

To: Dr. Mahoney  
Board of Education  
From: Heidi Deininger  
Re: Board Report  
Date: May 10, 2023



**Some upcoming important dates: )**

May 8-May 19 - ThinkCerca end of year benchmark window  
May 10 Senior Honors Night (Rock River Center)  
May 11 High School student of the quarter assembly  
May 12 Last day for seniors if getting C or better in all classes  
May 16 Last day for seniors who need to take finals  
May 19 7<sup>th</sup> grade student of the quarter  
May 19 8th Grade Celebration (6:30 PM) (Last day for 8th graders); 8<sup>th</sup> Grade dance  
May 19, 22, 23 FINALS  
May 21 Graduation 1:00 Blackhawk Center  
May 23 Last day of school for 7<sup>th</sup> grade, 9-11<sup>th</sup> grades  
May 24<sup>th</sup> District Institute – retirement party for Phil Yordy and Alice Starkey at 12:00 in the BHC parking lot  
May 25<sup>th</sup> Professional development day

**Sad News** – We are mourning the loss of Skip Gooch, a longtime paraprofessional at OHS. Prior to being at OHS, he was a teacher in Rockford Public Schools. He spent most of his career there. Our kids loved “Gooch”, as did the rest of our team.

**Academics** – We are winding down the year. We are focused on getting our students to the finish line.

- 78% of our high school students and 80% of our junior high students are passing all of their classes.
- Students who fail required classes will be offered a chance to recover the credit in summer school
- SAT scores have been released to juniors (they have not been released to our school yet). We have been made aware that we had a junior earn a 1420 on the SAT (1600 is a perfect score). We are anxiously awaiting our scores.
- We are working with Sauk Valley Community College and the Regional Office of Education to create career pathways and endorsements. We believe our first official endorsement will be in the Agriculture pathway.
- We are currently completing our benchmarking assessments on ThinkCerca (writing) and MAP (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade); we also completed the Illinois Science Assessment on April 28th

**In the classroom**

- Junior high students have been taking the IAR standardized assessment
- OJSHS has been in a block schedule for the past two weeks. This has allowed opportunities for classes to do some extended projects. One project was a Consumer Ed project that allowed students to go to the grocery store and do some shopping and understand budgeting.
- FFA visited the Oregon Rehabilitation Center and took a small petting zoo to share with the

residents.

- The Rural Healthcare Explorers Program started this week. This program is done in conjunction with Community Foundation of Northern Illinois and local health care providers. It allows students an opportunity to learn about the healthcare field and have hands on experiences. The program meets once a week and will continue to the end of the school year.

### **The Leader in Me**

- We administered the Measurable Results Assessment to determine our areas for focus in our Leader in Me work for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Kelli White, our LIM coach will be doing a training with our Lighthouse team on Aug 2 in the morning and then work with our student Lighthouse team in the afternoon. We are very excited to get our student team up and running.
- Students are wrapping up their Wildly Important Goals (WIG) for the year.

### **Student Activities**

- FFA recently did the annual Petting Zoo for the elementary school
- Alice Starkey took two students to Indiana to pick up the benches made from the plastic cap donations. This was a Hawk Huddle service project.
- Band and choir recently had their spring concert. It was very well attended
- We hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual athletic signing event on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We had 13 student athletes recognized for signing to play at a post-secondary level.  
<https://www.wifr.com/2023/05/04/13-oregon-student-athletes-put-pen-paper-signing-day-event/>

### **School Improvement Plan Highlights**

#### **Highlights:**

- **Academics:** We are anxiously awaiting our test scores (SAT/PSAT/IAR) to see how we performed this school year.
- **Culture/Climate:** As mentioned last month, we are working together to determine our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and then write a SIP goal to address these. So far we have identified a desire to visit other schools for ideas (strength – our staff wants to learn and be the best they can be). We also identified student attendance as an area of weakness. We will be working hard to address behavior concerns and provide some incentives to those students who have great attendance (weakness). The opportunities identified our intervention time as an area for needed improvement and brainstormed a list of potential solutions. Lastly the threats team identified a need for increased rigor. The plan to provide professional development to their peers on how to stretch students through daily work in the classroom.
- **Professional Learning:** We formed two ad hoc committees to work on the creation of an Academic Handbook and a Behavioral Expectations/Student Code of Conduct. There are more than 20 staff members (teachers, paraprofessionals and administrative assistants) involved in these team. We have a group of teacher leaders who will be participating, alongside administration, in additional Phoenix Group leadership training this summer.