

MINUTES
 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023, 5:45 P.M.
 Oakdale Joint Unified School District Office
 Technology & Staff Development Center
 331 Hinkley Avenue, Oakdale, CA

THIS MEETING WAS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

<https://www.youtube.com/@ojusdboardmeetings>

Link to OJUSD Board Reports & Action Items: <https://www.ojUSD.org/board-of-trustees/board-reports-action-items>

CALL TO ORDER	1.1	The meeting was called to order at 6:15 P.M. by Board President Tina Shatswell.
TRUSTEES PRESENT	1.2	Diane Gilbert, Bill Duvall, Clayton Schemper, Tina Shatswell, and Terri Taylor; student board member Grace Miller was present for open session.
LATE ARRIVALS	1.3	None
TRUSTEES ABSENT	1.4	None
VISITORS PRESENT	1.5	Michael Nessler, Loretta Tefertiller
CLOSED SESSION	2.0	Board President Shatswell adjourned the meeting into Closed Session at 6:15 p.m. Open Session reconvened at 6:32 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	3.0	Trustee Schemper introduced students from Magnolia Elementary School who led the Pledge of Allegiance: Zander Faria, Grade 6, Brooklyn Manuel, Grade 5, and Gabby Dunn, Grade 4. These students were awarded Certificates of Appreciation for their participation.
ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION	4.0	The Board reviewed the Superintendent's Evaluation goals; Board President Shatswell reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.
APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA	5.0	It was M/S/C (Duvall/Schemper) to approve the order of agenda items for this meeting. Passed unanimously.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	6.0	None
ORGANIZATION REPORT, OTA	7.1	Nikki Shatswell, on behalf of Omar Salinas, reported elementary teachers are preparing for upcoming parent teacher conferences, Jog-a-thon is this Friday, while secondary sites are in the first week of their second Quarter, OTA is excited to begin negotiations tomorrow, and looks forward to hearing the initial proposed language from the district.
ORGANIZATION REPORT, CSEA	7.2	None

ORGANIZATION
REPORT, STUDENT

7.3 Student representative Grace Miller reported OHS Homecoming Week was a success; on behalf of student body, thanked administration and staff that helped it go so seamlessly. She reported tickets are on sale for the OHS Drama Club production of "Addams Family" performances October 13-15 and 20-22, the Powder Puff Game is October 16 with practices this week, elementary Jog-a-Thon is this Friday, Red Ribbon Week at elementary sites is next week and secondary sites October 23-27. She also thanked Mr. Mendonca and the Board for their support of their games and athletic events.

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

8.0 Board President Shatswell opened the Public Comments portion of the agenda at 6:43 p.m.

MELISSA MAYCROFT

Melissa Maycroft addressed the Board to say she is the parent of 2 former OJUSD students, but is speaking as a concerned member of the public regarding safety. She started by commending the district for making safety a priority as evidenced by the addition of fencing recently installed around OJHS. She does have a concern that was brought to the Board's attention last August 2022 by teacher Sean McCarthy who spoke about the gates being locked on the OHS campus during school hours, limiting exit or egress of the staff and students in the case of an emergency. It's come to her attention it is not just a case at the high school but at other campuses as well. She stated that at one school site, chains and padlocks are used to lock the gates once school has begun, obstructing the egress of students and staff. She stated that while these current actions while being done in the best interest, is in violation of California Building Code Section 1008.1.10, which states: *egress doors shall be readily openable for egress without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort*, as well as Fire Code Section 503.5.2, which states: *that school grounds may be fenced and gated therein may be equipped with locks, provided that safe dispersal areas are located within a fenced area*, as well as Building Code Section 1027.6, which states: *access to a public way requires the exit discharge provide a direct and unobstructed access to the public way*. She has brought copies of the code interpretation document created and distributed by the State Fire Marshall, that clarifies that during normal school hours and special events, panic hardware would be required at any door or gate along the egress pathway, public way or safe dispersal area. If you would like a copy of this documentation, she is happy to provide them. She stated that the reason she is so concerned with these obstructed exits, is that regardless of an emergency situation that would occur on a particular campus, by obstructing exits you are trapping students in and denying them an option to escape should that be the best option for survival. She stated her intention is not to place blame, but it is an effort to rectify a situation that could cause more harm than good, which she does not believe has or ever would be the intention.

JAMES OLIVEIRA

James Oliveira addressed the Board to say he's the father of 3 daughters; 2 at OHS. He commented on the minutes from the last meeting, stating they were extremely well done, but that the first sentence attributed to him

under Public Comments should be stricken because he did not make that statement, and asked the board to strike that sentence when they get to the consent calendar.

