

OLD BRIDGE BOARD BRIEFS

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

November 18, 2014

IN MEMORIAM

The Board

- acknowledged the death of Kae Donoghue, retired secretary, and expressed its deepest sympathies to her family and friends

RECOGNITION

The Board

- recognized Justin E. Cheung, eighth grader at Carl Sandburg Middle School for receiving an International Talent Search Certificate of Recognition from Johns Hopkins University, Center for Talented Youth for his academic ability on SAT testing.
- recognized the following students of Carl Sandburg Middle School for receiving awards for the Mahatma Gandhi Art and Writing Contest. They are: Frederick Leo, Top 25 Honorable Mention for Poetry; Nicole NG, Top 25 Honorable Mention for Art; and Megan Bonite, Second Place Overall for Art, all eighth graders.
- recognized the staff, students, and parents of Cheesequake, McDivitt, and Voorhees elementary schools for cultivating thriving school climates, which foster social, emotional, and academic success and for earning national recognition by charater.org as a 2014 National School of Character.
- recognized Donna Piccillo, elementary school computer teacher, for her efforts in being awarded a \$500 STEM Grant from First Entergy and PSE&G for McDivitt Elementary School.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DAVID CITTADINO

- presented a report on HIB (Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying), Violence and Vandalism.
- said the data was for the period covering January 2014 through June 2014.
- said this year during that period there were 24 incidents of violence, six for vandalism, two for weapons, and 12 for substance abuse. He said there were 74 student offenders, 33 student victims, and one school personnel victim. There were zero victims of violent criminal offenses.
- said there was a zero cost to the district for the vandalism. He credits the reduction in incidents due to the increased number of security cameras.
- said most of the HIB incidents were verbal in nature.

PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS

DAVID CITTADINO

- said Old Bridge gained on average 88 points above the national average and 45 points above the state average on SATs.
- said the SAT results in NJ gained on average one point and declined nationally by three points.
- said in Old Bridge the average score on the SAT in Old Bridge was 1474 and in 2014 that number spiked to 1559.
- said Old Bridge received the recognition of being placed on the College Board AP Honor Roll. There were 57 schools recognized across the US. The award was given to districts that increased access to the AP coursework while maintaining or increasing the percentage of students scoring 3 or above.

FINANCE

The Board

- approved a resolution to apply for/accept funds to support implementation of the New Jersey Achievement Coaches Program and the New Jersey Achievement Coaches Content Development Program in the amounts of \$105,000 and \$82,000 respectively. These programs would be utilized to empower several of Old Bridge's outstanding educators to provide direct support to their peers through high quality training and resources provided by the New Jersey Department of Education, starting Feb. 1, 2015 and ending on Aug. 31, 2015.

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NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL – OFFICE

The Board

- approved the retirement of Stephanie Gulla, executive assistant to the superintendent/administration, with deep appreciation for her 26.5 years of dedicated service to the District, effective March 1, 2015.

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

The Board

- approved the retirement of Albert Grover, OBHS physics teacher with deep appreciation for his 11 years of dedicated service to the District, effective Jan. 1, 2015.
- approved the employment of Cathy Gramata as elementary principal, replacing S. Miskiewicz, effective Jan. 1, 2015.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board

- approved the following meetings: agenda session, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9, in the Patrick A. Torre Administration Building; and regular meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 16, in the OBHS Main Building Auditorium.
- acknowledged the official results of the Board of Education elections. The winners are: incumbents Frank Weber, 3306 and Donna Andriani, 3282, and newcomer Kelly Ellis-Foster, 3151.