



SCHOOL REPORT

Olmsted Falls School District

www.ofcs.net

Fall 2013

1.8 MILL BOND ISSUE WILL ADDRESS OVERCROWDING, SAFETY AND SECURITY AT OLMSTED FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Bond Issue Overview

Issue 86 is a 1.8 Mill Bond Issue on the November 5, 2013 election ballot. This bond issue will pay for the construction of classrooms, renovation of common spaces, and upgrades to security systems at Olmsted Falls High School (OFHS) that are needed to address overcrowding and improve safety and security for students and staff.

Facts To Know

- OFHS is overcrowded. Built for 815 students in 1967; 1,300 will attend by 2016.
- Decade-old trailers bought to alleviate overcrowding cannot keep pace with the growth, or reduce overcrowding of common areas.
- Due to increased enrollment, OFHS requires nearly 1,000 students to pass between the main building and the trailers each school day. This is a safety and security issue.
- Crowded common spaces compromise exit routes. This is a safety issue.
- Independent analysis by PLE Group raised these safety issues, as well as a lack of security monitoring systems at OFHS.

- Randomly sampled phone survey of registered voters revealed 68% indicating they would be very likely or somewhat likely to support a bond issue on the ballot to eliminate modular classroom trailers by adding brick and mortar classrooms to the existing high school building.
- Construction costs and building loan rates favor acting now.
- The \$15 million generated will pay for construction of additional classrooms, renovation of common spaces, and upgrades to security systems (including security cameras).

Bond Issue Cost (per month)

Based on Home's Taxable Value	
\$50,000	\$2.63 a month
\$100,000	\$5.25 a month
\$200,000	\$10.50 a month
\$300,000	\$15.75 a month

Any resident with questions about the 1.8 Mill Bond Issue on the November 5, 2013 election ballot is encouraged to call the Board of Education Office at (440) 427-6000.

For additional background information, residents are also invited to visit www.ofcs.net to review previous issues of our Our School Report featuring articles on last year's evaluation of building safety and the bond issue.

DISCUSSIONS REGARDING SCOPE OF WORK AT OFHS



District leaders discussed scope of work options for safety and security upgrades at Olmsted Falls High School, which would be made possible by the passage of the 1.8 Mill Bond Issue that has been placed on the November 5th election ballot. Discussions occurred during the regular August meeting of the Olmsted Falls Board of Education, which took place in the High School Media Center. Passage of the Bond Issue this November would generate one-time funding of approximately \$15 million. One of the primary projects to be included in the scope involves expanding the existing Olmsted Falls High School building with the construction of additional classrooms to allow for the elimination of the four modular classroom trailers, currently located outside the main building at the edge of the parking lot. The

removal of the external modular classrooms at Olmsted Falls High School was one of the main recommendations that came out of last year's extensive, district-wide evaluation of safety and security.

DISTRICT WELCOMES & INTRODUCES NEWEST BULLDOGS

Olmsted Falls School District was pleased to welcome new Bulldogs at the start of the school year in August.

Front Row (seated left to right):

Julie Budd – High School Director of Bands; **Jessica Morris** – HS Science Teacher; **Molly Higgins** – MS Math/Science/Reading Teacher; **Michael Feller** - Middle School Band Director; **Tom DeLuca** – HS P.E./Health Teacher & Head Football Coach; and **Matthew Hammon** – Falls-Lenox Tutor.

Back Row (standing left to right):

James Tatman – Director of Student Services; **Amanda Apatzky** – 3rd Grade Teacher; **Brianna Smith** – 1st Grade Teacher; **Kelli Cogan** – Assistant Superintendent; **Jessica Howell** – Falls-Lenox Tutor; **John Vas** – HS Math Teacher; and **Paul Ferguson** – HS Intervention Specialist.



OFHS ARTISTS BRIGHTEN WALLS AT ECC FOR LITTLEST BULLDOGS

Several OFHS seniors and recent grads were busy over the summer lending their creative talents to help brighten the walls of the Early Childhood Center for our littlest Bulldogs.

