

To: Dr. Mahoney
Board of Education
From: Heidi Deininger
Re: October Board Report
Date: October 13, 2020



Student Happenings

October 5-8 was originally scheduled as our Homecoming Week. Due to Covid-19, we switched gears to a Hawk-O-Lympics spirit week. We had daily dress days and a daily duck hunt (550 ducks hidden around the building daily; the class who found the most got points). We also had Hawk-O-Lympics games on Thursday afternoon. The games were well planned by Student Council to insure we followed all safety protocols. Students and staff had a lot of fun. Friday night concluded the week with a band performance, the awarding of the Hawk head and a drive-in movie. We were grateful for beautiful weather and the opportunity to do something to replace Homecoming, despite scaling it back significantly to follow safety protocols.

Seniors took the SAT on September 23. They will receive their scores on or around October 15th. We partner with the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) every year to provide assistance to students and families with completion of FAFSA. This year, our ISAC consultant is holding virtual office hours to assist our students/families. It is required that all families either apply for FAFSA or complete a waiver of non- participation. We will be working with families to complete one or the other.

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors will take the practice SAT on November 2nd. This will give us an idea of where students have skill gaps so we can focus on these areas to prepare for spring state testing.

The fall play, “The Customer is Always Wrong” is being performed October 16-18th. The cast is very small. Students and audiences will follow Covid-19 safety protocols. As a reminder, the fall play is student lead and student directed. The students pick out the script, do all of the staging, directing and other logistics for the play.

Academics

As the first quarter concludes, we are proud of how well the school year is going. Our students are learning and growing every day. To start the year, we had 22% of our students as remote learners. As of October 13, 31 students have returned. We are down to only 15% of our students who are learning remotely. Remote learning has been challenging for students at home for many reasons which include students working full time; technology issues; babysitting younger siblings; lack of structure at home; difficulty with the content. We have done many things to connect with our remote learners including evening meetings, one on one tutoring from 8-10:00 AM, additional time and practice on concepts, use of asynchronous and synchronous instruction, home visits, video guidance for parents to help them navigate Google Classroom and parent/teacher/student conferences (both virtually and in person).

Overall, students who are in-person learners are having a successful year. We have a 90+% pass rate for all students in all of their classes.



Family Communication

- Bi-Quarterly newsletter emailed to families
- Parent Principal Advisory will be having their first meeting in October (once/quarter)
- Grade level teams have had parent/teacher/student meetings
- Phone calls and emails have been conducted and documented
- Administrative assistants continue to make calls to remind families to self-certify student health, although the number is small (10-15/day)

School Improvement Plan

- Academic Growth- All departments have SMART goals
- Culture & Climate – All OHS staff will internalize and practice the 7 Habits and role model Habits within their classes; OHS Lighthouse team will continue to message the 7 Habits throughout the building; OHS will continue to provide students with opportunities to get involved, despite the reduction in athletics
- Professional Growth – Professional Learning Communities (PLC) meet once/month to monitor student growth on SMART goals; grade level teams meeting twice/month to monitor student overall academic and social emotional growth

See Full School Improvement Plan here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19yTbKYrpV4cfoJNKkk2jx0lScGCwUtnKsyA_W1h7lyE/edit?usp=sharing

The Leader in Me

- High school staff is doing a deep-dive into one habit/month
- Weekly donuts/coffee discussion about the habit and how we apply it to our own lives
- Lighthouse team continues to work on messaging throughout school (signage, positive statements, resources to teachers)
- Focus on components of 7 Habits in daily announcements

Professional Development

- Lighthouse team meeting with consultant 9/17
- Dr. Deininger participated in a statewide virtual meeting with other school leaders regarding remote learning attendance, instruction and social emotional learning
- Remote learning instructional methods (ICLE/Diane Jones) 9/30
- School improvement day professional development from EdConnective October 9th
- UPCOMING – Coaches clinic with Rob Miller- October 29th



Athletic Action Plan

- Coaches are working on skills manuals
- Mandatory coaches clinic on October 29th 6-9:00 PM (Proactive Coaching); during the day, Rob Miller will be available to have one on one discussions with coaches; he is also meeting with student leaders in the morning
- Revising the coaching evaluation tool to align to the 5 Characteristics of a Hawk

Equity Work

- Reached out to Educational Equity Consultants (<http://eec4justice.com/>)
- Started to have discussions with adults who are willing to be part of a team at OHS
- Continued discussions within our staff regarding equity; encourage staff to read/access resources from <https://www.tolerance.org/>