



Board Briefs

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Volume 2011-2012 Number 2

Report from the Regular August 17, 2011 Board of Education meeting:

A. Administrative Reports

1. PTA Report – No report this month.
2. **Mr. Hullman** – Approval of financial statements for the period ending July 31, 2011 and the five year forecast.
3. **Mr. Lewis** – Discussed the New Teacher Orientation.

District needed to cut four OAPSE paraprofessionals' hours due to a SPED student being educated out of the district.

Enrollment issues have been discussed with the building secretaries regarding special circumstances.

4. **Mr. Atkinson - Transportation:** Our last State Highway Patrol bus inspection was held on August 1, 2011. Over the course of the three inspections, all of the buses under our care passed with the exception of one Fairview bus (two dry rotted tires and rusted muffler) and one Olmsted Bus (weak floor before and after rear wheels). They will be re-inspected on August 22, 2011 and be ready for the start of school on August 23, 2011.

Bus rider cards will reach homes by August 12, 2011.

T-2 was completed on July 27th and electronically submitted.

Heath attended a two day “Back to Basics” Transportation Seminar in Columbus on August 4th and 5th. It reviewed all aspects of transportation and proved to be very valuable to him.

Heath will be meeting with our PK-5 principals to review start up processes as it relates to buses and also discuss the merits of assigned seating for all grade levels PK-5. Currently, only grades 6-8 had mandatory assigned seating.

Buildings and Grounds: A list of completed projects, district wide, will be provided to you at our September 2011 Board meeting.

With the use of cell tower funds, 24” fans will be purchased and installed by our staff in 34 rooms at the Early Childhood Center. They will be wall mounted and controlled by building staff as they see fit.

Cross Roads Asphalt paving has completed all patching of our parking lots and driveways. Seal coating will be completed by August 12, 2011 at Falls – Lenox and the High school.

Tom Dipert and his grounds crew have completed driveway and parking lot striping with the exception of Falls – Lenox due to the seal coating that will be completed by August 12, 2011.

All concrete repairs, district wide, have been completed.

The Illuminating Company installed a band practice field light pole on the western edge of that property. It will improve the illumination of that practice field.

Our Middle school was broken into on August 4, 2011 at 1:30a.m. We sustained about \$375.00 dollars in damage and about \$5,482.00 dollars in stolen equipment. Currently, we have no suspects and have taken further steps to minimize one's ability to access the roof where entrance was gained through a roof hatch, which was forced open. Our insurance company has been notified.

Our High school room W6 (pre-engineering) renovations are almost complete. We have a few electrical items left to do in the floor and then the carpet can be installed. Completion should occur by the first part of the week of August 15th.

Our Board office stairwell wall remains incomplete. Completion is planned to occur by August 19, 2011.

Our High school soccer field located at the Middle school will soon be receiving fencing which will help to enclose that facility and better control the ingress and egress of our spectators.

Personnel: Custodial and Transportation staff will have meetings on Monday, August 22, 2011. These will help to lay out the foundation for the new school year ahead.

With your approval to employ Kathy Page as our fourth and final new hire as a school bus driver, our transportation staff will be complete and will be reduced by one in comparison to last school year.

The vast majority of our summer staff concluded on Friday, August 12th. We have retained a few to assist in the schools for an additional week and two will be retained on grounds until mid-September.

We had a Grounds Maintenance meeting on August 11, 2011 and discussed our Fall list of activities.

5. **Dr. Lloyd – Curriculum & Instruction:**

During the first day of our administrative retreat the administration and members of the OFEA discussed the desire to expand the membership of the District Leadership Team to incorporate additional members of the faculty. This was a very honest and open discussion. Our Building Leadership Teams will be tasked with choosing additional members of the DLT for the 2011-12

school year. The inclusion of additional members will allow us to broaden our current level of teacher input and will assist us in our goal of becoming even more collaborative.

We begin our journey towards making some significant changes in how we teach English-Language Arts to students in the fall. The ELA study committee has worked to create a very strategic method that is research-based and begins with increasing the capacity of the teachers in a different kind of reading methodology that I've spoken to you about (i.e. Reader's and Writer's Workshop). I have included two handouts in order to provide you with some additional information related to this model of instruction. While the Common Core Standards will have an impact on instruction, my belief is that we must go beyond changing the standards and become more purposeful with what we do. The goal is to help students become more skilled, habitual and critical readers and writers. Regardless of a person's chosen field, this skill set will help them be successful in life. The handouts outline the critical elements of both reading and writing workshops. As I've indicated, the largest impact of this method will be felt in grades 4 through 8. I would be remiss if I didn't commend the willingness of two of our 4th grade teachers. Audrey Eckert and Sharon Stanczak have asked to begin to incorporate parts of this new model within their classrooms at the onset of the year. In the future, I'd like to have both Sharon and Audrey attend a board meeting and report on how this implementation is progressing.

