

OAK PARK and RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL, DISTRICT 200

Board Briefs

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Regular Board Meeting Agenda

Student Showcase:



Girls' Flag Football Team – Jim Geovanes, Director of Intramurals, discussed the Girls' Flag Football Team. In conjunction with NFL Flag and Nike, the Chicago Bears initiated a flag football team which currently includes 66 Chicago and suburban teams (OPRFHS is the first suburban school to have a team). Other teams in the West Suburban Conference are Willowbrook, Morton East/West, and Proviso East/West. Coaches Jean “Tank” Corner and Phylicia Nash introduced five girls from the Flag Football Team: Saniya Shotwell, Cydney McDonald, Kelly Reagan, Shardae Spruille, Tyler Brock, and Teshell O’Neal – who will be playing Willowbrook this weekend (both teams are currently 2-0).



ASPIRA (Latin Leadership Club) – Stephanie Oliver, Club Sponsor, introduced student Anabel Govea, who discussed some of the things that the ASPIRA club is planning for current and future activities, such as – creating a banner for Homecoming that will be written in Spanish, hosting a potluck, inviting a Mariachi Band to perform at the high school, and introducing the Hispanic culture to the entire school. Annabelle is grateful for the music played in the hallways to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Annabelle ended that the ASPIRA Club is not only for students of Spanish descent but for every student who would like to explore and get informed about the culture.

Student Council Liaison Report

Student Council Liaison, Jacob Drews, discussed the following:

- **Homecoming:** There have been 100 students per week preparing for Homecoming (the week of September 26). Approximately 1,400 tickets have been sold for the Homecoming dance, to be held on October 1 in the Field House. This year’s theme is OPRF MET Gala.
- **Students Concerns:** Some of the students’ concerns discussed were:
 - **Bell schedules:** Students have felt there has been quite a bit of confusion with the bell schedules. Some classrooms will have the bell schedules posted; some do not. Students understand that with the new bell schedules, there is an adjustment period.
 - **Advisory:** Students like advisory for the “community” feeling they received during this time and missed having advisory every day (except for late arrival Wednesday). Although the students like the weekly late arrival Wednesdays, students do miss advisory on Mondays and Fridays and would like to see this return.

Superintendent Announcements:

Dr. Johnson made the following announcements:

- Junior Gabe Ford is currently training for the 2023 Boxing Golden Gloves tournament and, as a part of his journey, has launched a \$20,000 fundraising campaign for the Austin Boxing Club and two other local nonprofits with missions to end gun violence.
- Led by Sensei Yoko Schmadeke, the Japanese program was awarded a Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chicago (JCCC) Foundation grant of \$3,000 to fund this year's Japan Fest. This will be the first year since the start of the pandemic that Japan Fest will be held.
- The OPRFHS Marching Band placed third in Class AA at the Amos Alonzo Stagg Marching Jamboree.

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Employee Recognition

- Congratulations to math teachers Christine Mondragon and Jaime Burbano, who are featured in the Lathisms Hispanic Heritage Month calendar! Between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15, Lathisms is featuring a prominent Latinx/Hispanic mathematician daily.
- On Wednesday, September 21st, OPRFHS hosted a 2nd Annual Rainbow Committee dinner that both faculty and students attended to celebrate the community and acknowledge some of the challenges as members of OPRFHS and the world at large. Kudos to Kris Johnson and Ginger Benacola, who have spearheaded this work.
- And finally, I invite all in the community to attend the iGOV meeting in the OPRFHS South Cafeteria this Saturday, Sept. 24, at 9:45 a.m. The meeting focuses on our taxing bodies' sustainability efforts. Following the meeting, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., we're offering community tours of the high school to see our newly renovated spaces as well as the Physical Education spaces slated for replacement in Imagine OPRF Project 2.
- Teacher of the Month – **Dan Wolman**. Here are what people who submitted nominations had to say about Mr. Wolman:
 - *Over the course of the past several years, Dan has organized and sustained the most successful, faculty-led effort to improve the culture of the school by implementing a school-wide phone policy.*
 - *His efforts were thorough, research-based, and consensus-building.*
 - *Our assistive technology coordinator said she initially was against the policy and now is completely in favor of it because of the impact it has had on student engagement.*
 - *One of our librarians commented on the huge improvement she's seen in library classes because of the change.*
 - *No other initiative has even come close to improving instructional time so substantially.*
 - *Dan is a great example of thinking globally about the school and going above and beyond.*
- Employee of the Month – **Angie Sakellaris**. Here are what people who submitted nominations had to say about Ms. Sakellaris:
 - *Angie Sakellaris has done a fantastic job completing an immense amount of work this summer without a Student Activities Coordinator.*
 - *She is remarkably organized, thorough, and reliable in everything she does.*
 - *She worked tirelessly to prepare for Huskie Kick-off Day and keep everything running smoothly over the summer.*
 - *Angie stepped up and went above and beyond by taking on all of the responsibilities of the office.*
 - *She did it flawlessly without support or compensation while maintaining a positive attitude and a smile.*
 - *She is very deserving of this recognition!*

Board Actions:

- Approval of Open and Closed Session Minutes of August 25, September 8, 2022, and declaration that the audiotapes of the closed session minutes of January 2021 be destroyed

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- Approval of the personnel recommendations, including new hires, transfers, resignations, and releases, as presented
- Approval of additional members for the Community Council and Culture, Climate, and Behavior Committee members
- Approval of the resolution for the 2022-2023 Mass Transit Exclusion, as presented
- Approval for the Board of Education to accept with gratitude the donation from Ms. Beverly Holmes Hughes and Tom and Nancy Holmes for the photography class, which includes various equipment and supplies such as camera bodies and lenses, developing trays, tripods, light stands, and storage containers.
- Approval of the July 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented
- Approval of the September 2022 check disbursements and financial resolutions as presented.
- Approval of the State of Illinois Master Paper Contract for its paper purchases for an estimated cost of \$109,140, as presented.
- Approval of the intergovernmental agreement between PDOP and D200, costs associated with this project, along with authorization to go out to bid, which have already been presented to the Board at the August 25 regular Board meeting
- Approval of the resolution to recognize the 2023 semifinalist of the National Merit Scholarship Competition and the College Board National African American, Hispanic, and Indigenous Recognition Programs
- Approval of the FY 2023 budget, as presented

Additional Reports: Additional reports included: FOIA status.

Personnel Recommendations

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| New Hires: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tammy Winkler, Library Assistant, effective September 12, 2022• Neal Weisman, Math Team Coach Co-Sponsor, effective September 13, 2022 |
| Assignment Changes: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Danielle LaPorte, Mathematics Teacher (.2 FTE)/Academic Enrichment (.8 FTE), effective 2022-2023 school year |
| Transfers | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexis Iliadhi, School Psychologist/Special Education, effective September 30, 2022• Michol Douglas, Teaching Assistant/Special Education, effective September 12, 2022• Phylicia Nash, Student Activities Secretary, effective October 3, 2022 |
| Resignations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rockeya Wilson, School Psychologist/Special Education, effective September 16, 2022• Hugo Beltran, Associate Web Developer, effective October 28, 2022• Shannon Perryman, Motivational Mentor Coordinator, effective September 16, 2022• Vaneza Chavez, Special Education Secretary/Scheduler, effective September 14, 2022• Katelynn Canales, French Club Sponsor, effective September 13, 2022 |
| Releases | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charine Blakes, Food Service Worker, effective September 12, 2022• Titiana Flax, Teacher Assistant/Special Education, effective September 16, 2022 |

Next Regular Board of Education Meeting

October 27, 2022

6:30 p.m.

Board Room