

November 14, 2005

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

A regular, scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of the Olympia Community Unit School District Number 16 held in the Olympia Administration Office was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Brian Spaulding with the following Board members and administrators present: Brian Spaulding, Laura Cremeens, Sondra Hayes, Trena Glenn, Steve Matter, Curt Morr, Leslie Schmidgall; Superintendent Donald F. Hahn, Curriculum and Instruction Director/Asst. Superintendent Brad Hutchison, Business and Operations Manager Brock Butts, Technology and Media Coordinator Mary Ann Nannen, and OHS Principal Lance Thurman.

Others present were Jeanne Kashner of the Olympia Foundation for Education; Chris Embry Mohr, Robin Staudenmeier, Mike Neisler, Mary Karns, Cindy Rumpel, Jane Slifer, and Jessica Grim, all recipients of grant awards; the Richard Park family; and other community members.

Sondra Hayes, Board secretary, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A **motion** was made by Laura Cremeens, seconded by Trena Glenn, to approve the consent agenda that included:

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes, including Executive Session, from the October 11, 2005, Regular Board of Education meeting
- C. Approval of Minutes from the November 7, 2005, Emergency Board Meeting
- D. Approval of Bills and Financial Reports
- E. Approval to Collect Delinquent Accounts through the Services of a Collection Agency
- F. Granted permission for the OHS Student Council to declare the attached music items as surplus and to send surplus music items to the Louisiana school system
- G. Granted permission for the OHS Dance Team to raise funds by collecting money from the student body as a vote for a male student that they would like to see perform a dance routine with the team
- H. Employed the following Educational Support Personnel
 1. Cindy Melick as Noon Supervisor effective October 11, 2005
 2. Kathy Weinzierl as Classroom Aide effective November 2, 2005
 3. Kathleen Hymbaugh as Bus Aide effective November 14, 2005
 4. Susan Pyle as Special Education Classroom Aide effective October 10, 2005
- I. Employed Steven Fluty as OMS Wrestling Coach effective for the 2005-2006 school year
- J. Employed Kendra Rollins as OHS Boys Swim Team Coach effective for the 2005-2006 school year

- K. Confirmed the following Resignations
 - 1. Deborah Lindsay as Teacher's Aide effective October 14, 2005
 - 2. Amy Weseloh as Special Education Nursing Aide effective October 20, 2005
- L. Approval to hire Guy M. Cahill & Associates, Inc., as a consultant to investigate, prepare and file claims on behalf of the district for the recalculation of state aid with the ISBE for the tax years of 1999 through 2005
- M. Approval of the 2005-2006 School Library Per Capita Grant Report
- N. Approval of Early Graduation for Chad Johnson
- O. Employed Matt Nordstrom as OHS Agriculture Teacher (pending approval of his provisional certificate) effective January 3, 2006

Discussion. Vote: Spaulding (aye), Cremeens (aye), Hayes (aye), Glenn (aye), Matter (aye), Morr (aye), Schmidgall (aye). Motion carried 7-0.

Communications

A communications folder was circulated among the board members.

Jeanne Kashner of the Olympia Foundation for Education presented the following teachers with a \$500 award for writing a winning mini grant:

- 1. Chris Embry Mohr & Robin Staudenmeier – for Science/Math Curriculum Improvement
- 2. Chris Embry Mohr – for Science Curriculum Improvement
- 3. Mike Neisler – for OHS heart monitors
- 4. Mary Karns – for SRA Reading Lab
- 5. Cindy Rumpel, Jane Slifer & Jessica Grim – for digital cameras for Early Childhood classrooms

Committee Reports

Board members Sondra Hayes and Trena Glenn reported that the Policy Committee had met and were requesting Board approval for updating of policies 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity & Minority Recruitment), 6:90 (Kindergarten Offering), 6:110 (Programs & Graduation Incentives for Students at Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School), and 7:50 (School Admissions & Student Transfers To & From Non-District Schools). The Committee also provided the Board with first-reading copies of several policy updates as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards. These will be discussed at the next regular Board of Education meeting.

