

**Minutes of the Oscoda Area Schools Board of Education
Regular Meeting Monday, March 14, 2016**

The March 14, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Oscoda Area Schools, Iosco and Alcona Counties, Michigan, Board of Education was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2016 by President Tony Johnson. The meeting was held in the Board of Education Meeting Room located in Oscoda Area High School, 3550 East River Road, Oscoda, Michigan 48750. President Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Davis read the district's Vision, Mission, and Belief statements.

Members Present: Ellis, Johnson, Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink
Members Absent: None

Fifth grade RES teacher Heather Hasty reported that her students read the book *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio. The students then wrote a literary theme, evidence detailed paper about the book. She was so happy with the essays, she wanted the members of the Board of Education to hear some of them. Several of her students: Hannah Williams, Colbie Kruse, Dino Rasera, Carter Nelkie, Leilah Kard, Maththew Beckett, Aaron Fisher, and Sophia Livvix attended the meeting and read their essays to Board members. The Board members were quite impressed with the quality of the writing. They congratulated the students and thanked them for sharing their work.

Members of the OHS Science Department shared some of the projects and activities they have going on this year. Tim Lee reported that the Science Olympiad team attended a competition at Alpena Community College on March 12, 2016. They came in fourth out of seven teams. Competitions included bridge building, building an air trajectory launch, and an invasive species event. He is very pleased with the Science Olympiad team. Mike Berenkowski discussed workshops and opportunities available to his students. Students had visits from Grand Valley State University and Alpena Community College, built an ROV, had career tech opportunities, and participated in a beach cleanup, to name a few. Mr. Berenkowski is impressed how many people are involved in getting these activities ready for the students. Matthew McDougall stated that the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative helped schools in the area find outside revenue via grants. He received funding for the new Salmon in the Classroom Program. This is a year-long program in which teachers receive fertilized salmon eggs, hatch them, feed and raise them through spring, and then release the young salmon into a local river. This is a hands-on experience and the students make all the decisions. They keep a feeding data log which is turned into the State. Mr. McDougall plans to create two courtyard gardens which will be pollinator garden food for the monarch butterfly. The gardens will provide a food waystation for the monarchs. His students will work in concert with students from Tawas, Alcona, and Alpena. The goal is to predict when the monarchs will arrive. Mr. McDougall also plans to create a garden with plants native to Michigan. He hopes to tag the different species so that people can scan the tags with their smart phone and get information about the plants. Other projects include working with Huron Pines to identify invasive species, pull garlic mustard plants, learning about the native wildflower species, and water quality sampling. He plans to host the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative's summer institute. Matt Hinckley stated that the Science Department received money or supplies from nine different groups. He stated that the National Energy Foundation worked with students on conserving energy in the home. Each student was given an energy savings kit which included a shower head, a low flow faucet, three light bulbs, and a power strip. The Department has received \$24,000 worth of grants or materials over the last two years.

The Board of Education heard no public/general comments.

Motion: by Ellis, supported by Kahila, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda Items which include: the approval of the Agenda for the March 14, 2016 Regular Meeting; the tentative minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Monday, February 8, 2016; the tentative minutes of the Facilities Improvement Committee Meeting held on Thursday, March 3, 2016; and the payment of the General Fund checks #12490 through #12682 totaling \$433,737.46 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Yeas: Ellis, Johnson, Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None
Motion declared adopted with a 7 – 0 vote.

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Motion: by Schlink, supported by Reitler, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of James P. Collins as a physical education teacher at Richardson Elementary School, effective April 11, 2016, pending results of the criminal background check, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Administrative Team.

Yeas: Johnson, Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstained: None
 Motion declared adopted with a 7– 0 vote.

Motion: by Kellstrom, supported by Davis, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Alan R. Strickland as a mechanic, effective May 16, 2016, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. Criminal background checks are current and on file with the Board of Education.

Yeas: Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis, Johnson
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstained: None
 Motion declared adopted with a 7– 0 vote.

Motion: by Kahila, supported by Kellstrom, that the Board of Education approve the 2016-2017 school year calendar as proposed and approved by the O.E.A., and as recommended by the Administrative Team and the Superintendent of Schools.

Yeas: Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis, Johnson, Davis
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstained: None
 Motion declared adopted with a 7 – 0 vote.

Tim Kellstrom stated that a teacher in South Carolina started a 2nd and 3rd grade boys' gentlemen's club. Students that have no men in their lives meet and learn things such as how to shake hands, make eye contact, hold open doors and address elders. He thinks something like this would be good for our community. Dave Langley offered resources to start such a club.

Superintendent Moore announced the early retirement buyout of Content Coach Linda Skodack and the early resignation buyout of RES teacher Melissa Hutchison effective on the last day of the 2015-2016 school year.

The Board of Education acknowledged the hiring of substitute bus driver Adrian Reames and the hiring of middle school track coach Richel Stephenson.

The Board of Education congratulated Sean Pear on earning his MSBO Chief Financial Officer certification.

Superintendent Moore stated that at the September 2015 Board meeting he referenced Maurice Moses as Dr. Moses. He explained that this was a misunderstanding on his part. Mr. Moses is not a doctor.

Superintendent Moore stated that the floors and the ceilings at the high school are in bad shape. He plans to use general fund money to replace ceilings and flooring at the high school. He noted that it will cost \$3.00 per square foot to abate the tiles,

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which contain asbestos. The Facilities Improvement Committee talked with a vendor about the types of flooring available. He and two other vendors will be invited to the next Facilities Improvement Committee meeting on March 17, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. He invited any interested Board members to attend the meeting. Superintendent Moore stated that he plans to have district staff run the project as opposed to having an architect do it. A bid packet will be put together once the type of flooring is determined, and brought to the Board for approval.

Superintendent Moore stated that he plans to have the ceilings at OHS dry walled over spring break. A drop ceiling will be installed in the receiving and kitchen area. Vice-President Ellis expressed some concern about installing dry wall. Superintendent Moore stated that the light fixtures in the hallways are four or five years old. Lance Thompson can retrofit these fixtures for LED bulbs for \$30 a fixture. For an additional \$1,000 per hallway we can install occupancy sensors.

The Board of Education recessed for a break at 8:01 p.m. and returned to open session at 8:11 p.m.

Superintendent Moore stated that some concern was expressed about having the district's well tested for PFC's. The District 2 Health Department informed us that, because of where the well is located in relation to the river, there is no reason for concern. The State of Michigan is the only agency that will test for PFC's in the water. The cost is approximately \$600. President Johnson stated that \$600 is a small price to pay for peace of mind and asked that the water be tested. Superintendent Moore stated that Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will be holding a public open house and meeting on March 23, 2016 at the Methodist Church to discuss water contamination around the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base, which he plans to attend.

Superintendent Moore reported that President Tony Johnson has earned the MASB Award of Distinction, which will be presented at a future CASBA meeting.

Superintendent Moore reported that the Hand-in-Hand Awards will be presented at the April 11, 2016 Board of Education Meeting. Instead of adjourning the meeting for a reception, the plan is to have a nacho bar dinner in honor of the recipients before the meeting. This will be held in the high school commons at 6:30 p.m.

The Board of Education acknowledged the list of additional volunteers and the updated fundraising calendar.

Motion: by Davis, supported by Ellis, that the Board of Education enter into closed session at 8:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing employee negotiations, as provided for in Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Yeas: Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis, Johnson, Davis, Kahila

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstained: None

Motion declared adopted with a 7-0 vote.

The Board returned to open session at 8:49 p.m. No action was taken during open session.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Edward Davis, Secretary
Board of Education
Oscoda Area Schools