

OLD BRIDGE BOARD BRIEFS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING November 21, 2017

RECOGNITION

The Board

- recognized the following students from Troop 80813 for achieving the Girl Scout Bronze Award. For their award, the girls helped a local animal shelter, Sammy's Hope. They created kits that could be given out to families when they adopt a pet. The kits include food and toys. They also donated supplies and visited the shelter several times. They are: Angeleah Bloodworth, Bridget Haney, Samantha Kazmirek, Danica Lennon, Emily Rekalitis, Mia Rodrigues and Siena Santamaria, all Carl Sandburg Middle School; Savannah Schoemer, Jonas Salk Middle School; Emily Lennon, Cheesequake School; and Haley Zupko, St Thomas School.
- recognized Emily Bannon, Schirra School, from Troop 80212 for achieving the Girl Scout Bronze Award. Her project was creating an "S" for Schirra. It is located under a Japanese Maple tree in front of the school and is comprised of many colors, which represent the Pillars of Character.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

David Cittadino

- said the Calendar Committee is looking at the parameters of calendars for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. He said he will present to the board and send home the proposals to every parent/staff member during the first week of December. He said the board will discuss the proposals at the Dec. 12 agenda session. He urged anyone with concerns to come to the meeting and discuss them at that time.
- said he was excited to have a test report presented tonight. He said the indicators of success of schools were shown with the district's growth on PARCC.
- said the SAT scores this year increased above the state and national averages. The national average was 1060, the state average was 1076m and Old Bridge scored 43 points above the national average and 23 points above the state average.
- said he couldn't be more proud of the SAT results. Prior to 2009, Old Bridge was consistently below the national average and prior to 2014 it was below the state average.

DISTRICT SUPERVISOR ASSESSMENTS/GUIDANCE

Jeffrey Caufield

- presented a report on PARCC, its implementation and results and the PSAT, SAT, and Advanced Placement (AP) historical data and results.
- said Old Bridge Township Public Schools outperformed the state in 13 out of the 18 areas tested on the PARCC 2016. Last year, Old Bridge outperformed in 12 out of 18 areas.

- said SAT, Advanced Placement, and PSAT are important indicators of growth and improvement.
- presented an analysis of College Board five-year data for Old Bridge.
- thanked the Board of Education for supporting the PSAT initiative, beginning in 2013.
- said SAT combined scores were 27 points higher than the New Jersey average. SAT combined scores for Old Bridge averaged 1103 (out of 1600) in 2017.
- said 472 students were enrolled in AP courses and 868 AP exams were taken in 2017. He added that 75.2 percent of Old Bridge High School students scored a three or better on the Advanced Placement tests in 2017, which is 4.4 percent better than the state average.

FINANCE

The Board

- accepted a \$300 grant from Eagleton Institute of Politics (Rutgers) to the seventh grade social studies special education class at Carl Sandburg Middle School. The grant is intended to help pay for bus rental expenses to bring two special education social studies classes to Trenton for a special tour of the State House and the Old Barracks Museum.

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

- approved the retirement of the following staff members with deep appreciation for their years of service to the District, effective Jan. 1, 2018. They are: Louane Raymond, Memorial/Physical Education Teacher, 31.5 years of service and Frank Batsch, Jonas Salk Middle School/Band Teacher, 20 years of service.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board

- approved the following meetings: agenda session, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 12, in the Patrick A. Torre Administration Building; regular meeting, 7 p.m., Dec. 19, in the OBHS Main Building Auditorium.
- accepted the donation of a baby grand piano to Old Bridge Township Schools from Mr. Paley, Old Bridge resident and retired member of the Old Bridge music community. Mr. Paley's donation and generosity are appreciated by the students and community of Old Bridge schools.

BOARD SECRETARY AND BOARD BUSINESS

The Board

- acknowledged the official results of the Board of Education elections: Lisa Lent, 3,459; Matthew Sulikowski, 3,338; and Jill DeCaro, 3,336.