Kudos and many thanks to Becci Boesken, TJ May, Jared Fuller, Morgan Santoro, Taylor Mason, Maggie Grimes, Victoria Hartline and Abigail Hartline for their many hours of work to create an outstanding collection of new kid-friendly murals throughout the building!

An extra special thank you to Becci Boesken, who coordinated the service project as part of her Girl Scout Gold Award.



WEB PROGRAM HELPS WELCOME 6TH GRADERS TO MIDDLE SCHOOL; GARNERS STATEWIDE MEDIA COVERAGE

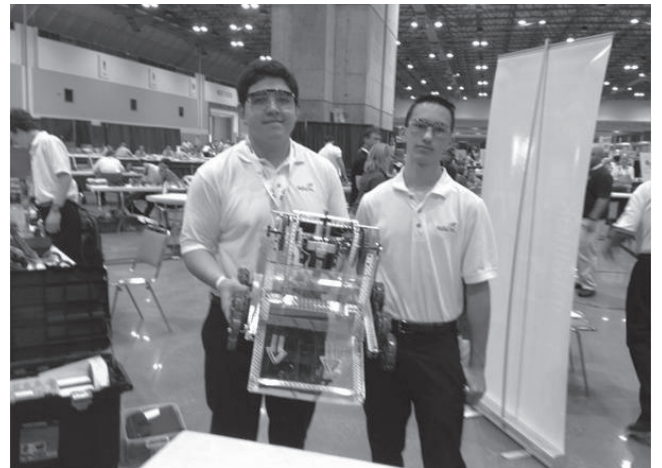


A group of eighth grade students served as WEB leaders for the **Where Everyone Belongs** program put on for incoming sixth graders. WEB leaders applied and were selected to participate at the end of last year. Each went through two days of special WEB training. The WEB Orientation Program was held the week before school started for all incoming sixth graders. WEB leaders greeted new students with an energetic welcome as 6th graders entered the gym through a pathway of applause! The day began with an assembly in the Middle School gym, which included activities with the new sixth graders and the WEB leaders. WEB leaders also took groups of sixth graders to individual classrooms for activities to help get to know each other, challenge teamwork

skills and provide advice on being successful in the Middle School. Sixth graders also received building tours from WEB Leaders and had an opportunity to find their lockers. Additional WEB events are held throughout the school year. This year's WEB Program at Olmsted Falls Middle School was profiled in a feature story in the official statewide education publication of the Ohio Middle Level Association called "In The Middle." Kudos to this year's WEB leaders and the Middle School faculty and staff who do such a great job coordinating this event!

OFHS STUDENTS MAKE STRONG SHOWING AT NATIONAL ROBOTICS TECHNOLOGY COMPETITION

Congratulations to the team of OFHS students Mat Bender and Moises Garcia Ponce, whose first place performance at the Ohio SkillsUSA Mobil Robotics Competition last April earned them a spot in the National Competition in Kansas City, MO, this summer. The competition, held June 23-29, was to build a robot using VEX robotics parts. The robot had to be able to move bean bags from specified locations and place them in troughs on the competition floor. Each team was challenged to design the robot to move autonomously and humanly driven. They had to design the robot before the competition and rebuild the robot at the competition in one day. After four rounds of competition, our Bulldog team earned an impressive 6th place in this prestigious national competition. Congratulations again to Mat and Moises for their hard work and success! Great job!



BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS STUDENT ATHLETE



Congratulations to recent WKYC Student Athlete of the Week, Leah Walchanowicz! This outstanding soccer player and student was also honored by the Olmsted Falls Board of Education at the regular monthly meeting in September for achieving this regional recognition.

Pictured at left is Leah with OFHS Assistant Principal Mr. Sean Wolanin, who introduced and helped honor Leah for her accomplishments.



