

# **OLD BRIDGE BOARD BRIEFS**

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

### **January 19, 2016**

#### ***RECOGNITION***

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

- commended Anthony Polst, East Brunswick Vocational Technical School, 12<sup>th</sup> grader, for completing an Eagle Scout project at Shepard School in fulfillment of his rank of Eagle Scout. The ceremony will be held Feb. 6 in the Civic Center.
- commended the following students of the Old Bridge schools' choirs, who visited the residents of the Roosevelt Care Center. Through holiday song and music, they brought cheer and joy to the senior citizens of Old Bridge. These students are being recognized for their time in giving back to the community. They are: Gabriella Armanious, Kiarra Clark, Briannah Clark, Lea Kvartek, Sydney Correia, Ariana Letteriello, Anthony Falu, Driana Murray, Anthony Ferrigno, Sarah Ramos, Jon Guzman, Daniel Reda, Shane Hage, Carleigh Sarisky, Alexandra Lockhart, Heather Bianchino, Noelle Medina, Jamie Costeira, Shelby Murtha, Amaya Hemmings, Beniaih Ogalo, Makenna Heslin, John Quigley, Ilana Pazzani, and Jessica Kelly.
- gave the Old Bridge Police Department and Police Benevolent Association, Local 127, the opportunity to recognize and commend seven students who participated with the COPS for Kids Holiday Party. These students assisted the department with the gift wrapping of various items that were given out to children at the holiday party. Their volunteerism for this event demonstrates that being a member of the Peer Leader Program extends to all areas of commitment, not only to their fellow students but to the community as well. They are: Anessia Baltazar, Nicole Bertelle, Catarina Cordeiro, Samantha Gambino, Stephanie Garofalo, Alexa Laspada, and Veronica Rongo.

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

##### ***David Cittadino***

- reported to the Board of Education on the incidents of violence and vandalism, which have occurred in the district during the previous school year (January through June 2015).
- said the following counts of incidents by reporting category are: violence, 29; vandalism, 5; weapons, 2; substance abuse, 17; and unduplicated total 69.
- said the cost of vandalism to the district for the reporting period of January through June 2015 was zero.
- said actions taken were: police notified (no complaint), 8; police notified complaint filed), 8; in-school suspension, 10; out-of school suspensions, 64; and expulsions, unilateral removals, removals by ALJ, 0.
- said there were 77 student offenders; 37 student victims; 9 school personnel victims; and 0 student victims of violent criminal offense.
- said there were 16 HIB (Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying) incidents, including 7 for race; 2 for color; 1 for religion; 4 for sexual orientation; 3 for mental, physical or sensory disability; and 2 for other distinguishing characteristics.

- said the mode of HIB incidents included 16 verbal; 2 physical; and 3 electronic communication.
- said the disciplinary action taken included: other/none, 19; expulsion, 0; in-school suspension, 5; out-of-school suspension, 5; detention, 3; suspension of privileges, 5; individual counseling, 17; and restitution and restoration, 2.
- offered a year-to-year comparison of district reporting of violence and vandalism. He said the number of violence, vandalism, weapons, and substance abuse incidents totaled 180 in 2011-2012 compared to 108 in 2012-2013; 75 in 2013-2014; and 78 in 2014-2015.
- said the number of confirmed HIB incidents decreased from 58 in 2011-2012 to 22 in 2012-2013; 35 in 2013-2014; and 24 in 2014-2015.

## ***PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS***

### ***Jeffrey Caulfield, supervisor assessments/guidance***

- presented the district's annual testing report. He addressed PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers), which replaced the HSPA (High School Proficiency Assessment) and previous assessments; the PSAT, which was administered to freshmen at the high school on Oct. 14; SAT historical data; and AP testing results.
- said the district received the results of the PARCC in December for nine grade levels in ELA and mathematics.
- said Old Bridge out-performed the state in 11 out of 18 areas. He said the state recommends districts to use the first year of data as baselines.
- said in grades 3-5, Old Bridge out-performed the state in all areas in ELA and mathematics.
- said it received a grade analysis by school and how each grade level performed compared to the State of New Jersey.
- said OBHS has demonstrated significant growth on the PSAT in all areas over the past five years. Next year all four classes will have taken the PSAT as freshmen.
- said a high percent of AP students received scores of 3 or more.
- said in 2011, 160 students took AP exams compared to 360 in 2015.

## ***NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL – OTHER***

### ***The Board***

- approved the retirement of Linda Tupe, substitute paraprofessional aide and substitute teacher, effective Dec. 30, 2015, and expressed its gratitude for 21 years of dedicated service to the District.

## ***CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL***

### ***The Board***

- approved the retirement of Mohamed Ali, OBHS chemistry teacher, with deep appreciation for his 12 years of dedicated service to the District, effective July 1.

## ***MISCELLANEOUS***

### ***The Board***

- approved the following meetings; agenda session, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 9, 2016, in the Patrick A. Torre Administration Building; and regular meeting at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 16, 2016, in the OBHS Main Building TV Studio.
- approved the 2016-2017 School Year Calendar.
- approved the revised 2015-2016 School Year Calendar, which reflect 181 instruction days pursuant to the MOA Agreement between the OBEA and the OBBOE. The March break will include March 25-29.