



Oceanside Schools

Anchored Together

BY PURPOSE, PASSION, AND PEOPLE

In Case You Missed It Summary of 9-27-17 Board of Education Meeting

Opening of Schools

Dr. Phyllis Harrington reported that the opening of schools was so smooth that it felt as though the school year was much further underway. She also provided an update on the OHS 9th grader who was hit by a car on September 8. The student is recuperating and doing remarkably well despite having a long recovery ahead. Dr. Harrington reiterated how much the entire community supports the student and her family and wishes her well.

Dr. Harrington thanked all of the staff who pulled together to support the student and her family and to provide a listening ear for other students and staff in the wake of the accident. Middle School staff headed right over to OHS to offer their assistance and staff at School #3 have also been supportive of the family. Dr. Harrington stated that it takes a calm, smart, caring team to work together in such a united fashion.

Enrollment

The monthly enrollment report was as submitted in the agenda, however, Dr. Harrington stated that three classes at School #9E exceeded Board of Education guidelines for class size and that Josh McPherson, School #9E's principal, acted quickly to recruit additional staff. Additionally, one section went over at School #3 and that School #3's principal, Beth Castiello, and her staff had developed an excellent plan to utilize a teacher assistant.

Construction

Chris Van Cott stated that the summer of 2018 will be the fifth and final year of the bond construction projects, with Schools #4 and #9 closed for construction. The construction report was otherwise as submitted.

Goals

Dr. Harrington stated that although the district's 2017-18 goals are posted on the website and are very detailed, she wanted to note a few highlights for the Board of Education and assembled audience. The highlights include:

Curriculum

Next Generation Science Standards

Elementary math "Exemplars" and "Foundations"

Makerspace for elementary students

New courses including Creative Coding at OMS, Year 2 of Project Lead the Way (Civil Engineering and Architecture), re-designed Economics and Government course.

Personalized Education Plans at OHS Castleton

Focus on improving attendance among students with high absenteeism, in keeping with ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act)

Communication

Re-designed Website

Congratulations to Fran Cuomo and Suzanne Dwyer

Community Outreach

The district looks forward to presenting a Parent University in March, sponsored by the P.A.S.S. Committee.

In addition, there will be a new venture to celebrate veterans, starting with the first event on November 9 at 9:30 am. This will be an OHS Castleton project.

Social Emotional Literacy

Digital citizenship

"No Place for Hate" - program in OMS and now being implemented at elementary schools

Professional Learning

Teaching and learning coaches

Professional develop courses and consultation for secondary math teachers

Technology

Phase 1 of Chromebook initiative at OHS. Chromebooks that flip into touch screen tablets were on hand for audience members to examine.

Smartbond funding to add wifi at elem schools is waiting in a NYS Education Department queue as it goes through the distribution process

Kindergarten early learning labs, made possible by a grant, will have a ribbon cutting ceremony later in the school year

Annual Performance Review

Diane Provvido presented the *Annual Performance Review*, which provides scores on the various assessments students take, including the state testing that elementary students undergo and the various regents and AP exams for secondary students. The presentation can be found on the Board of Education section of the website under Board of Education Presentations.

<http://oceansideschools.org/annual-performance-review/>

Overall results were positive, with elementary scores up on both the ELA and Mathematics state assessments, exceeding NYS results. Mrs. Provvido was pleased to report on positive changes to the exams including untimed portions, fewer passages and teacher involvement in developing the questions. Going forward 100% of questions will have been developed by teachers.

- ***Regents***

Passing percentages on all Regents exams were high, including in math, where standards have undergone many changes in the last several years, science, and social studies. Oceanside students exceeded state results on the geometry exam by more than 20 percent.

Last year's students were the first cohort of students to have taken the Big History course, suggesting that the skills developed through that course contributed to success on the global studies regents.

- ***Advanced Placement***

Nearly one-third of all 10th-12th graders - a total 464 students - took at least one AP exam. 1070 exams were written and 74% of the students taking an Advanced Placement exam scored a level 3, 4, or 5, thereby becoming eligible to earn college credit for the course.

Opportunity for Superintendent

- Two District Office staff will retire in 2017-18: Robin Green, financial manager and district clerk and Julie LaBau, buyer. Rena Sharpe, a clerical staff member who works with DOCA and the Teacher Center, is also retiring. Plans are under way for staffing these positions.
- Little free lending libraries at each elementary school will be finalized shortly.
- Regent Tilles is visiting Oceanside on Friday along with national consultants to view and discuss our teacher leadership model.

- Dr. Harrington acknowledged Rich Napolitano for the beautiful showcases that he donated, which he built himself
- Dr. Harrington stated her pride in how well the football team at OHS is doing; the team is seeded number one and Dr. Harrington encouraged everyone to come out for the Homecoming game

Opportunity for The Board of Education

Sandie Schoell stated that she hoped that someone at the state level would look at assessments after the tests are written to verify that the level of rigor is

Dr. Harrington, who sits on the executive committee for assessments at the state level, explained that one issue with revamping tests has been lack of funding. She said that it was not an excuse and the state is looking for assistance from colleges and universities as well as schools to field test ideas. Dr. H. said that schools must be part of the solution by being willing to field test. Sandie said that the BOE and community need to lobby for the appropriate resources for proper assessments.

Seth Blau reminded the audience that the Kiwanis dinner dance and annual installation will take place on October 14 and that fire chief Kevin Klein and library volunteer Michael Ambrosio will be honored.

Bob Transom remarked upon the Oceanside Community Service dinner dance on October 26, which will honor the Oceanside Federation of Teachers (OFT). Mr. Transom said that without OFT there would be no OCS. Subsequently Mr. Pittman of the OFT donated a check for \$1,000.

Kim Garrity stated that there is no way to explain to the community all that Robin Green does and how well she does it.