BOARD RECOGNIZES FOUR OLMSTED FALLS TEACHERS FOR EARNING MASTER TEACHER DESIGNATION



Congratulations to 2013 Master Teachers (pictured L to R) **Lisa Hawk** (OFMS), **Jesse Judson** (OFIS), **Anne Statz** (Falls-Lenox) and **Lisa Cumming** (OFHS)! Each teacher was recognized and honored locally by the Olmsted Falls Board of Education during the September Board meeting! These four teachers earned the designation of Master Teacher by participating in Ohio's Master Teacher Program and demonstrating excellence both inside and outside of the classroom through consistent leadership and focused collaboration to maximize student learning. Each of these teachers achieved exemplary scores for the rigorous documentation of their instructional practices, leadership roles and professional activities.

The implementation of Ohio's Master Teacher Program within the Olmsted Falls School District was facilitated

by the Olmsted Falls Master Teacher Committee consisting of representatives from all buildings and content areas, including six teachers and one administrator that hold National Board Certification and are therefore recognized by the state of Ohio as Master Teachers. Congratulations again to these outstanding Bulldog teachers!

BULLDOG ALUMNI ATTEND 2013 GOLDEN GRADS REUNION

Almost 200 Bulldog alumni from the graduating classes of 1938 to 1969 attended the annual Golden Grads Reunion luncheon on September 26th. Many traveled from out-of-town locations to attend and stayed through the weekend to participate in a variety of reunion and Homecoming festivities. The Class of 1953 celebrated its 60th reunion and the Class of 1963 kicked off its 50th reunion activities with this event. OFHS memorabilia was displayed during the luncheon. Items included trophies dating from 1922-1962; yearbooks from 1926-1973; four donated Olmsted Falls jackets from the years 1939, 1957, 1960 and 1966 and two class keys.



BULLDOG MINI CHEER EXCITEMENT FILLS THE AIR



In what has become an annual fall tradition, Olmsted Falls High School Cheerleaders presented a Mini Cheer Clinic and Cheer Night in September for students in kindergarten through 5th grade.

The Bulldog Mini Cheerleaders did an AWESOME job cheering on the Varsity Bulldog Football Team alongside the High School Cheerleaders! Thanks to the High School Cheerleaders for the cheer camp and for supervising so many enthusiastic Mini Cheerleaders!

Great spirit was shown by all! Go Bulldogs!



BULLDOGS PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL HERITAGE DAY PARADE



Pictured clockwise, from above: Bulldog football players hand out candy to their fans; Board of Education Vice President Joe Bertrand and Board Member Greg Surtman prepare to step off following the OFHS Marching Band; and Falls-Lenox Principal Colleen Longville shares a treat with a young Bulldog.

With the start of school just around the corner, Bulldogs participated in the annual Heritage Day Parade. Olmsted Falls Board of Education members and District administrators joined the OFHS Marching Band and Bulldog athletes to fill the parade route with a lot of Bulldog spirit...and, of course, candy! Building principals had an opportunity to say “Welcome back” a few days early, as they waved to their many students along the parade route. As always, students, families and community members lined the streets for the annual event.



HIGH SCHOOL ARTIST'S TALENT TAKES HER TO NYC



Congratulations to Olmsted Falls High School student Teresa Wang for being recognized as a Gold Key winner in the National Scholastic Art & Writing Contest.

Acknowledged locally by the Olmsted Falls Board of Education last spring, Teresa and her family then traveled to New York City where Teresa was recognized on a national stage! Kudos to this talented Bulldog!

Pictured at left: Teresa and her mom, Mrs. Linda Wang, at the National Scholastic Awards in NYC this summer.

Pictured at right: Teresa's Award-Winning Drawing, “Meisel's Coco,” hanging in the gallery in New York.



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SCHOOLREPORT

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DID YOU KNOW?

Olmsted Falls School District
publishes a weekly blog on-line
during the school year.

All residents are invited to visit
<http://ofalls.wordpress.com>
to catch up on all the latest news
from Olmsted Falls Schools.

PRIDE OF OLMSTED FALLS



The OFHS marching band wowed the crowd that gathered at the annual Falls Day in the Park event at East River Park in early October. Band members played several selections and even strutted a bit of their showmanship with a few dance routines. The cheerleaders also performed, adding to the fun and to the Bulldog spirit.



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The Olmsted Falls City School District hereby gives notice that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability in the educational programs and activities operated by the district.