 25, 2022, board approval), brings the total proposed sinking fund contracts for the Summer of 2022 to approximately \$1.3 million. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Webster, supported by Quick to authorize the Superintendent to sign the proposed contract with ESS Midwest (formerly PCMI/Willsub) for the contract for the 2022-23 fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Easlick to authorize Bentley Bright Beginning, Owosso Public School's Operation and Athletic departments to dispose of items that they have identified as no longer considered of use to the staff or students of the district. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Easlick, supported by Keyes to authorize the district to purchase 7 used 77 passenger buses and lease 2 additional buses. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Webster, supported by Quick to support the Shiawassee Regional Education School District 2022-23 budget as presented, and authorize the superintendent to forward the resolution to the SRESB board on or before June 1, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

- Moved by Quick, supported by Webster to approve the hiring of Dr. Dallas Lintner as the new Owosso High School Principal. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Webster, supported by Keyes to approve the hiring of Tara Shorey as an Emerson Elementary second grade teacher. Secretary Webster conducted a roll-call vote. Easlick, Keyes, Webster voted aye. Quick voted nay. Motion passed in 3-1 roll-call vote. Trustee Quick clarified her nay vote is not against Ms. Shorey, but she would like to see more consistency in pay rate for new hires.
- Moved by Quick, Webster to approve the hiring of Joy Hartman as the Owosso High School Food Service Director. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Keyes, supported by Easlick to approve the contract with Spicer Group, as presented, for retention of their services for the design, bidding and fieldwork for the projects identified for summer work. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to put the Water Street Facility out for closed bid for six weeks. Motion carried unanimously. Secretary Webster said that the Board acts as stewards of that building and the use of the building after it is purchased should be considered in the decision of the Board. Trustee Quick, Trustee Easlick, Trustee Keyes agreed with Secretary Webster's sentiments that the Board should consider what the facility will be used for when reviewing bids.

### **For Future Action**

- The Board will be asked to adopt the resolutions that revise the appropriations for the General, School Service and Building and Site Funds for the 2021-22 fiscal year to be presented to the Board for adoption at the June 20, 2022, regularly re-scheduled Board meeting. It should be noted that by allowing for the formal budget to be presented on June 20th it will provide for the most current information to be incorporated into the proposed Revision.
- The Board will be asked to adopt the resolutions to be presented for the 2022-23 fiscal year budget package for the General, School Service, Fiduciary and Sinking funds at the June 20th board meeting.
- The Board will be asked to authorize the borrowing of \$\_\_\_\_\_ inclusive of \$\_\_\_\_\_ of "set-aside" notes and \$\_\_\_\_\_ in "no set-asides" for operating purposes to eliminate cash flow challenges that result from timing issues related to State Aid payments for the 2022-23 school year. NOTE: The actual borrowing resolution(s) that is (are) necessary for the Board to pass will be provided on June 20th which will include the attorney approved amount. There will be two resolutions allowing for participation in the traditional School Bond Loan fund and one allowing for competitive rates to be obtained from other qualified financial institutions.
- The Board will be asked to approve the 2022-2023 student handbooks for Bentley Bright Beginnings, elementary, middle, and high schools as presented.
- The Board will be asked to approve the regular meeting schedule for 2022-2023.

### **For Information**

Dr. Tuttle announced the following personnel changes:

### **Accepted Positions**

- Thomas Dignan II has accepted the Computer Technician position.

### **Resignations**

- Marleigh Flagg, Paraprofessional at Owosso Middle School has resigned effective April 29, 2022.
- Bruce Holladay, Owosso High School Principal has submitted his letter of resignation effective June 30, 2022.
- Cassidy Shaydik, Paraprofessional at Owosso Middle School has submitted her letter of resignation effective at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year.

### **Retirements**

- Ryan Clevenger, Teacher at Owosso High School has submitted his letter of intent to retire at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year after 25 years of service.
- Michele Bruckman, Teacher at Bryant Elementary has submitted her letter of intent to retire at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year after 27 years of service.
- Denise Hudson, Bus Driver has submitted her letter of intent to retire effective May 31, 2022 after 22 years of service.

### **Public Participation**

The following individuals address the Board:

No individuals addressed the Board.

### **Upcoming Dates**

- June 20: Board of Education Regular Meeting, 5:30pm, PAC
- May 24: OMS Spring Choir Concert, 7:00pm, PAC
- May 27: Bryant Kindergarten Graduation, 10:00am, Bryant Gym
- May 27: Central Kindergarten Celebration, 9:00am, TBD
- May 27: Last day of school for all students
- June 2: OHS TMB Curwood Opening Ceremonies, All Day Event
- June 3: OHS 9th Grade Band – Curwood Kids Parade, All Day Event
- June 4: OHS TMB Curwood Heritage Parade, All Day Event

Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to move into closed session at 7:01 pm for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Secretary Webster conducted a roll-call vote. Trustee Quick, Trustee Easlick, Secretary Webster, President Mowen, Treasurer Keyes voted aye. Motion carried unanimously in roll-call vote.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Brooke Barber.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marlene Webster*

Marlene Webster, Secretary