

# A-O CUSD #1

## Board Briefs



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November

2021

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On November 8, 2021, the Board held its regularly scheduled business meeting.

At 6:00 p.m., the regular meeting was called to order.

- Roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance occurred.
- Public comments were provided.
- District administrator(s) provided reports:
  - Mrs. Ryder:
    - Our K-5 enrollment is 385 compared to 350 at this time last year. Our total enrollment is 471.
    - While we can't honor our Veterans in the same way we like to each year, our Veterans Day committee is coming up with ideas to continue to honor them and create learning opportunities for our students. Mrs. Herek always does a fantastic job with our students and is making a virtual performance this year.
    - In the past we have utilized high school students as mentors for our students. This year we are using buddy classrooms within our building. Older students are paired up with younger students in a leadership role. Our first buddy activity was for Halloween and visiting three stations to get some candy. The students enjoyed it.
    - The First Baptist Church in Decatur donated loomed stocking hats to give to our students. We appreciate their generosity and support for our students! We will be handing them out to classrooms this week.
    - Our Building Leadership Team met today and discussed repurposing our computer lab space that is not being used now that we are 1:1 with technology. One idea was to create a STEM/Makerspace learning environment.
    - The second round of benchmark assessments using FastBridge will take place in December leading up to Christmas break. All students take these assessments to help us inform our instruction and see student growth.
  - Mr. Blair:
    - Enrollment is 221 as compared to 225 last year.
    - The school improvement grant opened on November 1. The application is due to the Illinois State Board of Education by December 1.

- We started Academic Late Stay for the school year to assist students who are struggling.
  - Students will complete the second Fastbridge tests in math and reading to measure student growth and identify students who need extra academic assistance.
- Mr. German:
    - AOHS enrollment as of 11/3/21 is 245 compared to 262 last year at this time.
    - We are assembling recognition of our Veterans to be shared out with students and our community. Thank you to Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Peachey – our MS and HS choirs and bands recorded performances this past week that will also be included in our Veterans Day announcements.
    - The HS Building Leadership Team met last week and discussed Veterans Day, Semester Exams, and our Late Stay Program.
- The board entered closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act-5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), which permits a closed session to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, and/or dismissal of specific employee(s) of the public body.
  - The regular meeting was reconvened.
  - Review and approval of Board Minutes occurred.
  - The approval of Payroll/Bills occurred.
  - Personnel Employment
    - Action occurred on the following resignation(s):
      - Anne Kirby as bus driver.
      - Conner Haltom as varsity football coach.
    - Action occurred on the following hire(s):
      - Matt Hall as high school assistant girls basketball coach.
      - Elizabeth White as high school cheerleading coach for varsity boys and girls basketball.
      - Clay Haurberg as varsity football coach.
    - Action occurred on volunteer coaches:
      - Maggie Millington was approved as high school volunteer girls basketball coach.
  - No changes were recommended to the 2021-2022 Return to Learn Plan.
  - A bid to remove two trees in front of the high school was approved.
  - Mr. Jones discussed the estimated levy. He stated that estimates show that local property wealth has grown substantially for the second year in a row. If estimates are correct, the district should see an approximate \$0.05 decrease to the tax rate. The estimated levy is on display in the district office.
  - The property tax levy hearing was set for Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
  - Mr. German provided a brief review of school report cards. Due to the impact of COVID, very little data is actually provided on the cards.
  - The Seniority List was approved.

- A Memorandum of Understanding with the AOEA regarding the Teacher Evaluation Cycle was adopted.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.