

OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Minutes
Regular Meeting
June 28, 2021
Report 20-182

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

President Rick Mowen called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. The meeting was held at the Washington Campus Gymnasium, 645 Alger Street, Owosso MI 48867.

Pledge of Allegiance

Building Reports

Athletic Director, Dr. Dallas Lintner recognized the following athletes for earning the status of All-State Athlete in their respective sports:

- Claire Agnew was introduced from Girls Track and Field. Claire finished in 8th place for girls pole vaulting at the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) state finals. At the state finals competition, Claire set a school record at nine feet and nine inches, beating the previous record that was set in 1998 by five inches. Dr. Lintner shared Claire's favorite memory from high school athletics, which was realizing that her and her good friend would be competing at state finals together. Claire plans to continue pole vaulting for Owosso High School (OHS) for the next two years. Claire introduced her parents, Ted and Tara Agnew.
- Senior Peyton Frederick was unable to attend the meeting but was recognized for finishing All-State at the boys state wrestling finals. Peyton has signed with Rochester University where he will continue his wrestling career. Dr. Lintner shared his favorite memory of Peyton, recalling making eye contact with Peyton at the exact moment Peyton realized he had defeated his opponent and would be invited to the state finals.
- Macy Ireland was unable to attend the meeting but was recognized for accomplishments in Girls Swimming and Girls Softball. Dr. Lintner shared that Macy is OHS's first ever All-State swimmer. She has broken several school records in swimming, both as an individual and in relay teams. Dr. Lintner announced that Macy will be a senior next year but has verbally committed to playing softball at Kent State University after she graduates from OHS.
- Madyson Rainey was introduced from Girls Softball. Madyson earned the title of a designated player in girls softball and has committed to Adrian College where she will play softball next school year. Dr. Tuttle shared her favorite memory of Madyson which was when Madyson hit a three-run home run that secured a very important win for the team!

Following the recognition of the All-State athletes, Dr. Lintner and Dr. Tuttle introduced the Varsity Girls Softball Team:

- Seniors Naveah Ginger, Karley Kincaid, Addison Kregger, Madyson Rainey, and Reyn Tuttle;
- Juniors Kendall Anderson, Macy Irelan, and Mara LaHaine;
- Sophomores Jamie Maier, Emily Pumford, Brionna Sarnik, Sydney Somers, and Brielle Sovis;
- Freshman Alexis Hemker, Madelyn Miller, and Reese Thayer.

Board Correspondence

Dr. Tuttle thanked the Board members for attending the softball games to support the Varsity team. She announced that on July 6th, in the Owosso Performing Arts Center, the state championship game will be replayed for the softball players, their family, and friends. Dr. Tuttle invited community members to attend, joking that watching will be much less stressful now that everyone knows the ending! Dr. Tuttle also thanked Mr. Rob Oliver, a 1995 OHS alumnus and Animation Director on The Simpsons. Mr. Oliver recently visited his hometown and showed his support of Owosso Girls Softball by drawing the famous character Homer Simpson on one of the 2021 State Champion Softball t-shirts. Dr. Tuttle also thanked Director for Owosso Main Street/Downtown Development Authority Josh Adams and City Manager Nathan Henne for hanging banners of the State Champions throughout Owosso.

Dr. Tuttle announced that kindergarten registration numbers are on track to meet the district's goal. At the time of the meeting, the district had 215 students registered to begin kindergarten with Owosso Schools in August 2021. Dr. Tuttle shared the district's goal is to have 240 kids registered for kindergarten by the start of the new school year.

Dr. Tuttle informed the Board that tours of the new secondary campus will be offered to community members on the following three dates:

- Tuesday, July 13th at 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday July 21st at 9:00 a.m.
- Tuesday July 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Individuals interested in a tour should contact Community Education Director Jessica Thompson to reserve their spot.

Dr. Tuttle reminded the Board of the following Sinking Fund projects that are being completed throughout the district this summer:

- Secondary Campus: renovations to tennis court inclusive of addition of concrete pad and a pergola, renovations to baseball fields inclusive of the baseball scoreboard and softball scoreboard
- Willman Field: renovations to the football scoreboard and fencing, field goal replacement and relocation, and GameClocks
- Emerson: renovations to the bathrooms and stairwells
- Bentley: pergola installation
- Elementary playgrounds: new rubber mulch and some tree removals

Dr. Tuttle shared that students and staff attending summer school do not have to wear face masks. She added that the district is having summer school take place in air conditioned rooms throughout the district as much as possible.

Dr. Tuttle announced that a memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been signed between the district and the Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts regarding the hiring of a Technology Specialist who will be working part time for the Lebowsky Center and part time for the district. This individual will manage the technology at the new Performing Arts Center and also train students on how to use the equipment. Dr. Tuttle thanked the Cook Family Foundation for generously funding this one-year position.

Dr. Tuttle congratulated the Prichlik Family for winning the 2021 Crest Pontoon raffle. The Prichlik Family has already enjoyed their new boat on Higgins Lake. She expressed her gratitude to Crest Pontoon for their significant donation of the pontoon and trailer. Dr. Tuttle explained all proceeds from the raffle will go toward OPS' Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.

