2013-2018 Gains and Improvements

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

Must provide a challenging, engaging and meaningful education for all students.

- Innovative new courses such as Project Lead the Way Engineering, Virtual Business, Big History
- Self-designed opportunities for AP students
- Redesigned OHS Castleton to better provide a true alternative learning experience
- Introduced the ACCUPLACER Exam in collaboration with Nassau Community College
- Introduced Parent Portal to increase home-school communication
- New elementary report card to enhance home-school communication
- Reorganized K-12 Special Education Department resulting in more effective and efficient practices and programs
- Enhanced video broadcasting program providing hands-on technical and journalistic training
- Received funding for interactive Learning Lab at School #6
- Introduced math resources such as Exemplars
- Early and Intermediate Literacy Initiatives to develop youngest readers and writers
- Project Extra in the Classroom in grades 3 through 6, providing STEM and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) instruction
- Introduction of an elementary Maker-space curriculum
- Added Boys Swim Team to already robust athletics program
- Bridges program introduced at OMS
- Created No Place for Hate designated schools

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The cornerstone of the growth and development of our faculty and staff who are committed to continual improvement.

- Professional learning for staff charged with implementing new ELA, science, social studies and math standards
- Vertical articulation opportunities for math teachers grades 6-12
- Video technology as a tool for growth and mastery of best practices
- Partnership with Adelphi University in a yearlong residency program to recruit and develop the best teachers
- Tenure Attainment Plan (TAPS) to support new faculty in their growth and accomplishments
- Teaching and Learning Coaches (TLCs) across the elementary level
- OSD staff are leading innovators of national science and social studies curriculum and best practices
- Professional development for leadership team with a focus on improving best practices
- Introduced SAMR coursework

FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

Must be safe, secure learning environments, continually strengthened to provide appropriate resources to support and enhance the educational experience for all.

Budget & Finance:

- Transparent budget planning and process
- Compliance with allowable Tax Levy Limit
- Strong budgetary voter support
- Improved fund balance and reserve levels
- Established Repair and Capital Reserves
- Fully accrued for liabilities
- Maximized expense-driven state aid
- Increased participation in purchasing consortia
- Expanded Internal Controls
- Introduced electronic payment system for student club events
- Improved practices resulting in minimal audit recommendations
- Improved financial status resulting in removal from Comptroller’s Fiscal Stress List
- Improved Moody’s Bond Rating as a result of stronger fiscal stability
- Maximized reimbursement from FEMA and insurance carrier for storm-Sandy related losses

continued on reverse
Buildings and Grounds:
- Renovations throughout district including energy efficient upgrades
- Preventive maintenance schedules for facilities and athletic fields
- $30m multi-year capital improvement plan to improve security, technology, roofs, asphalt, masonry at various schools, a/c and new seating to School #6 auditorium, a/c to OMS auditorium, playgrounds, energy efficient boilers and more
- Established plan for OHS turf field rehabilitation
- Developed plan for OHS drama program space
- Obtained grant for creation of Kindergarten Center Early Childhood Learning Lab
- Secured FEMA funding to rebuild a districtwide storage facility

Health and Safety:
- Detailed districtwide security manual
- Invested $500k for the installation of security cameras, door access control, video intercom units, wireless panic buttons and automated lock-down/lock-out systems
- Health and wellness committees established and new policies introduced
- Outdoor security monitors added at all elementary buildings
- Created emergency communications protocol document
- Developed agreement with NCPD to view cameras in emergency situations
- Began utilization of surveillance cameras to monitor after-hours at Schools #6, #7 and #9
- Introduced cell phone application with police notification (RAVE)

Food Services:
- Operated in a fiscally responsible manner
- Introduced automated phone system for parent communication
- Participation in “Farms to Schools” program
- Positive state audits
- Partnered with other school districts to maximize purchasing power

Transportation:
- Seamless transition to new bus company
- Updated GPS routing software
- Streamlined routes for efficiency

TECHNOLOGY
Maximizes and enhances learning via natural integration into existing best practices.
- Implementation of Elementary Technology Initiative

COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Fostering positive relationships with school and community members by communicating timely and accurate information, and by offering intellectual, social and recreational programs that enhance our residents’ lives
- Established enhanced community activities programs such as Camp Invention, Back-to-School Boot Camp, redesigned summer school and adult activities
- Redesigned website which can be upgraded remotely to post urgent information
- Use of Twitter, Remind, district mobile application which includes access to lunch menus and calendar
- Updated Safety Team/Communication Protocol
- OSD Parent University offers workshops on timely educational and parenting topics
- Redesigned after-school and summer programs for maximum staff efficiency
- Expanded course offerings in adult and youth programs
- Introduced community reading campaign
- Introduced Veterans Project at OHS Castleton
- Created one consistent BOE venue with improved audio-visual capabilities, comfortable seating, air-conditioning and access to parking
- Continually improved BOE celebrations such as honors, tenure recognition and retirement acknowledgement

HUMAN RESOURCES
A strong, effective organization depends on the talent and teamwork of its faculty and staff.
- Successful negotiations with all 14 bargaining units
- Restructured HR department for greater efficiency
- Redesigned recruitment efforts
- Hired and mentored over 500 new faculty and staff
- More than 50 percent of administrative team was newly hired, demonstrating outstanding leadership skills
- Transitioned new district clerk