

OLD BRIDGE BOARD BRIEFS

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

September 16, 2014

IN MEMORIAM

The Board

- acknowledged the deaths of Thomas Paul Korshalla, teacher and principal; Stanley E. Lease Jr., teacher; Stella Bentivenga, guidance secretary; and Francis Patrick Gill, teacher, and expressed its deepest sympathies to their families and friends.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

David Cittadino

- commended the staff for a smooth opening for the first day of school.
- said last year a total of 397 children were registered for kindergarten; this year 582 students are registered for full day kindergarten. (The district initiated a full day kindergarten program for all children, beginning this school year).
- said the transportation staff rose to the occasion with all children arriving to school and home safely.
- said the number one goal is to return children in the same condition or better than when they arrive each day.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Donna M. Kibbler

- offered a presentation on the revamped Elementary Challenge Program.
- said beginning next month, children enrolled in the program will participate in an extended classroom instructional learning experience; the program is for students who exhibit advanced learning capabilities.
- said beginning this year participating children will be picked up at their homes at 9:15 a.m. and transported to the Challenge class, where they will remain until 1:30 p.m. when a bus will return them to their home schools. They will participate in the program one day per week, according to their grade. The students will receive physical education/health during that day. The Challenge Program will include yoga, breathing, stretching, social skills, and mindfulness training.
- said children will be selected for the program using an eligibility matrix, which includes teacher evaluation, NJASK scores in LAL and Math, Rigby LAL scores as well as Challenge assessments.
- said the program will address problem solving, critical thinking, communication, and leadership skills.
- said the middle school students are scheduled in a team format. Kibbler said students not enrolled in honors classes and the special education classes are divided into random groupings based on the class scheduling. They learn to think critically and to problem solve to expand their level of knowledge.

- said there are almost 30 Advanced Placement (AP) course offerings at the high school to challenge students.
- said there are currently courses offered within the mathematics, science, business and careers, and technology departments that offer college credits.

NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL – OFFICE

The Board

- approved the retirement of Bridget Crowe, OBHS Guidance Department, with deep appreciation for her 38 years of dedicated service to the District.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board

- approved the following meetings: agenda session, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 14, in the Patrick A. Torre Administration Building; and regular meeting at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 21, in the OBHS Main Building TV Studio.
- approved the amended 2014-2015 school year calendar to reflect early dismissal days for additional staff in-service days geared toward Professional Learning Communities (PLC) on Wednesdays, Oct. 1, Dec. 3, Feb. 11, 2015, and June 3, 2015.