Dr. Tuttle informed the Board the COVID-19 Extended Learning Plan will expire June 30, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

- Moved by Quick, supported by Krauss to adopt as their second and final reading revised policy 5460—Graduation Requirements. Dr. Tuttle clarified this policy, if passed, will be in place until amended again by the Board. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Krauss, supported by Easlick to adopt as their second and final reading revised policy revised policy 5460.01—LHS Graduation Requirements. Dr. Tuttle clarified this policy, if passed, will be in place until amended again by the Board. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Krauss, supported by Easlick to approve the 2021–2022 student handbooks for Bentley Bright Beginnings, the elementary, middle, and high schools as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Webster to authorize the Superintendent to sign the proposed revised Purchase Agreement (PA) with Community Housing Network (CHN) for the sale of the current Middle School located at 219 N. Water Street. Dr. Tuttle informed the Board that CHN will begin paying the building utilities when OPS vacates the building, which she hopes will happen by the end of August. She added that CHN has asked to retain the school’s old chalkboards and lockers, a request that was approved because the school no longer uses them. Dr. Tuttle noted the district will continue to maintain the grounds of the property until the sale is final, so there will still be some minimal costs to the district after August. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to authorize the Superintendent to renew the contracts with Genesee Shiawassee Thumb (GST) Michigan Works from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Trustee Krauss, an employee of GST Michigan Works, said this opportunity will help offset training costs, and Michigan Works is happy to partner with OPS. Dr. Tuttle noted this would be the district’s third year partnering with GST, and she recommends the district renew the contract. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Krauss, supported by Quick to resolve that the Board adopt the resolutions that revise the appropriations for the General, School Service, and Building and Site Funds for the 2020–2021 fiscal year. CFO Julie Omer provided a general overview of 2020–2021 final budget revision. She noted the projected general fund balance at June 30, 2021 is \$4,523,000 or 13.25% of revenue. The school service fund is expected to have an overall increase in fund balance of \$23,000 for an expected fund balance of \$43,000 at June 30, 2021 or 3.18%. The Sinking Fund is expected to decrease to a fund balance of \$53,000 due to the timing of completion of summer of 2020 and 2021 projects. The expected sinking fund balance at June 30, 2021 is \$5,100,000. Secretary Webster conducted a roll-call vote. Ayes: Easlick, Quick, Webster, Ochodnick, Mowen, Krauss. Nays: None. Absent: Keyes. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Krauss to adopt the resolution presented for the 2021–2022 fiscal year budget package for the General, School Service, Fiduciary, and Sinking funds. CFO Omer provided an overview of the 2021–2022 proposed budgets. The foundation allowance for next year will be \$8,311. CFO Omer noted this is \$200 more than 2020–2021 for each full time equivalent (student for which the district receives funding). Full time equivalents are expected to be 100 less next year than in 2020–2021. In addition, CFO Omer predicts there were several one-time federal grants received last year that will not be provided this coming year. CFO Omer explained the district has a financial goal of maintaining a 6% fund balance by the end of fiscal year 2021–2022 to prevent moving into territory for State “take over”. CFO Omer suggestions would result in a fund balance that equals \$2,081,000 or 6.17% of expenses. Dr. Tuttle reminded the Board the district always budgets conservatively at the beginning of the fiscal year. CFO Omer is projecting a \$21,054 (1.27%) school service fund balance at the end of the 2021–

- Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to resolve that the Board of Education approve the contract with Spicer Group, as presented, for retention of their services for the design, bidding and possible construction of air conditioning using a possible combination of ESSER and sinking funds. Dr. Tuttle emphasized this only allows for the design phase of adding air conditioning to the buildings. Trustee Quick expressed that she believes adding air conditioning would be a great use of ESSER funds. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Ochodnicky, supported by Webster to resolve that the Board of Education approve the July 1, 2021– June 30, 2022 Tentative Agreement between the Owosso Education Association (OEA) and the Owosso Board of Education. Dr. Tuttle commended the OEA team, noting that she believes educators are underpaid and is happy the district is in the position to give something back to teachers this year. She was happy to announce their package includes a 2% on schedule payment and 3% off schedule payment. Trustee Quick and President Mowen stated, in accordance with the Board’s Bylaws, they must abstain from voting because they have family members who are OEA members. President Mowen extended his gratitude to the bargaining team and to all staff for their hard work this past year. Secretary Webster conducted a roll call vote. Abstained: Mowen, Quick. Ayes: Easlick, Ochodnicky, Webster, Krauss. Nays: None. Absent: Keyes, Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Easlick to resolve that the Board of Education approve the July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022 Tentative Agreement between the Owosso Education Support Personnel Association (OESPA) and the Owosso Board of Education. Dr. Tuttle thanked the support staff for their tremendous efforts during a challenging year. Dr. Tuttle also gave special thanks to OESPA President, Gizelle Ross. She noted that Gizelle has been a pleasure to work with throughout negotiations. Secretary Webster conducted a roll call vote. Ayes: Easlick, Quick, Webster, Ochodnicky, Mowen, Krauss. Nays: None. Absent: Keyes. Motion passed unanimously.
- Moved by Ochodnicky, supported by Krauss to resolve that the Board of Education approve the July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022 Tentative Agreement between Building and Central Office Administrators and the Owosso Board of Education. President Mowen announced, in accordance with the Board’s Bylaws, he must abstain from voting. Abstained: Mowen. Ayes: Easlick, Quick, Webster, Ochodnicky, Krauss. Nays: None. Absent: Keyes. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Ochodnicky, supported by Krauss to resolve that the Board of Education approve salary adjustments for non-union personnel to reflect parity with other bargaining groups. Ayes: Easlick, Quick, Webster, Ochodnicky, Mowen, Krauss. Nays: None. Absent: Keyes. Motion carried unanimously.
- Moved by Quick, supported by Krauss to resolve that the Board adopt the membership resolution of the Michigan High School Athletic Association for the year beginning August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

For Future Action

- The Board will be asked to authorize the Owosso Public School’s Career and Technical Education Department to dispose of an un-operational Powermatic Planer and workbenches that can no longer meet the woodworking needs of students.

Moved by Easlick, supported by Webster to move the for future action item to for action item. Motion carried unanimously.

For Information

Superintendent Dr. Tuttle reported the following personnel changes:

Respectfully submitted,


Marlene Webster, Secretary