

OCUSD #220
BOARD MINUTES
January 18, 2022

Public Hearing (2 of 3) on the Closure of DLR and information on the 22-23 Jr/Sr High School Plan

1. Public Hearing called to order by Wills at 6:30 p.m.
2. Roll call, present were Wills, Griffin, Baker, Buck, Nesemeier and Guzman. Duke was absent.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Motion by Buck, second by Guzman to open Public Hearing on the closure of DLR and information on the 22-23 Jr/Sr High School Plan. Voice vote. 5-0. Motion carried.
5. Presentation by Dr. Mahoney to explain the rationale for DLR Closure and the Jr/Sr High School plan details.
 - a. Dr. Mahoney shares the enrollment numbers for the district are dropping.
 - i. Illinois is one of three states losing population
 - ii. Ogle County birth rates are flat
 - iii. Projected K-12 enrollment continues to decrease
 - b. Dr. Deininger presents on the elective structure explaining the extra courses that will be offered as well as the greater ability to work with at-need students.
 - i. Dr. Mahoney explained that the course name, History of sports in the US, was a unique way to expose students to historical events and the role sports played in those events. He also shared information regarding the computer science offerings that are included in the Project Lead the Way curriculum.
 - c. Board discusses articulation of curriculum, how electives will be chosen, class period lengths and sizes as well as the division of administrators for student/parent advisory purposes.
6. Public Comment:
 - a. Phil Labash expressed concerns regarding the closure of DLR and the impact on Mt. Morris.
 - b. Louise Earhart and Mike Anderson expressed concerns regarding the space at OHS being sufficient to house both Jr & Sr high students. Mr. Anderson emphasized the safety of social distancing with adding more students into the same building.
 - c. Bruce Obendorf inquires about the Senior Capstone Project and the Entrepreneurship program.
 - i. Dr. Mahoney agrees to email details, as those will be different in structure.
 - d. Mr. Obendorf comments regarding the use of COVID and bond money.
 - e. Sylvia Saunders stated appreciation for all of the work that has been done.
 - f. Rob Urich expressed his concern regarding student test scores.
 - g. Jeff Bold and PJ Gabucci spoke regarding the closure.
 - h. Andy Martin spoke emphasizing the district mission statement.
7. Motion by Guzman, second by Griffin to close the public hearing on the closure of DLR and information on the 22-23 Jr/Sr High School Plan. Voice vote. 5-0. Motion carried.
8. Other Matters before the Board: None.
9. Public Hearing Adjourned at 7:33.

Board President – OCUSD #220

Board Secretary – OCUSD #220