

OLD BRIDGE BOARD BRIEFS

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

November 22, 2016

RECOGNITION

The Board

- commended Connor Quinn, eleventh grader at OBHS, for achieving the high rank of Eagle Scout with Troop 54 of Jamesburg.
- recognized Knight Life newspaper as the recipient of the Overall Excellence award at the Garden State Scholastic Press Association's Annual Fall conference. This is the third time in eight years the newspaper received top honors for a large school (enrollment over 1500). The newspaper received perfect scores in writing and coverage.
- recognized the following schools as National Schools of Character and for Best Practices. They are: Leroy Gordon Cooper School, National School of Character and Best Practice; Virgil L. Grissom School, National School of Character; Memorial School, Best Practice; Alan B. Shepard School, second time National School of Character and Best Practice; and Carl Sandburg Middle School, National School of Character.
- acknowledged that on Sept. 12, the National PTA recognized Memorial Elementary School and PTA as a National PTA School of Excellence for its achievement in guiding an effective family-school partnership.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DAVID CITTADINO

- said the district received a letter from the State Board of Education commending Old Bridge for the important work it is doing in RTI, resource, and education in support of students.
- said he was looking forward to meeting with the new consultant for the development of a district Strategic Plan. The consultant is expected to meet with the school board, superintendent, and his cabinet on Dec. 13.
- said there is an application before the state Board of Education regarding a proposed Charter School, to be located on Route 9 across from the Shop Rite. The school would draw from Old Bridge schools about 900 students. He said Old Bridge School District would be responsible to pay \$10,000 per student or about \$9 million annually to fund the charter school.
- said Old Bridge, with its growth and national recognition, shows that the schools and the community work together.
- said that to say this is a place where a charter school is needed is ridiculous.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

KATHLEEN HOEKER

- commended the five Old Bridge Schools for being named National Schools of Charter and/or for Best Practices.

PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS

JEFFREY CAULFIELD, supervisor of Assessments/Guidance

- presented the district's annual testing report
- said one school in Middlesex County scored in the top 20 on PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) – Schirra Elementary School.
- said nine grade levels were tested in ELA and mathematics.
- said Old Bridge Township Public Schools outperformed the state in 12 out of 18 areas.
- said paper reports were received in September and score reports were sent home Sept. 23.
- said SAT, Advanced Placement (AP), and PSAT scores are important indicators of growth and improvement.
- said Old Bridge's combined SAT scores increased over the past five years by eight points in critical reading, two points in mathematics, five points in writing and 15 points combined. New Jersey's combined scores over the past five years decreased by 10 points.

FINANCE

The Board

- accepted a grant in the amount of \$300 from the Eagleton Institute for Politics for the Carl Sandburg Middle School Special Education Department for support of a social studies trip to the NJ State House.

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

The Board

- approved the retirement of the following staff members with deep appreciation for their years of dedicated service to the District. They are: Janet Stanton, Memorial School, special education teacher, 10.5 years of service, effective Jan. 1, 2017 and Kenneth Rosen, OBHS guidance counselor, 15 years of service, effective July 1, 2017.

SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

The Board

- approved the sale of Jonas Salk Middle School's play scenery to Ewing Township Board of Education in the amount of \$500.

BOARD SECRETARY AND BOARD BUSINESS

The Board

- acknowledged the unofficial results of the Board of Education elections: Jill Cali, 9,537; Walter Reed, 8,250; and Balwinder Singh, 8,000.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board

- approved the following meetings: agenda session, 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 13, in the Patrick A. Torre Administration Building; and regular meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 20, in the auditorium at OBHS Main Building.
- acknowledged Mr. and Mrs. George Symeonides for the donation of photography equipment to OBHS for Photography Class/Design Technology.