

# OLENTANGY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION RECAP

MEETING DATE: MARCH 25, 2021

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT YEAR IN REVIEW

Professional Learning Supervisor Vince DeTillio and Assistant Director of Equity & Inclusion Dr. Jackie Merkle led the development of Olentangy's professional development this school year, which is created entirely by Olentangy's curriculum team. Their philosophy is that educators must receive high quality learning opportunities in order to better teach and serve our students. Just as Olentangy expects our students to continue growing, we must expect the same of our educators to support our student's success.

Mr. DeTillio and Dr. Merkle began their presentation sharing how they formed the focus for Olentangy's 2020-2021 staff professional development. All training is created to achieve the district strategic objectives to alleviate barriers to learning, to ensure mastery of learning, and to promote a culture of inclusive excellence. The curriculum team also made the focus relevant by looking at what was happening in our world and community. They considered the feedback received through the fall 2020 panorama surveys on student sense of belonging, as well as the experiences shared on the DearOLSD Instagram account in early summer 2020.

In their research to inform the professional development plans, Dr. Merkle affirmed that they did not incorporate Critical Race Theory into the teaching or planning of professional learning.

Professional learning was divided into three days during the 2020-2021 school year. The first day focused on establishing a building level understanding of sense of belonging. The second day provided staff the opportunity to think about the way language can create, damage, or repair a sense of belonging. The final professional development day examined how a sense of belonging is impacted through routines and instructional choices.

In measuring the success of these professional growth experiences, between 77% to 89% of Olentangy staff members responded that they found the PD days valuable or very valuable.

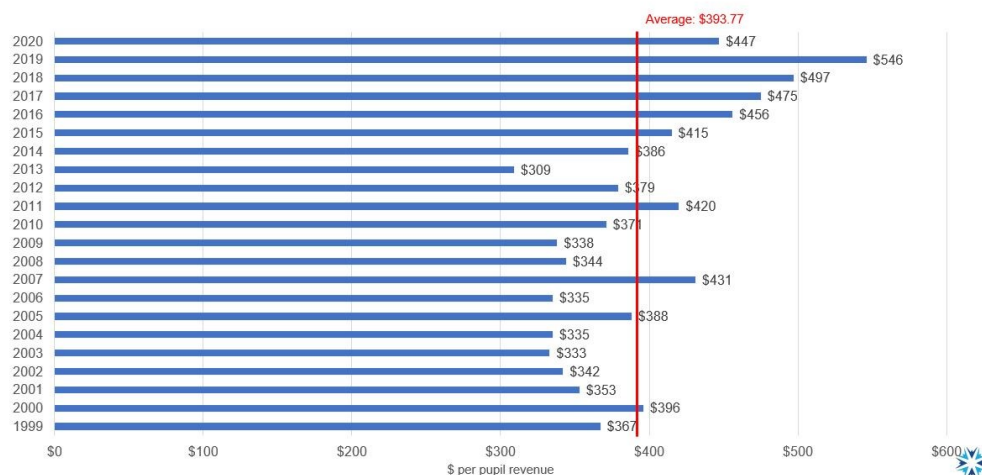
Looking forward, professional development will continue to create conditions for more equitable learning environments, and allow all learners to pursue their interests and find a purpose, set personal goals and practice self-care, use their voice and exercise choice, and make a positive impact on the lives of others.

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## BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The School Advocacy Committee hosted a School Funding Forum on Monday, with all three elected local officials in attendance. [A recording of the forum](#) is available on the district website. Board President Julie Wagner Feasel shared the formula funding per pupil history slide from the forum as a visual representation of how under-funded Olentangy currently is. House Bill 1 hopes to remedy the current school funding formula.

# FORMULA FUNDING PER PUPIL REVENUE HISTORY



In addition, Mrs. Wagner Feasel stated her disappointment that Olentangy Schools will not receive any funding from the current American Rescue Plan, as the formula used to distribute these funds is based on Title 1 funding. Both Treasurer Emily Hatfield and Superintendent Mark Raiff have joined Mrs. Wagner Feasel in advocating to remedy this decision. The Olentangy community should pay attention after spring break on ways they can join in advocating for fair funding for our district.

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## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Mark Raiff, along with district leadership and the Board of Education, congratulated Mikela Thomas as she steps into the role of Assistant Director of Equity & Inclusion next month.

Principal Greta Gnagy joined Superintendent Raiff in revealing the new mascot for Shale Meadows Elementary School - the [Monarchs](#).

Olentangy leadership has selected a commencement plan to honor and recognize the class of 2021. When making decisions regarding commencement plans, leadership focused on:

1. The graduate's experience, and celebrating with the entire graduating class.
2. The family's experience, and seeing their graduate walk and have the "spotlight."

There is not one perfect solution that allows all graduates to be together, and allows all family members to view their graduate's commencement walk. Mr. Raiff walked through the location options that were shared with the Olentangy community in an email on Wednesday, and the obstacles with the different scenarios.

Recognition of the class of 2021 will occur in three phases.

- **Phase 1: Student-Only Senior Sunset Salute:** Senior class-only event in their respective stadiums at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 21.

- **Phase 2: Commencement Walk:** Commencement walk on May 22 and May 23 for graduating seniors. Commencement walks will have radio coverage and be streamed live during the event.
  - Olentangy Berlin High School: Saturday, May 22 – 9 a.m.
  - Olentangy Liberty High School: Saturday, May 22 – 2 p.m.
  - Olentangy High School: Sunday, May 23 – 9 a.m.
  - Olentangy Orange High School: Sunday, May 23 - 2 p.m.
- **Phase 3: Virtual Graduation Ceremony:** A professional virtual graduation ceremony will be shared on the day of the commencement walks for each school, and will include all speeches, the Senior Sunset Salute, and slides of each senior with their name called.

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

In summarizing the February financials, Treasurer Emily Hatfield reviewed that Olentangy Schools received \$1.3 million in Federal Coronavirus Relief funds and \$240,000 from the ESSER I round of funding. Those funds have been spent to date, and the district is now using general funds to continue operational needs. The district continues to have conversations with representatives on how to rectify the ESSER II contributions and the next round of federal funding.

Mrs. Hatfield reviewed the bond resolution for the second round of debt the district is issuing to support Middle School 6 and other various projects. The district is setting aside the portion of debt that would have been allocated to Elementary School 17, which will be delayed by one year. Olentangy has maintained its AAA/Stable rating with the Standard and Poors Global (S&P) ratings related to the debt resolution, despite the pandemic and poor or stagnant economic conditions.

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## 2021-2022 REDISTRICTING UPDATE

A redistricting message was sent to the Olentangy community earlier today with details of the 2021-2022 revised elementary attendance boundaries. The community can follow the links below to view details of this elementary redistricting:

- [2021-2022 Redistricting Decision Video](#)
- [Redistricting Slides from Video](#)
- [GIS Attendance Boundary Tool](#) (*Enter your address, and it will display your current assigned school, and list your assigned school for the 2021-2022 school year.*)

The Board of Education meeting is available on the district website [Board of Education meeting livestream](#).