Assessment:

On August 22nd our accountability will become official and on the 24th it will be publicly released. There are some changes to Ohio's Accountability System that you should be aware of. Preliminary Ohio Achievement Assessment Results for 2011

3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th
R-87.6%	R-94.0%	R-86.2%	R-93.1%	R-88.5%	R-94.1%
M-90.1%	M-91.5%	M-83%	M-89.6%	M-98.0%	M90.3%
		Sci-89.8%			Sci-86.7%

All signs indicate we have met all 24 testing indicators

All signs indicate we have met both the attendance and graduation rate indicators

Based on our preliminary AYP results, we have MET AYP.

Based on our preliminary Value-Added Assessment Rating, our district MET the value-added growth measure. Last year and the year before we were rated as ABOVE. The ABOVE rating resulted in our Excellent with Distinction classification.

Based on our preliminary results, it does not look as though we will receive the Excellent with Distinction rating this school year; rather we will be rated as Excellent. While these results are preliminary, this change deserves some explanation because you may be asked why.

What were the changes with Value-Added Assessment in the ODE Accountability Model?

In order to answer this, you need to know what it previously was. This will be somewhat technical as it relates to statistics and probability. I would be happy to explain any components at the board meeting in person.

In the past, the ODE used 1 standard error of measurement (SEM) in order to calculate the significance or lack thereof of a district's value-added results. In statistics, SEM is used to control for any measurement error that might occur. One SEM means that the results that are being reported are reported with 68% confidence. This means that the person reporting the results (in this case the ODE) is 32% confident that the findings may be due to measurement error. A 1 SEM approach is very liberal and honestly, it isn't industry standard; however the 1 SEM choice was likely selected due to political forces.

If one were to use a 2 SEM approach, it would mean that the person reporting is 95% confident in the results and that there is only a 5% chance that measurement error occurred. The ODE has switched from a 1 SEM approach to a 2 SEM approach. While this switch didn't help us, it is a more precise method to determine the statistical significance of academic growth. For example, if faced with the choice of having to undergo two medical exams, one which would yield results that you could be 68% certain in and the other where you would be 95% confident in the results, you would likely choose the latter.

Over the next several weeks our data will become further crystallized and will eventually be official. It is important to note that if my prediction of our value-added data is indeed true (i.e. meaning we will receive a MET rating for value-added) this isn't discouraging. While we certainly want to be ABOVE expectations and have received this rating the previous two years, a MET rating essentially boils down to taking each student where they are and ensuring each person makes a year's worth of growth. Ultimately this is our educational duty.

Many of you have asked about how our achievement scores compare to last year. Listed below is a three year trend on our results.

Grade	Subject	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
3 rd	Reading	87.6	91.4	85.1
	Math	90.1	90.7	89.4
4 th	Reading	94	91.6	93.0
	Math	91.5	90.9	93.4
5 th	Reading	86.2	88.1	89.2
	Math	82.6	88.8	84.3
	Science	89.8	90.6	90.6
6 th	Reading	93.1	95.3	93.9
	Math	89.6	91.7	92.7
7 th	Reading	88.5	95.5	91.6
	Math	93	94.0	94.6
8 th	Reading	94.1	91.1	86.2
	Math	90.3	84.1	91.4
	Science	86.7	83.6	85.5
10 th	Reading	96.8	92.9	92.5
	Writing	97.5	95.4	94.6
	Math	97.1	90.7	93.2
	Soc. Studies	95.7	91.4	93.2
	Science	92.4	84.0	91.2

6. Dr. Hoadley –

1. 2.8 Mill PI levy campaign
 - a. Meeting on Monday, August 15.
 - i. 12 Members of OF community
 - ii. Themes and tactics discussed
 - b. Levy Discussions occurring at all Open Houses
 - i. Talking points (See attached) created and distributed to principals.
 1. Talking points attached
 - ii. Signs for Distribution
 1. Gave out 60 Levy signs last night at Falls Lenox
 - c. Athletic Boosters – Meeting the Team
 - i. Saturday at 5:30 PM
 - ii. Speaking opportunity
 - d. Knock and Talk
 - i. Saturday, September 3rd, 10 a.m. – Noon
 1. Meet at Board Office
2. 2011 / 2012 Emphasis on Employee Culture
 - a. New Conversation (5 Key Points)
 - i. A divide exists between Admin and Faculty AND we must trust and work together if we are to thrive.
 - ii. The community supports our schools AND we must build deeper connections within our community.
 - iii. We are successful meeting today's standards AND we must prepare tomorrow's successful citizens.
 - iv. Sustaining has been a primary goal AND redirecting resources is key to our future.
 - v. We too often speak of what is wrong AND we must tell a positive story.
 - b. Changes to Opening Day Convocation Meeting
 - i. Tim Atkinson will give opening speech to faculty
 - c. Communication Plan (See attached)
 - i. Developed by Kim Petrina, Jim Lloyd, Mark Kurz, Nate Artino, Jeff Kho, Kristen Roberson, and Sharon Stanczak
 - ii. Operationalize a new conversation
 1. 5 minutes in every meeting will be spent discussion one of the 5 key points.

