

**Oberlin School District  
Board of Education Minutes  
January 27, 2009  
Regular Meeting**

Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Oberlin Board policy and section 121.22 of the O.R.C. The meeting was videotaped by the Treasurer for official record purposes. The meeting was held at Eastwood Elementary School.

Vice-Chairperson Paula Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following members responded to the roll call: Ms. Paula Jones, Ms. Stephanie Jones, and Ms. Alegant. Mr. Ian Yarber arrived at 6:04. (Ms. Weiss was absent.) Superintendent Geoffrey Andrews and Treasurer Diane Wolf were present. There were no student representatives present.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

**2009-011**

Ms. Alegant moved and Ms. S. Jones seconded the adoption of the agenda. Roll: 4-0. Motion carried.

**Correspondence/ Presentations**

Eastwood Principal, Brian Carter introduced Janet Garrett, IB Coordinator for Eastwood. Mrs. Garrett shared the Eastwood mission statement and explained about IB learner profiles. Then she introduced several Kindergarten students who read their books they had written. First Grade students showed and explained about their family mobiles. Second Grade students sang a song for which they had written both the words and the music. The song was their interpretation of living a balanced life. Ms. P. Jones thanked the students and parents for attending the meeting.

**Hearing of the Public**

None

**News of Note**

Mr. Andrews reported on recent school events. The National Honor Society inducted 22 new members last week. The Scholastic Art Show winners were announced and more than half the winners were from Oberlin! Karen Reynolds earned the Best of Show and several students (including one from LMS) earned Gold Key awards. Langston is working on the Middle Years Program for IB. The intramurals start next week along with the backpack program. Eastwood is planning activities to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. Prospect jump rope rappers will begin next week. John Schroth, Nancy Boutilier and Erik Andrews met with the Athletic Department at Oberlin College to discuss cooperation and events between the two groups. The Wellness Committee has met and will meet in sub-committees soon. The newspapers reported that property taxes in Oberlin are a little lower with lower millage for the school district. Langston Middle School participated in the Power of the Pen program. Last night, PreSchool and Special Ed Departments hosted a parent meeting night and over 50 people attended. The focus was on communication.

**Board Items**

None

**Treasurer Items**

Mrs. Wolf reported the tax bills have been sent by the County Auditor and Oberlin residents should see lower taxes going to the School District.

### **Superintendent Items**

Mr. Andrews reviewed the personnel report which included hiring some substitutes and supplementals and the resignation for retirement of eight teachers- Sharon Bittner, Janet DeMarinis, Jean Ebosh, Vicky Fridenstine, Mary Ann Johnson, Cheryl Krueger, John Memmott and Cindy Moroney. He also explained the agreement for Admission of tuition pupils with Crestwood Local Board of Education; the request for an overnight field trip for the OHS Interact Club to attend the Defiance Rotary 2009 World Community Workshop at Defiance College from May 14 to May 16, 2009; the facility agreement with the City of Oberlin and the Board of Education; the Lorain County Community Action Agency Head Start Interagency Agreement & Memorandum of Understanding; the approval of the employee Severance Plan. He added the teachers at Eastwood will be encouraged to visit Head Start. The above items were all discussed at the last board meeting. He explained the Edline Web Hosting Service Agreement and the LEECA Internet Service Provider Agreement were not discussion items at the last meeting, but they require approval before the next board meeting for e-rate discounts.

### **Consent Items**

**2009-012**

Ms. S. Jones moved and Ms. Alegant seconded approval of the personnel report (attached); the agreement for Admission of tuition pupils with Crestwood Local Board of Education; the request for an overnight field trip for the OHS Interact Club to attend the Defiance Rotary 2009 World Community Workshop at Defiance College from May 14 to May 16, 2009; the Lorain County Community Action Agency Head Start Interagency Agreement & Memorandum of Understanding for 2008-09; the approval of the employee Severance Plan; the Edline Web Hosting Service Agreement for E-rate funding from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010; and the LEECA Internet Service Provider Agreement for E-rate funding from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011. Paula Jones would like to see more students involved in the World Community workshop, she wonders if it is possible to bring it to Oberlin. She also asked about the process for choosing e-rate vendors. John Shroth explained it is a bid process which begins with posting a 470 form. We chose the one that fit our needs, but it also was the lowest cost as well. Roll: 4-0. Motion carried.

Shirley R. Johnson made the statement it was important to recognize that it is a loss to our district such large number of outstanding teachers retire. These teachers know our community and children so well. And who have been such good mentors to our remaining staff. Mr. Andrews stated the teachers will be recognized later. Shirley Johnson stressed her point that the result of the early retirement program could have a serious effect on the District.

**2009-013**

Ms. Alegant moved and Ms. S. Jones seconded the approval of the facility agreement with the City of Oberlin and the Oberlin Board of Education. Roll: 3 – 0 (Yarber abstained). Motion carried.

