

OLD BRIDGE BOARD BRIEFS

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

December 16, 2014

IN MEMORIAM

The Board

- acknowledged the death of Renee Levy, retired paraprofessional, and expressed its deepest sympathies to her family and friends.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

David Cittadino

- commended John Shammass, senior at OBHS, for the “incredible event and his talents, which are beyond his years”. Shammass developed an OBHS app for the high school at no charge to the district. He revealed it today at a press conference held in the high school’s auditorium.
- commended Cooper School student AJ Silvestri, a fifth grader and class president, for his “wish” to get the Old Bridge Township School District involved in the Make-A-Wish Foundation’s cooperative effort with Macy’s “Believe” campaign.
- introduced AJ Silvestri, who spoke to the public, thanking Mr. Cittadino for helping make his wish come true. AJ had his first wish granted by the Make-A-Wish Foundation two years ago. The Make-A-Wish Foundation grants wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy.
- discussed the retirement of Donna M. Kibbler, assistant superintendent of curriculum & instruction, who began her professional career in 1967 in Old Bridge. He said, she gave the quality of her life and that every role she played with “passion and enthusiasm,” making sure everything was accomplished with excellence.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Donna M. Kibbler

- responded by saying she is “deeply touched and extremely humbled” by the kind words.
- said she had the most fabulous career.
- said she had played a number of roles, but the greatest role was that of teacher.
- said she was eternally grateful to former Schools Superintendent “Patrick Torre, who took a chance on me” and hired her. He also gave her the opportunity work with three of his daughters and recently filled his desire to implement an all-day kindergarten here.

PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS

Assistant Superintendent Kathleen Hoeker

- said an additional eight schools submitted applications to character.org this year.
- said this past year four elementary schools won the state award, after each of the schools submitted lengthy applications to the New Jersey Alliance for Social, Emotional and Character Development. The application included information regarding the individual school's overview and its character education journey. Each year, CEP selects schools and districts that demonstrate through a rigorous evaluation process that their focus on character development has had a positive impact on academic achievement, student behavior, and school climate. Selected schools are then expected to serve as models for other schools, helping them to achieve the same results.
- said two state winners submitted applications for National Schools of Character this year.
- said four elementary schools as well as Carl Sandburg Middle School and Old Bridge High School submitted applications to character.org.
- said a district-wide application also was submitted, and the "hardest part was that there were so many things to include, and we only had 2,500 spaces" to fill on the application.

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

The Board

- approved the retirement of Donna M. Kibbler, assistant superintendent of curriculum & instruction, with deep appreciation for her 46.5 years of dedicated service to the District, effective Feb. 1, 2015.
- approved the retirement of the following staff members with deep appreciation for their years of dedicated service to the District. They are: Patricia Nardone, Schirra School, third grade, 13 years of service, effective Jan. 1, 2015 and Cheryl Greenfield, Memorial/Cooper schools, ESL, 36.5 years of service, effective Feb. 1, 2015.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board

- approved the following meetings: organization meeting, 7:30 p.m., Jan. 6, 2015, in the OBHS Main Building TV Studio; agenda session, 7:30 p.m., Jan. 13, 2015, in the Patrick A. Torre Administration Building; and regular meeting at 7:30 p.m., Jan. 20, 2015, in the OBHS Main Building TV Studio.
- acknowledged Kenneth from Evolution for the donation of mirrors for classroom work stations to the OBHS Cosmetology for use in the classroom.
- acknowledged Bruce Galotto of Color Midlantic for the donation of color and free education to OBHS Cosmetology for hair coloring.
- acknowledged John from Greggs for the donation of \$1,000 worth of Scruples hair products to be used for competition and \$2,000 in free education to OBHS Cosmetology for use in beauty competition.
- acknowledged Steve Pasqua for the donation of towels to the OBHS Automotive Program for use when working on cars in auto shop.

- acknowledged Mike DeGeorge for the donation of Shear & Razor Kits to OBHS Cosmetology for hair cutting and styling.
- acknowledged Jim Lewicki of Cheesequake Farms for the donation of \$200 worth of pumpkins to OBHS for use for level 2 school-wide project.