Olympia parent, Roberta Park, addressed the Board regarding current Board policy for the Illinois Virtual High School courses. Her daughter Rachel, who is a Freshman, is wanting to take Latin as an IVHS course. Mrs. Park asked the Board to either consider changing this policy, which now allows only Juniors and Seniors to participate, or to grant exceptions if requested. Mr. Hahn will check with other districts to see what their current policy is regarding the IVHS courses.

Assistant Superintendent Brad Hutchison and Board members Laura Cremeens and Trena Glenn reported that many positive things were discussed at the Education Committee meeting including the impact of OHS Advisory, the addition of Freshman Biology for this year's second semester, new Science books at OMS, and the participation of the Building Leadership Training. Mr. Hutchison shared with the Board that the Tremont School District would be joining Olympia at the January 3, 2006, Teachers' Institute for a special presentation by Todd Whitaker, "Best Practices in Teaching". Mrs. Cremeens noted that these meetings show a positive connection between the elementary buildings and OMS.

Board member Trena Glenn reported that the first meeting of the Olympia Advisory Council resulted in a large attendance of both current and new members. Mrs. Glenn noted that she was pleased to see ex-officio participation from various community civic groups and from the OHS Student Council. During the OAC meeting, members were given proposed changes to the OAC Constitution. They were also briefed on new district features and offerings and updated on the district finances and detachment process.

Administrative Reports

Assistant Superintendent Brad Hutchison reported that the newly-released State Report Card for 2004-2005 shows that Olympia's cost per student was under the State average and that overall student performance was above State average. He also pointed out that Olympia's graduation rate has improved and was above State average, and that the drop-out rate was 1%; well below State average. Mr. Hutchison informed the Board that each school had met Adequate Yearly Progress as part of the No Child Left Behind law. He also provided the Board with a chart regarding the ACT profile for seniors which shows a continued improvement for the past 4 years. Mr. Hutchison noted that School Improvement plans were now listed on each school's website.

Technology and Media Director Mary Ann Nannen shared library circulation statistics with the Board which showed that book checkout in all buildings is increasing. She also shared an evaluation of the library media program which was developed as a tool for setting goals. Mrs. Nannen noted that she and some district secretaries had attended an annual Skyward conference which provided valuable information regarding utilizing the technology that we currently have to a greater extent. She also noted that she and Brenda Thompson had attended the Illinois School Library Media Conference where several prizes, including 3 sets of books worth more than \$250, were won for Olympia. Mrs. Nannen asked for Board approval of the 2005-2006 School Library Per Capita Grant Report, an annual requirement of the State Library. This report is the last step in the grant application.

Operations and Business Manager Dr. Brock Butts presented the Board with the 2005 proposed tentative levy information which showed that the 2005 Equalized Assessed Value of the district is expected to decrease because farmland value continues to decline, there is minimal construction within the district, and continued tax exemptions for

homestead and senior citizen income exemptions limit the growth. With this information and the decrease in Tort Levy, Dr. Butts reported that the district can expect the total tax rate to decrease by approximately 6 cents. Dr. Butts recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Marc Albertin, former Olympia Maintenance Director, to provide consulting services at a cost of \$2,000 for the geo-thermal system at OHMS. He also asked the Board to approve bids from two separate companies for the purchase of 2 buses, 1 special bus and an activity vehicle, and to approve the bid from Mike Manahan for the purchase of the Stanford Elementary Building. In compliance with the State, Dr. Butts provided the Board with a copy of the Automated External Defibrillator Inspection Agreement. Dr. Butts reported to the Board that he had been working with the insurance company regarding the storm damage. He shared that the gym floor was repairable and expected practices to resume shortly.

Superintendent Hahn provided the Board with final information regarding the annual School Board Conference in Chicago, Nov. 18-20. Mr. Hahn noted that Board President Brian Spaulding will be the Olympia representative for the Illinois Association of School Boards. As a representative, Mr. Spaulding will be asked to support various issues that will determine future Board policies. These issues were discussed, and the Board agreed upon their stand on the issues. Mr. Hahn informed the Board on the Request for Proposal process for a study of district demographics, facilities and future needs, and recommended that they approve the bid from Fanning Howey Associates, Inc. to complete this study. Mr. Hahn shared Parent/Teacher Conference results with the Board which showed consistently high numbers of participation at the elementary and middle school buildings and a significant increase at the high school. He also informed the Board that a current attendance report showed a high level of absences at the high school level – 123 students missed 5 or more days in the first quarter and 21 missed 10 or more days. Mr. Hahn expressed concern for this issue and will work with Olympia High School Principal Lance Thurman to help resolve this problem.