2. Discussion prompts will be generated weekly and distributed to all admin and teacher leaders.
3. Training in facilitating these discussions will be given to each admin and teacher leader by Jim Smith.
- iii. Jim Smith (Executive Coach) – attendance at one monthly admin meeting to provide training / coaching to all members of Admin Team.

3. Central Office Reorganization

- a. See Attached
- b. Meeting tomorrow to divide up job duties
- c. This will be shared with staff at opening day meeting.

4. Superintendent Recommendation #2 – 5 Year Contract with Pepsi

- a. Remove from tonight's agenda.
- b. Some last minute language adjustments in contract.
- c. This recommendation will likely appear on September Board agenda.

5. Superintendent Goals for 2011/2012

- a. Attached
- b. School Board approval, by Resolution at September 15th meeting.

7. Polaris Career Center Report – Mr. James Weisbarth

8. Legislative Report – Mrs. Rhonda McCrone

B. **Donations**

C. **Minutes**

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 21, 2011 and the Special Meeting held on August 5, 2011.

D. **Recommendations of the Treasurer**

1. Approved Financial Reports for the Period Ending July 31, 2011 (**Exhibit 1**)
 - (a) Receipts (**Exhibit 1-a**)
 - (b) Expenditures (**Exhibit 1-b**)
 - (c) Financial Bank Reconciliations (**Exhibit 1-c**)
2. Approved 5-Year Forecast Analysis (**Exhibit 2**)
 - (a) Supplemental Schedule (**Exhibit 2-a**)
3. Approved Analysis of New Intermediate School/Middle School Project (**Exhibit 3**)
4. Adopted Appropriation Amendments and 412 Certificate for FY 2012 (**Exhibit 4**)

E. **Recommendations of the Superintendent**

1. Approved **UPDATED** Olmsted Falls City Schools Administrator Benefit Guidelines. (**Exhibit 5**)

2. Approved Contract between Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County (ESC) and Olmsted Falls Board of Education for educational programs/services at Achievement Centers for Children site for the 2011-2012 SY. (**Exhibit 7**)
4. Approved membership dues for the Ohio Coalition for Equity & Adequacy of School Funding for the 2011-2012 SY at a cost of \$1,594.50. (**Exhibit 8**)
5. Approved Licensed Product Agreement between the Olmsted Falls Board of Education and NCS Pearson, Inc. and Lake Erie Educational Computer Association (LEECA) for Student Software and Support Services. (**Exhibit 9**)

F. **Personnel** Items (as shown below)

G. **For the Board's Discussion**

1. Regular Meeting – September 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. – Early Childhood Center, 7105 Fitch Road, Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138.

H. **Adjournment**

Personnel

<p><u>Resignations:</u> None</p> <p><u>Certificated Staff:</u> <u>For 2011-2012 School Year</u> McGrain, William - One year limited contract as Teacher for the 2011-2012 school year, placement per Article XXXVI of OFEA Negotiated Agreement, assigned to High School – Replacement Shea, Sharon – To be hired as long term substitute teacher for Wren Timura, effective on or around September 9, 2011 with return date to be determined</p> <p><u>Support Staff:</u> <u>For 2011-2012 School Year</u> Franz, Karen – One year limited contract as District EMIS/LEECA Services Coordinator for 2011-2012 school year, effective September 6, 2011, placement per OAPSE/OFCS Memorandum of Understanding 210 days/hours as assigned, Step # - District EMIS/LEECA Services Coordinator Salary Schedule – Replacement Page, Kathleen – One year limited contract as School Bus Driver, Step A, School Bus Driver Salary Schedule, days/hours as assigned, effective with the 2011-2012 school year – Replacement</p>	<p><u>To suspend a portion of hours from the following paraprofessionals contracts for the 2011-2012 school year as part of a layoff due to changing student needs:</u> Doherty, Mary Cay Hassett, Susan Bertrand, Ellen Fissell, Kelly</p> <p><u>Hire the following on a temporary basis for data entry to be paid at the casual labor rate for a maximum of 40 hours per building:</u> Bertrand, Ellen Cillo, Karen Doherty, Mary Catherine Fissel, Kelly Hassett, Susan Hyppa, Lisa Souris, Christothoula</p> <p><u>Numerous Supplementals For 2011-2012 SY</u> <u>Support Staff Substitute List “B”</u></p>
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