

Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING MARCH 20, 2023

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<p>The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Gebara at 7:00 p.m.</p>	Call To Order
<p>Members Present: Tom Buffett, Katie Cavanaugh, Shulawn Doxie, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Andrew Phelps and Jayme Taylor</p>	
<p>Administrators: Superintendent John Hood; Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey; Director Elizabeth Lentz</p>	
<p>Okemos Education Foundation Chair Sue Hallman provided an update to the board and community regarding the OEF including: grants and activities made possible by the OEF, professional development, author visits, Wolf Pack support, and the high school's solar racing car program. Ms. Hallman also discussed the OEF's increased fundraising efforts including an upcoming 1st annual golf outing.</p>	OEF Update
<p>Administrators from each level provided an update on student discipline and attendance through the end of first semester of the 2022-2023 school year. They shared their approach to communicating data with the board and community, and also their approach to discipline and attendance which includes a focus on the student and what is needed to help them improve, as well as the school environment and what can be done to improve it to better support the student. They reviewed MICIP as it pertains to non-academic data, as well as MTSS.</p>	Non-Academic Data Update
<p>Behavior and discipline data was presented and encompassed data collection and analysis. In and out of school suspensions, interventions, proactive and restorative measures; and behavior trends were provided. Attendance data was reviewed, and it was noted that it was proportionate among subgroups. The addition of SSA's, added counselors and social workers, as well as clubs are linked to improved discipline and attendance.</p>	
<p>Administrators will continue to interrogate the environment, policies and procedures to improve behavior, attendance and increase connections.</p>	
<p>Members inquired about the following: behaviors that would be illegal outside of school; possible barriers for special education and economically disadvantaged subgroups; ways to address substance abuse; further analysis of data specifically for chronically absent students.</p>	
<p>Lisa Crites, Jennifer Shorkey Parul Shah addressed the board concerning the food service department.</p>	Citizens Address Agenda & Non-Agenda Items
<p>High School Representatives reported on the following: upcoming spring break; end of the 3rd quarter; upcoming State assessments; recent Touch of Class fundraiser; bottle drive for Okemos Outreach; recent Spanish field trip to the DIA and orchestra trip to New York; and pep assemble; input regarding the SRO position; and class scheduling.</p>	High School Student Report
<p>Superintendent Hood reported on the following: update on feminine hygiene products being supplied to students; Montessori school of choice process; DEIAC sub-committee to further analyze data and inform academic and non-academic supports; recent collage concert; upcoming superintendent evaluation; forgiveness days and application to the State to waive one of the days; and spring transportation to athletic events.</p>	Superintendent Report

Members inquired about the Montessori program, and longevity of the feminine hygiene product program.

Board Reports &
Request

President Gebara acknowledged receipt of correspondence from the following: Nathan Mahn regarding proposed board policy; Conan Dombroski regarding the start times survey data; and Areesha Shah regarding Eid Al Fitr.

Members reported on the following: May 10th Community Safety Event with Meridian Township; 100-year anniversary of OPS and possible event to celebrate; possible presentation from DEIAC; and a school start times presentation.

Consent Agenda

MOVED by Andy Phelps, SUPPORTED by Shulawn Doxie that the board approve items 1 through 3 for immediate implementation and appropriate action.
Item 1: Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 8, 2023; Item 2: Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2023; Item 3: Acknowledge receipt of the Leave of Absence Report and approve the request for a Personal Leave of Absence for Nora Carroll, Resource Teacher at OHS for the 2023-2024 school year; and the renewal of a Personal Leave of Absence for Amanda Dean, Physical Education Teacher at Hiawatha Elementary School for the 2023-2024 school year.

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Juul Litigation
Resolution

MOVED by Tom Buffett, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board waive the reading and approve the resolution to accept the settlement agreement and authorizes the superintendent to sign lawsuit settlement documents pertaining to the Juul Defendants on behalf of the district.

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Student Trip

MOVED by Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED by Jayme Taylor that the board endorse the OHS French student trip to France, scheduled for June 24th to July 3, 2024 with the understanding the students will abide by all school policies and procedures while abroad.

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Final Reading:
Board Policy

The board approved first reading of policy 5106 Gender Identity at its January 9th meeting and the policy was placed on the website for community feedback. The board received revisions at its February 27th and March 13th meetings. The board reviewed an updated policy and agreed to add adopting the policy to the agenda.

MOVED by Andy Phelps, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board adopt final reading of board policy 5106 Gender Identity as revised.

Roll Call Vote

Tom Buffett	Yes	Mary Gebara	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Andy Phelps	Yes
Shulawn Doxie	Yes	Jayme Taylor	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

2023-2024
Budget
Development

Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz provided information regarding the development of the 2023-2024 budget including preliminary assumptions. Assumptions included adjustment to the MSPERS retirement rate; roll up cost; teacher division changes; savings from teacher retirements; and

staffing needs. Outstanding items and impending discussions were reviewed including negotiations, grants, insurance rates, board priorities etc.

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No one addressed the board.

Public Comment

A reminder of the Superintendent Evaluation Special Meeting on March 21st.

Other Matters

Melanie Lynn inquired about board policy work.

President Gebara adjourned the regular meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Adjourn

Jayne Taylor, Secretary