

OCUSD #220
BOARD MINUTES
September 18, 2023
Regular Board Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Roll call, present were Wills, Griffin, Baker, Buck, and Guzman. Nesemeier and Haugh were absent.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Motion by Buck, second by Guzman to go into closed session.
Voice vote, 4-0. Motion carried.
5. Closed session began at 6:01 p.m.
6. Closed session adjourned at 6:22 p.m.
7. Meeting called to order by Wills at 6:30 p.m.
Roll call vote, 4-0. Motion carried.
8. Motion by Buck, second by Guzman to open the Public Hearing of the 2023-2024 budget.
Voice vote, 4-0. Motion carried.
9. Public Hearing opened 6:31 p.m.
10. Dr. Mahoney shares the proposed budget with a \$783,600 total deficit across all funds and states that nothing has changed since the preliminary budget was shared in August.
 - a. Baker asks if passing the budget as presented would require the board to increase future levies. Dr. Mahoney explains that it does not require the board to increase future levies.
11. Motion by Buck, second by Guzman to close the Public Hearing of the 2023-2024 budget.
Voice vote, 4-0. Motion carried.
12. Public Hearing closed 6:40 p.m.
13. Public Comment:
Aaron Mudge shares a handout for "Wake Up, Ogle County" on October 4, 2023, and invites the board to attend.
14. Motion by Guzman, second by Buck to approve the following employment motions:
Resignations:
 - a. Erin Herr as OES Full-time Substitute effective August 18, 2023
 - b. Leanna Stanley as Custodian effective August 11, 2023
 - c. Traci Bauer as Special Education Aide effective September 15, 2023
 - d. Michelle Bothe as Academic Bowl Co-Advisor effective immediatelyEmployments:
 - e. Leanna Stanley as OES Special Education Aide
 - f. Mariah Withers as 3.5-hour Recess Aide
 - g. Julie Davis as Special Education Aide
 - h. Traci Bauer as OES full-time Substitute
 - i. Bailey Elliott as Assistant High School Baseball Coach
 - j. Kim Radostits as High School Academic Bowl Co-Advisors
 - k. Diane Smith as Full-time Custodian
 - l. Jason Hitchcock as full-time Custodian
 - m. Nate Clow as OJSHS Sophomore Class Dean
 - n. Angela Mahoney as Jr High Academic Bowl Co-AdvisorRetirements:
 - o. Rich Reed as Grounds and Maintenance effective March 29, 2023

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

15. Motion by Guzman, second by Buck to terminate Natasha Creegan.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

16. Wills read aloud the district mission statement "Educate students to be to be lifelong learners who are productive, responsible citizens" followed by the school board members reading aloud the board affirmation "I am dedicated to our mission. I am passionate about our students' education. I am committed to the success of our kids, our staff, and our community. It's great to be an Oregon hawk!"

17. Recognitions:

- a. Oregon high School band selected to perform at the 2023 IHSA Girls volleyball State Finals
- b. 2023 College Board National Recognition Program for the Nation Rural and Small-Town Award winners: Emily Watters (present), Sage Namaste-Rose (present), Jackson Glendenning, and Rivers Schafer
- c. OPD recognizes several OHS athletic coaches for their efforts to assist the Oregon Park District in developing youth volunteer athletic coaches and youth athletes. Mr. Lawton added that Leslie Sheffield, OPD Athletic Coordinator, has been an asset in helping to integrate our coaches into the OPD programs.

18. Motion by Baker, second by Guzman to approve the consent agenda as presented. Dr. Mahoney explains some of the month's bills.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

19. Motion by Guzman, second by Baker to approve the 2023-2024 budget as it was presented.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

20. Motion by Buck, second by Guzman to approve the retirement for Diane Brink.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

21. Motion by Guzman, second by Griffin to approve increasing the starting wages for the OESPA classifications of bus drivers, registrar, and athletic secretary by \$2.00 per hour.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

22. Motion by Griffin, second by Buck to approve the bonding of treasurer Pat Donahue for the 2023-2024 school year.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

23. Motion by Buck, second by Guzman to approve the 2023-2024 Risk Management Program.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

24. Motion by Guzman, second by Griffin to approve the Joint Resolution of Support in the Safe Routes to School Program. Dr. Mahoney explains that the joint resolution includes the City of Oregon and the Oregon Park District applying for a grant to be able to install sidewalks along Koontz Place behind OES as well as in front of the Etnyre parking lot along Hawk Drive connecting to the Park West walking path to ensure safer walking routes for students.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

25. Motion by Guzman, second by Baker to approve the FY2023 Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefit Report.

Roll call vote. 4-0. Motion carried.

26. Motion by Buck, second by Griffin to approve the FY2023 IMRF Compensation and Benefit Report.

Roll call vote. Motion carried.

27. FOIA Requests – Informational Only:

- a. Rock River Valley IEA/NEA Retired requested name(s) and contact information for those educators who will be retiring at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school term September 5, 2023. Response sent September 5, 2023.
- b. SmartProcure requested purchasing records for 5/30/23-9/12/23. Requested September 11, 2023, response sent September 12, 2023.

28. Administrator Reports:

- a. Mr. Huels –
 - i. Shares that OES has had a great 1st month of school! He credits the staff for the smooth start.
 1. Started the year with the Leader in Me First 8 Days curriculum.
 2. Received results from the Leader in Me Measurable Results Assessment (MRA) given to students, staff, and families and are pleased with the results as well as looking forward to working on areas that could use improvement.
 - ii. Beginning of the year benchmark assessments are complete and team as well as individual meetings will be occurring this week to review the data.
- b. Dr. Deininger –
 - i. Shares that, for the second year in a row, OJSHS has achieved recognition on the US News & World Report's Best Schools List. OJSHS ranked in the top 20% in Illinois and in the top 40% in the nation.
 - ii. Shares that the Athletic Action Plan team is very committed and have begun a "Hawk Fan's Club". There are parents that are very involved, and it is exciting to watch it begin to grow.
 1. The fan club will be funded through the athletic program and final by-laws will be brought to the board for approval once it is ready.
 - iii. Shares updates on concerns with how the merger of Jr and Sr High are going by sharing a story of a 12-year-old that is able to be integrated into a full high school schedule to meet her needs and has great student mentors helping her along the way.

29. New business:

- a. There were three memorial trees removed when we installed the new digital sign. Regrettably, the district was unaware these trees were memorial trees for three former OCUSD students. Unfortunately, there were no markers on the trees or in the area indicating that the trees were planted in memory of our former students. Three high school students passed away in 1999; two siblings from one family in the same accident and the third in a separate accident, and trees were planted in memory of them. The mother of the siblings called expressing her concerns with the trees being removed and the district has agreed to construct a bench or table in memory of the students.

- i. Wills suggests creating a board policy outlining requirements for placing memorials, including permanent plaques being placed, to prevent any future occurrence of the matter happening.

30. Old business: None

31. Other matters before the board: None

32. President's Prerogative: None

33. Motion by Baker, second by Buck to adjourn.

All voted aye. Motion carried.

34. Meeting ended at 7:11 p.m.

Board President – OCUSD #220

Board Secretary – OCUSD #220