

OLENTANGY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION RECAP

MEETING DATE: March 11, 2021

STUDENT WELL-BEING UPDATE

Dr. Allisha Berendts' role as Assistant Director of Student Well-Being focuses on non-academic barriers across the district. This includes mental health, substance abuse, physical health, safety and security, and behavioral support. Support staff is available to address these barriers at all Olentangy schools, including Mental Health Specialists, Behavior Specialists, School Social Workers, School Psychologists, School Nurses and Clinic Aide Nurses, School Counselors, and School Resource Officers.

Challenges from this school year include navigating the hybrid model, supporting student's mental health throughout a pandemic, and building community and relationships virtually.

Positive outcomes from this year include new technology being used to work with students, higher attendance at parent programming presentations, and using this year as an opportunity to build resilience and coping skills in students and staff.

Moving forward, the Student Well-Being team will be helping students through the transition to daily attendance, and will provide resources to parents through [Olentangy's Parent Academy](#).

Dr. Berendts also shared that rapid COVID tests will be available in school clinics beginning next week. If a student or staff member exhibit symptoms, they can take a rapid test at home with the help of a telehealth provider.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Board of Education has received emails regarding the district's brand identity project, specifically concerning Olentangy High School and the "Braves" mascot. Board President Julie Wagner Feasel stated that the brand identity project is part of the [district's strategic plan](#), and that the brand project teams are following the board's directives to retain the school mascot names. These committees are currently in the process of updating imagery by removing the native American images and images trademarked by other entities.

The Olentangy High School brand project team has outlined goals for their new brand identity within the current parameters of this project. These elements are to honor tradition, represent a brave community, use the BRAVE acronym (Balance, Resilience, Attitude, Value, Empathy) and the descriptors: fearless, motivated, driven, steadfast, powerful. Therefore, Mrs. Feasel stated that the Board of Education will not be requesting the district change the name Braves, and asks the community to allow the committee process to take place.

The School Advocacy Committee will host a School Funding Forum with Representative Rick Carfagna, Representative Kris Jordan, and Senator Andrew Brenner. The event will be held on March 22 at 7:00pm through the virtual event [LINK](#).

The poster features a background image of a classical building with columns. The text is overlaid in white and blue. At the top, the title 'OLENTANGY SCHOOLS SCHOOL FUNDING FORUM' is in large white letters. Below it, the date 'MARCH 22, 2021' and time '7:00PM - 8:00PM' are listed. A blue link 'CLICK HERE TO JOIN' is provided. To the right, under 'EVENT SPEAKERS:', are listed Representative Rick Carfagna, Representative Kris Jordan, Senator Andrew Brenner, Superintendent Mark Raiff, and Treasurer Emily Hatfield. On the left, under 'TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:', are listed: Impact on Lack of School Funding, Current State Funding Status, Impact on Olentangy's 5-Year Forecast, Status of Fair School Funding Plan, Senate Plans, and Community Support. At the bottom left is the Olentangy Schools logo with the tagline 'Flourish Here.' At the bottom right, under 'MODERATED BY', are listed Holly Hanson, Julie Wagner Feasel, and Dr. Lakesha Wyse.

OLENTANGY SCHOOLS
SCHOOL FUNDING FORUM

MARCH 22, 2021
7:00PM - 8:00PM

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

EVENT SPEAKERS:
Representative Rick Carfagna
Representative Kris Jordan
Senator Andrew Brenner
Superintendent Mark Raiff
Treasurer Emily Hatfield

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- Impact on Lack of School Funding
- Current State Funding Status
- Impact on Olentangy's 5-Year Forecast
- Status of Fair School Funding Plan
- Senate Plans
- Community Support

MODERATED BY

Holly Hanson, School Advocacy Committee
Julie Wagner Feasel, Board of Education President
Dr. Lakesha Wyse, Board of Education Member

OLENTANGY SCHOOLS™
Flourish Here.

The Board of Education approved a one-year extension to the current Olentangy Teachers Association contract.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Raiff highlighted many upcoming happenings across the district, including the ONE Community Conference District Service Plunge and the Portrait of a Learner conversation on Kindness. He shared that Tyler Run Elementary School and Orange High School art teacher Stephanie Forney were recognized by the Ohio School Boards Association for Outstanding School and Outstanding Program.

A final decision on redistricting will be presented to the Board at the March 25 meeting.

With the upcoming transition to daily attendance on Monday, March 15, Superintendent Raiff shared his confidence that the district will maintain full time, in person classes without a spike in student and staff quarantines. He cautions that transportation may take a little longer next week, as it normally does during the first week of school. Schools will focus on building community and a sense of belonging among students, while following all health and safety protocols.

Ohio State University has not yet released the Schottenstein Center for events, and has informed Olentangy that they will not be able to hold all four high school graduations on the same day. Superintendent Raiff, district leadership and building administration will share a decision on high school graduation as soon as possible, along with plans for other end of year events.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Olentangy Schools Treasury department received the district's ninth consecutive Ohio State Auditor of State Award with Distinction for the FY20 audit and financial statements.

Treasurer Emily Hatfield presented the FY20 district profile data from the Ohio Department of Education's CUPP Report. In the report, Olentangy's cost per pupil for FY20 was \$11,875.54, which is below the state average of \$12,691.85. Olentangy ranks second lowest in cost per pupil when associated with the Ohio Department of Education top five comparable districts. In deconstructing where cost per pupil funds are spent, Olentangy puts more towards instruction and spends less on administration costs than those same comparable districts.

Mrs. Hatfield reviewed that Olentangy receives less than \$500 in funding per pupil. The state continues to view Olentangy as a wealthy district, and the community is encouraged to participate in the State Funding Forum on March 22.

The facilities committee voted on March 3 to recommend the delay of elementary school 17 construction for one year.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Board President Julie Wagner Feasel reviewed the parameters of public participation, which are as follows:

- Public participation is the community's time to present any ideas, issues, or concerns to the Board of Education.
- The submissions read during this meeting are the views of the individual participant. They are not the views of the district or of the individual reading the public participation comments.
- Public participation is not a dialog or discussion. It is an opportunity to present to the Board in a public forum. They will respectfully listen to the comments.
- Public participation will last for a maximum of 30 minutes.
- Each submission has a limit of 5 minutes.
- Each participation is currently submitted through a [form](#) on Olentangy's district website.
- Each submission will be posted on the district website, along with the name and address of the participant.

DISTRICT CALENDAR 2022-2023

Chief of Administrative Services Randy Wright presented two models for the 2022-2023 district calendar. This framework establishes the first day of school, the last day of school, and appropriate breaks. Community feedback is requested regarding the two models through the [survey link](#).

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