

**Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District
Board of Education
Committee Meeting Summary**

**Monday, January 25, 2016
Edgewood Elementary School
5:30 p.m.**

Board of Education Members Present: Mr. Carini, Mrs. Cerniglia, Ms. Borchardt, Mr. Verhalen, Mr. Jossart (listened via phone)

Mr. John Krenek, Edgewood Principal, led Board members, administrators and parents on tours of the building. Teachers shared their classroom information and presented the curriculum currently taught at each grade level. Mr. Krenek highlighted the lack of space for the music and world language programs due to this year's enrollment and noted that these issues will be resolved when the new elementary school opens in fall.

Public Comments: *A citizen expressed concerns regarding the use of Google applications and other technology by elementary age students.*

Items Discussed:

1. School Update: Edgewood Elementary: Mr. Krenek welcomed those present to Edgewood and commended the staff's efforts in working to meet the needs of all students. He introduced and shared a video featuring students in activities highlighting their "kindness is king" theme.

2. Third Quarter Update on Construction Projects: Representatives from VJS Construction Services provided a progress report and budget update on the new elementary and secondary school projects. They reported that both projects continue to progress on schedule and within budget. Dr. Culver reminded those present of the action taken previously by the School Board on the commitment of \$4.5 million of fund balance to construct the shell for an auditorium and to design its completion, without using any borrowed funds. He also shared information regarding the planned relocation of the cell tower due to the construction of the auditorium shell.

3. Oak Creek High School Student and Family Assistance Program sponsored by the Aurora Employee Assistance Program: Mr. Dan Unertl, Executive Director, provided information on the program available to provide wrap-around services to students and families at the High School. This is a collaborative effort between the High School and Aurora, that will provide up to six sessions of counseling services for families in need.

4. Revisions to Policy 171, Board Meetings and Policy 184, Board Meeting Minutes in order to designate an official newspaper (First Reading): Dr. Culver reviewed the eligibility of the NOW (Community News – South) to be designated as the official newspaper for the district. There will be considerable cost savings as a result of this revision. The Board agreed to move this forward for a second reading at its February Business Meeting.

5. Revision of Policy 460 – Student Scholarships (First Reading): Mr. Unertl reviewed the need to revise this policy to align with the most recent legislation enacted this past summer. This requires the change of only one word, and the Board agreed to move this forward for a second reading at its February Business Meeting.

6. Review of the *Star Renaissance Learning* universal screening tool: Dr. Lisa Kujawa, Assistant Superintendent, and Luke Pinion, School Psychologist/RTI Coordinator presented their plans to roll out the STAR program. This is a tool for universal screening and progress monitoring that is applicable to students at all grade levels. A team of teachers and administrators reviewed this as well as other products available, determining that STAR was the superior product for this purpose. It is currently utilized by more than half of the districts in the state and it is very easy for staff to use and gather and interpret the results of the data collected from its use. This will support efforts to better plan instruction and professional development to best meet the needs of all students. Board members expressed their support for the implementation of this tool as well as a concern for the amount of testing required. Mr. Carini suggested that as staff is trained on the use of this product, recommendations on how best to relay the results of this screening to parents is also shared.

7. Health Retirement Account (HRA Update): Mr. Troy Hamblin, Director of Human Resources, provided background on the movement of the District's retirement benefits for teachers from a pay as you go plan to a fully funded benefit plan. He explained the benefits of the HRA and the calculation used to determine the contributions for teachers who were hired prior to the 2012-13 school year, focusing specifically on those Age 50+. The district has contributed over \$9 million in the last four years for this purpose and is currently on target for teachers spending most of their career with the school district to receive HRA balances of approximately \$90,000 - \$100,000 (before interest earnings) when they retire. This not only maintains the retirement benefit for teachers without a large unfunded liability for the district, but also serves to attract and retain staff. Mr. Hamblin addressed questions relayed by Mrs. Cerniglia via e-mail prior to the meeting.

8. Superintendent Entry Plan Report with Recommendations: Dr. Culver shared his observations of his first six months at Oak Creek-Franklin as well as a summary of his future plans and goals, noting that the full document is available on the District's website. He expressed his appreciation to staff and community members for welcoming him and sharing their thoughts and perceptions with the district, recognizing that one of the strengths of the District is the amazing passion shared for children by all stakeholders.

#9218-0116 Mrs. Cerniglia moved and Mr. Verhalen seconded to adjourn to executive session per state statute 19.85(1)(e) and (g) to discuss mid-year evaluation of the Superintendent. **Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting ended at approximately 8:15 p.m.