### **Information Items**

#### **Committee Reports**

Lorain County Joint Vocational School Representative- Ms. S. Jones reported the Superintendent is retiring, they will appoint an interim. There will be an open house for students and parents on Feb.8, 2009.

District Site Committee Representative- Ms. Alegant did not attend the meeting. Mr. Andrews reported the group discussed Health and Wellness, Step- up day and the minutes will be distributed to all staff.

Policy Committee Representatives- Ms. S. Jones & Mr. Yarber. Mr. Yarber reported they met (also with Oberlin College student Betsy, who is working on policy revisions) and many revisions will be coming to the Board soon, several of those revisions will be minor.

Student Liaison- T. Patton was not present, she had a basketball game.

### **Invitation for Public Comments**

Shirley R. Johnson inquired about the legal fee costs over the past few years. Mrs. Wolf answered \$46,573 was spent in

FY 2006, \$29,141 in FY 2007, \$69,780 in FY 2008, and \$25,833 to date for FY 2009. She explained in FY 2008 the Board was negotiating with both unions and there was also two levies on the ballot and the Resolution to remove (or let expire) old levies.

Shawn Mark, parent of a Kindergarten student, asked why the Pledge of Allegiance is not recited in the classrooms and at Board meetings. Ms. Alegant stated she had asked the same question. She would like to see that discussion on a future agenda. It will be on the March 10 agenda (that meeting will be held at City Council Chambers). Shirley R. Johnson stated the issue has been discussed many times. This is a diverse community and there are many differences of opinion. The Board has a policy and they cannot require students to recite the Pledge. Mr. Andrews stated there will be time to do some research prior to the March 10 discussion.

### **Future Meetings**

February 10, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at Langston Middle School (Uniform discussion)  
February 24, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at City Council Chambers

### **Executive Session**

**2009-014**

Ms. Alegant moved to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a public official at 7:30 p.m. and Ms. S. Jones seconded the motion. Roll: 4 – 0. Motion carried. Ms. P. Jones stated there will not be any further action by the Board.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Alegant moved the adjournment of the meeting at 7:55 p.m. and Ms. S. Jones seconded the motion. Roll: 4 – 0. Motion carried.

The above minutes are a true and correct reflection of the January 27, 2009 meeting.

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Beth Weiss, President

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Diane Wolf, Treasurer

### **PERSONNEL REPORT – JANUARY 27, 2009**

1. The Superintendent recommends employment of the following personnel for the **2008-2009** school year, contingent on meeting employment requirements:

**Brewer, Cindy**, Substitute Aide/Monitor & Parapro @ \$8/hr and Substitute Secretary @ \$9/hr, effective 01-20-09

**Chase, Gary**, Substitute Bus Driver @ \$12/hr, effective 12-09-08

**Kaplan, Amelia**, Substitute Teacher @ \$90/day, effective 01-27-09

**Supers, Constance**, Substitute Aide/Monitor, Parapro & Cafeteria @ \$8/hr and Substitute Secretary @ \$9/hr, effective 01-20-09

2. The Superintendent recommends acceptance of the following resignation(s):

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**Bittner, Sharon**, Elementary Teacher, effective 09-23-09 (retirement)

**DeMarinis, Janet**, Elementary Teacher, effective 06-30-09 (retirement)

**Ebosh, Jean**, Elementary Teacher, effective 06-30-09 (retirement)

**Fridenstine, Vicky**, Elementary Teacher, effective 06-30-10 (retirement)

**Johnson, Mary Ann**, Elementary Teacher, effective 06-30-09 (retirement)

**Krueger, Cheryl**, Elementary Teacher, effective 08-28-09 (retirement)

**Memmott, John**, Elementary Teacher, effective 06-30-09 (retirement)

**Moroney, Cindy**, Elementary Teacher, effective 06-30-09 (retirement)

3. The Superintendent recommends **rescission** of the following contract(s):

**Hanson, Linda**, Drama Club (Semester 2) @ II-0 per OOEА Negotiated Agreement (Approved 10-28-08)

4. The Superintendent recommends approval of a **Leave of Absence** per OOEА Negotiated Agreement for **Brigette Kaiser**, Eastwood, Elementary Teacher, effective **09-10** school year (maternity)

5. The Superintendent recommends approval of the following **supplemental** contracts for coaching/athletics/advisorships/professional responsibilities for the **2008-2009** schoolyear contingent on meeting employment requirements; CPR & Pupil Activity Supervisor Permit required for coaching. The following supplemental duty positions have been offered to those employees of the OCSD who have a license under O.R.C. 3319.22, and no such employees who are qualified to fill the positions have accepted them, and the positions have then been advertised or otherwise made available to any individuals with such a license who are qualified to fill them and who are not employed by the Board, and no such persons have applied for and accepted the positions:

**Parrish, Trina Dian**, Drama Club (Semester 2) @ II-0 per OOEА Negotiated Agreement