

# **OLD BRIDGE BOARD BRIEFS**

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

### **January 23, 2014**

#### ***IN MEMORIAM***

##### ***The Board***

- acknowledged the deaths of Richard P. Olsen, retired teacher, and Hannah Price, noon-hour supervisor, and expressed its deepest sympathies to their families and friends.

#### ***RECOGNITION***

##### ***The Board***

- recognized The Order of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, specifically President Scott Fitzgerald and facilitators Raymond Costello and Bob Quinn, Sr., for providing 21 Jonas Salk families in need with Thanksgiving baskets.
- commended the following Old Bridge High School teams. They are: OBHS Girls' Soccer, Red Division Champions; OBHS Girls' Cross Country, GMC Champions, Red Division Champions; OBHS Girls' Volleyball, GMC Champions; and OBHS Football, Red Division Champions.
- commended the following Old Bridge High School coaches. They are: Andrew Hopman, Home News Tribune Coach of the Year; Anthony Lanzafama, GMC Coach of the Year, Home News Tribune Coach of the Year, Star-Ledger Coach of the Year, and NY Giants Coach of the Week.
- recognized Scott Mazzella, Jonas Salk Middle School teacher, on his accomplishment of becoming the published author of the book entitled "Surviving Sandy: Long Beach Island and the Greatest Storm of the Jersey Shore". Mazzella, in cooperation with Down the Shore Publishing, has donated three copies of the book to the secondary schools.

#### ***DAVID CITTADINO***

##### ***SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS***

- presented a report on iPad deployment for 2013-2014.
- said the average student iPad usage across grades K to 12 is two to three times per week.
- said the PARCC capacity meetings held through Pearson have indicated that the iPad is the testing platform of choice.
- offered a lengthy list of positive results from the project. He said the students love to learn using the tablets and that the tablets are compatible with online teaching and learning platforms that can be easily integrated into the classroom.
- said students can run the help desk, resolving computer issues faster than adults.
- said with tablets and cloud-based computing systems, students can work from anywhere on campus with greater portability and connectivity.
- said iPads make mobile computing labs easier.
- said school districts have found creative ways to use iPads to save money from homework and tests to digital textbooks.
- said iPads offer students exciting ways to experience field trip destinations and tablets allow teachers to interact on a more personal level with the students.

- cited a few problems/concerns with the iPad deployment. They include: the fact we are not able to utilize several of the iPad's features until we move to a one-to-one implementation; sites encountered a number of update problems; bandwidth problems that existed at the high school at the beginning of the year impeded the broader usage of the technology; and some of the protective cases have needed replacement.

## ***PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS***

### ***ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION***

#### ***DONNA M. KIBBLER***

- discussed the implementation of full day kindergarten 2014-2015. She presented a slide show featuring students, teachers, and paraprofessional aides from both pilot classes engaging in learning activities aligned with the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards, the Common Core State Standards, and the NJDOE Kindergarten Guidelines.
- said she is scheduling kindergarten teachers to observe the two, full-day kindergarten classrooms at Cheesequake and Grissom elementary schools.
- said she is meeting with supply companies to get price quotes on necessary supplies for kindergarten classrooms.
- said she is reviewing completed inventories on existing kindergarten classrooms to insure equity of instructional materials, and technology for all kindergarten classrooms.
- said she met with the architect and will begin interviewing internal candidates for kindergarten teaching positions.

## ***CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL***

### ***The Board***

- approved the retirement of Joseph Keegan, Jonas Salk Middle School, Special Education teacher, with deep appreciation for his 37 years of dedicated service to the District, effective July 1.

## ***SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES***

### ***The Board***

- donated the wheel alignment rack to Sayreville High School.
- approved the purchase of two maintenance vans, totaling \$34,861.02 from Mall Chevrolet in Cherry Hill.
- approved the firm of Tokarski & Millemann Architects, LLC to serve as Architect of Record and provide professional design services for the partial roof replacement at Jonas Salk Middle School. The total fee for this service is \$27,000.

## ***MISCELLANEOUS***

### ***The Board***

- approved the following meetings: agenda session, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 11, in the Patrick A. Torre Administration Building; and regular meeting at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 18 in the OBHS Main Building TV Studio.
- approved the 2014-2015 School Year Calendar.