Other Business

None

Action Items

A **motion** was made by Leslie Schmidgall, seconded by Steve Matter to approve the 2005 tentative levy amounts to be collected in 2006 as presented by Operations and Business Manager Dr. Brock Butts.

Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 7-0.
Schmidgall (aye), Matter (aye), Spaulding (aye), Cremeens (aye), Hayes (aye), Glenn (aye), Morr (aye)

A **motion** was made by Steve Matter, seconded by Sondra Hayes to accept the bid of \$3,000 from Mike Manahan for the sale of the Stanford Elementary Building as recommended by Operations and Business Manager Dr. Brock Butts.

Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 5-2.
Matter (aye), Hayes (aye), Spaulding (aye), Cremeens (aye), Glenn (aye),
Morr (nay), Schmidgall (nay)

A **motion** was made by Trena Glenn, seconded by Leslie Schmidgall to approve the update of Board Policy 6:90 regarding the District's Kindergarten Program as recommended by Superintendent Donald Hahn and the Policy Committee.

Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 7-0.
Glenn (aye), Schmidgall (aye), Spaulding (aye), Cremeens (aye), Hayes (aye),
Matter (aye), Morr (aye)

A **motion** was made by Laura Cremeens, seconded by Steve Matter to approve the update of Board Policies 6:110 and 7:50 as recommended by Superintendent Donald Hahn and the Policy Committee.

Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 7-0.
Cremeens (aye), Matter (aye), Spaulding (aye), Hayes (aye), Glenn (aye),
Morr (aye), Schmidgall (aye)

A **motion** was made by Sondra Hayes, seconded by Trena Glenn to approve the update of Board Policy 5:10 as recommended by Superintendent Donald Hahn and the Policy Committee.

Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 4-3.
Hayes (aye), Glenn (aye), Spaulding (aye), Cremeens (nay), Matter (aye),
Morr (nay), Schmidgall (nay)

A **motion** was made by Curt Morr, seconded by Laura Cremeens to approve the bid of \$9,500.00 made by Fanning Howey Associates, Inc. to complete a Board study of demographics, facilities, and future district needs as recommended by Superintendent Donald Hahn.

Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 6-1.
Morr (aye), Cremeens (aye), Spaulding (aye), Hayes (aye),
Matter (aye), Glenn (aye), Schmidgall (nay)

A **motion** was made by Leslie Schmidgall, seconded by Steve Matter to approve the Professional Services Agreement between Olympia C.U.S.D. #16 and Marc Albertin for consultation services at a cost of \$2,000.00 as presented by Operations and Business Manager Dr. Brock Butts.

Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 7-0.
Schmidgall (aye), Matter (aye), Spaulding (aye), Cremeens (aye), Hayes (aye), Glenn (aye), Morr (aye)

A **motion** was made by Sondra Hayes, seconded by Curt Morr to approve the bid from Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc. for the purchase of two 71-passenger conventional school buses and one 15-passenger activity bus and to approve the bid from Central States Bus Sales, Inc. for the purchase of one 21+2-passenger special equipped school bus.

Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 7-0.
Hayes (aye), Morr (aye), Spaulding (aye), Cremeens (aye), Glenn (aye), Matter (aye), Schmidgall (aye)

Executive Session

A **motion** was made by Laura Cremeens, seconded by Sondra Hayes, to meet in Executive Session at 10:35 p.m. to discuss employment of personnel.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Action As A Result Of Executive Session

There was no action as a result of Executive Session.

Adjournment

At 11:15 p.m., a **motion** was made by Steve Matter, seconded by Sondra Hayes, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

APPROVED:

President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Education

**Executive Session Minutes
November 14, 2005**

A motion was made by Laura Cremeens, seconded by Sondra Hayes, to meet in Executive Session at 10:35 p.m. to discuss employment of personnel.

There was no action taken as a result of this Executive Session.