

**Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING APRIL 9, 2018**

PAGE 8610
4-9-2018

Call To Order

The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Amy Crites, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Tonya Rodriguez, Sarah Wohlford

Members Absent: Erica Wolf

Administrators: Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross; Assistant Superintendent John Hood; Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier and Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz

Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross presented Board President Dean Bolton with a certificate and pin in recognition of earning the Michigan Association of School Boards Level 1 Certified Board Member Award.

Recognition

Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross presented an overview of the results from the listen and learn tour conducted this fall. The purpose of the World Café activity was to learn from the variety of stakeholders of Okemos Public Schools. Stakeholders were asked for input and ideas regarding four main areas: what OPS should celebrate – what is it the district does well; reflect -what areas need attention; dream – what do you want OPS to be known for in 10 to 15 years; and priorities. Examples of each of these areas were given. From the results, the superintendent is making the following recommendations as next steps in this process: a Mental Health Advisory Board; Project Pride infrastructure assessment; implement communication processes and procedures; strategic planning; and sharing the World Café results to the community to obtain additional feedback.

Presentation:
World Café Report

Members inquired about how this report will be implemented and incorporated into the strategic plan and equity plans.

Dean Bolton inquired about how the recommendation for a facilities and infrastructure assessment aligns with the Facility/Site Use Committee recommendation.

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about the impact the use of certain terminology may have on its significance for example: core vs. elective/enrichment, suggesting the electives are of less importance.

Assistant Superintendent John Hood provided an update on the Beginnergarten program including an overview of past enrollment trends, summary of area programs and potential changes for consideration for the 2018-2019 school year.

Presentation:
Beginnergarten

Mr. Hood described the process used to reach the recommendation including developing several options that were analyzed and reviewed by teachers and administrators. Administration is recommending a tiered lottery system that targets

the youngest students in most need of the program and satisfies the original intent of the program. Additional considerations include space, transportation and budget concerns.

PAGE 8611
Beginnergarten
Cont.

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about the number of students enrolled in beginnergarten-type programs in other Ingham County districts.

Members inquired about transportation equity and access.

Director of Operations Steve Lathrop presented information for board discussion regarding the recent custodial services bid. This is for second shift and weekend cleaning of all OPS buildings, which have been cleaned by a private contractor for the last 6 years. OPS agreed to be part of a cooperative bid with other Ingham county schools and administered by the Ingham Intermediate School District. Bids have been sought and will be brought to a future meeting.

Discussion Moved
Forward: Custodial
Services Bid

Superintendent Zachery-Ross reported on the following: construction at the Jolly and Okemos Road intersection; 2018-2019 student placements; kindergarten round up activities; article regarding Kinawa teacher Sheree Jungwirth and the CPR and first aid classes; congratulated the CMS Science Olympiad team who placed first at the regional competition and will move on to the State meet; thanked the Okemos Education Foundation along with the Michigan Humanities Council and the Michigan Council for Art and Cultural Affairs who sponsored an upcoming speaker visit, Holocaust storyteller Judy Sima; upcoming OHS performance of Les Miserables; and an upcoming presentation by mental health advocate Will Heininger on April 11th.

Superintendent
Report

No one addressed the board.

Citizens Address
Agenda &
Non-Agenda Items

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence from the following: Holly Andrews, Amanda Goll, Jayne Lock, Scott Schopieray and Angie Wilson concerning school and student safety; Matt Seybert regarding sexual abuse prevention training; and Nguyen Hue Nam regarding enrollment.

Board Reports &
Request
Board Reports &
Request

Amy Crites reported on the upcoming Athletic Booster fundraiser.

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Amy Crites that the board approve items 1 and 2 for immediate implementation and appropriate action:
Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 26, 2018;
Item 2: Acknowledge receipt of the March financial statement and approve payment of bills for March.

Consent
Agenda

AYE: 6 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 1 **MOTION CARRIED**

Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz provided an update and the board continued discussing the development of the 2018-2019 budget. Updated budget assumptions and projections were provided and included the 2017-2018 net effect carry forward balance to the 2018-2019 proposed budget of approximately \$781,000.

2018-2019
Budget
Development

Ms. Lentz also reviewed the budget development timelines.

PAGE 8612
4-9-2018

Members inquired about the process to incorporate the board priorities into the proposed budget.

The board discussed the April 18th Community Conversation, including the facilitator, format, representation from both long range planning committees, participation tools, as well as board member roles and responsibilities.

Community
Conversation

There were no public comments.

Comments From
The Public

There were no other matters.

Other Matters

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Adjourn

Tonya Rodriguez, Secretary