

To: Dr. Mahoney  
Board of Education  
From: Heidi Deininger  
Re: Board Report  
Date: February 15, 2023



### **Some upcoming important dates:**

Feb 16 High School Horizon testing (practice PSAT/SAT)  
Feb 24 Junior High Valentine's Dance  
Feb 21-24 Winter Spirit Week  
Feb 25 High School Winter Dance  
March 16th-20th - 8th grade Illinois Science Assessment  
April 4-14th (various days) IAR Testing 7th & 8th grade  
April 12th - PSAT/SAT High School

### **Academics**

- Second semester is underway – as you can see from the dates above, we will be doing standardized testing in the months ahead. Much classroom time is being spent on test preparation.
- Seth McMillan is collaborating with Etnyre on a project. We are working with KMK on some media attention. The description of the project is on the last page of this report.

### **The Leader in Me**

- Teacher leaders have organized and facilitated “Donuts and Discussion” every month where we study one of the 7 Habits and discuss/do activities. For the month of February, Erin Moloney discussed Sharpening the Saw and lead the team in an activity. We do these every month at OJSHS.

### **Student Activities**

- The high school musical, The Addams Family, is March 9-12
- Our Hawk Huddles are actively working on their service projects. Part of our SIP was to have every Hawk Huddle complete a service project this year. There are many great projects that are occurring or will occur throughout the year.
  - Active now: caps for benches; supplies for humane society; food drive; supply drive for the Rockford Peace center;
- Here is a list of projects that are happening:  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1H2TS2n22PG\\_ZAvELMWqiPfq7kBuvtrxFa\\_viSNy5lqI/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1H2TS2n22PG_ZAvELMWqiPfq7kBuvtrxFa_viSNy5lqI/edit#gid=0)

For your information, here is a list of all of the clubs and teams that we have at OJSHS. We have a lot to offer for a school our size:

Academic Bowl	Football
Archery Club	Golf - Boys
Art Club	Golf - Girls
Athletic Leadership Council	Gaming Club
Band	Jazz Band
Baseball	Leaders For Change
Basketball – Boys	Madrigals
Basketball – Girls	Soccer - Boys
Bass Fishing	Soccer - Girls
Book Club	Softball
Bowling - Boys	Student Council
Bowling - Girls	Track & Field - Boys
Cheerleading	Track & Field - Girls
Choir	Trap/Skeet Club
Class Officers	Wrestling
Club 9	Volleyball
Cross Country - Boys	Yearbook
Cross Country - Girls	
Drama (Spring Musical)	
Drama Club (Fall play)	
FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)	
FFA	
Dungeons and Dragons	

## **School Improvement Plan Highlights**

### **OJSHS School Improvement Plan**

#### **Highlights:**

- Academics:** The math department 7-12 has been using iXL to build math skills. Students are showing continuous growth. 9-11<sup>th</sup> grades have integrated this into weekly assignments. We are using this supplemental resource to fill skill gaps. Mr. Cann is implementing a test preparation program in collaboration with Arizona State University. Two days/week an instructor from ASU leads a small group of students in supplemental instruction on math skills. Two days/week students utilize an online platform for individualized skill building. One day/week Mr. Cann and the ASU instructor co-teach a whole group lesson. It is an 8 week program with the goal of building skills for this group of students who are close to meets/exceeds. You can look at this for more information:
- Culture/Climate:** The week of Feb 13-17 was staff care week at OJSHS. We had various themes and had a self-care card for people to participate in activities (for prizes). The School Improvement Day at the end of week (Friday, Feb 17) will be entirely centered on self-care (physical, mental, financial).
- Professional Learning:** As a district, we are committed to analyzing and refining our curriculum. The building administrative teams work monthly with content teams to review curriculum and instructional methods, as well as discuss students academic outcomes based on assessments. The content teams are ELA, Math, Social Studies, Fine Arts, Electives, PE/Health, Science and Special Education. All teams have worked to vertically align curriculum so teachers at each grade level know what is expected by the next grade level team. This is very powerful and important work that has been going on for a year. It imperative that all content teachers know the progression of skills from Pre-K to senior year.

## **Oregon Ag Mechanics/Etnyre foundation collaboration**

### **Phase One:**

The collaboration with Etnyre will begin this spring in mid February with six advanced welding students. The students were selected based on their standing in the advanced welding course here at OJSHS. The students will have the opportunity to be part of the manufacturing process on a real piece of equipment. Students will observe the equipment, assemble parts in the welding shop at the school, and hopefully see those parts installed onto a piece of Etnyre equipment.

One advanced welding student has already been placed at Etnyre, and I have a second that is going through the hiring process. Both students are seniors. The hope is that students who fabricate and weld Etnyre parts here at school will then be interested in an internship with Etnyre.

For students to be eligible for this opportunity they have to go through the Basic Ag Mechanics and Ag welding course first. As this partnership grows, all students enrolled in advanced welding at OJSHS will have the opportunity to fabricate and assemble parts and then have a pathway to an internship and hopefully employment.

### **Phase Two:**

Planned internships and employment.

We offer an SAE(Supervised Agriculture Experience) course here at OJSHS that could allow students to work or participate in an internship during the school day. This course would be something that a senior student would take after completing other courses required for graduation. Like many companies, Etnyre requires interns and workers to be at least 18.

Students who are interested in this pathway should reach out to me or the counseling department to enroll in the proper courses.

This partnership will work much like a school to work or what use to be called a COOP program. In this case we are hoping to build a pathway for students to get relevant training at school and provide them a path to a good career. I am interested in working with other businesses as well. As far as educational benefits, Anytime we can include real and relevant examples in the classroom, that improves student engagement. This idea came from students who wanted more challenging and meaningful projects to work on in welding class coupled with the need to prepare and provide future employees to local industry.