He also addressed the Board regarding college accessibility issues, knows the school district is working on those issues, and has been e-mailing the Board on these issues, and never heard from Mr. Schemper, so asked him if he is receiving his e-mails, to which Trustee Schemper confirmed he is. He stated he had no intention of coming here tonight or cross examining anyone. He stated that he has watched these meetings every month for years and they got totally out of control and that following the Brown Act would have been very helpful under the circumstances, and finds it strange that all of a sudden, we are following it now that he has been sending e-mails. He stated that he came here only to say that he thinks it is great the school district is working on the issue, and has seen Gillian Wegener working very hard. Davia Kirkpatrick is doing same, and the counseling office has been working hard on the issues he has been bring up. The school district is figuring out everything it needs to figure out, but there will come a time when the school district will have to address the issue head on. That will include making sure students and teachers and parents know it is an issue; and stated that most people are totally clueless about this issue. He stated this problem won't be solved until the stakeholders are aware, and that the Board and Superintendent address the matter head-on and advise everyone of what we are up really against here.

He also stated he has been doing research in respect to the law that governs matters such as the ones he is bringing up, and in his opinion this Board is under exercising its authority. He stated this Board has tremendous power under the law and from his conversation with teachers and people who work in education, there is this perception with respect to who governs certain aspects of education. If any of you would want to reach out to him, he will give you his feedback and tell you ways in which you can exercise your authority to make changes that you probably don't know you can make. It has to do with provisions in Education Code, that teachers frequently misunderstand. He appreciates the work people have doing; Gillian and Davia and the counseling department have been doing a great job. At some point this issue is going to have to be tackled directly, and hopes the leadership of the school informs them.

Public Comments closed at 6:50 p.m.

REMOVE ITEMS FROM
CONSENT CALENDAR

9.1 Trustee Taylor suggested the Board could approve the Consent Calendar with the exception of Item 9.3.1 (per correction of minutes mentioned in public comments). It was noted 9.3.3 is a resolution and requires a roll call vote. Trustee Schemper requested items 9.4.4, 9.4.5, 9.4.6, and 9.4.7 be removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADOPT CONSENT
CALENDAR

9.2 It was **M/S/C (Schemper/Duvall)** to adopt the amended Consent Calendar with the exception of items pulled. Passed unanimously.

REVIEW QTRLY. REPORT, WILLIAMS COMPLAINTS	9.3.2	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the board reviewed the Quarterly Report on Williams Settlement Complaints, as presented.
APPROVE INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS	9.4.1	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the board approved interdistrict attendance requests, 2023-24 or 2024-25 school year, as presented.
ACKNOWLEDGE STUDENT DISCIPLINE REPORT, 9/23 & 2-YEAR COMPARISON	9.4.2	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the board acknowledged Student Discipline Report for September, 2023, and Prior Two-Year Comparison, as presented.
APPROVE ADMINISTRATION PLAN, CALIFORNIA HEALTHY KIDS SURVEY	9.4.3	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the board approved Administration Plan for California Healthy Kids Survey, as presented.
APPROVE SCHOOL SITE SAFETY PLANS	9.4.8	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the board approved Comprehensive School Site Safety Plans, as presented:
APPROVE WARRANTS THRU 9/30/23, & CYCLE I & CYCLE II PAYROLL FOR SEPTEMBER 2023	9.5.1	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the board approved district warrants prepared for payment through 9/30/23, and Cycle I & II Payroll for September, 2023, as presented.
APPROVE ASB ACCOUNTS, OJHS, SEPTEMBER 2023	9.5.2	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the Board approved Student Body Accounts, Oakdale Junior High School, September 2023, as presented.
APPROVE ASB ACCOUNTS, OHS, SEPTEMBER 2023	9.5.3	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the Board approved Student Body Accounts, Oakdale High School, September 2023, as presented.
AUTHORIZE DISPOSAL, OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS	9.5.4	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the Board authorized Disposal of Obsolete Equipment and Materials, as presented.
APPROVE PROMOTION CERTIFICATED	9.6.1	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the Board approved certificated promotion, as presented: Jordan Gausling, from 6 th Grade Teacher, Cloverland To Vice Principal, OHS, eff. 9/15/23
ACCEPT RESIGNATION, CERTIFICATED	9.6.2	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the Board accepted certificated resignations, as presented: Garrett Brown, SDC-LH Teacher, OJHS, eff. 9/12/23 Amanda Medellin SDC-Mod/Severe Teacher, Cloverland, eff. 9/29/23
APPROVE EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATED	9.6.3	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the Board approved certificated employment, as presented: Janet Evans Fernandez, Temporary 6 th Grade Teacher, Cloverland, eff. 9/27/23 Suzanne Mohr, SDC-LH Teacher, OJHS, eff. 9/11/23
APPROVE EMPLOYMENT CLASSIFIED	9.6.4	On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the Board approved classified employment, as presented:

Joshua Gorman, Yard Duty Aide, OJHS, eff. 9/25/23
 Jamie Grohl, Instructional Aide–Title I, SV, eff. 10/4/23
 Jessica Merafuentes, Yard Duty Aide, MAG, eff. 10/2/23
 Bobbi Oliver, Behavioral Prog. Para 1:1, CLOV, eff. 9/14/23
 Madelyn Rockwell, ELP Aide, OJHS, eff. 9/13/23
 Rosa Suarez, ELP Aide, Fair Oaks, eff. 10/2/23
 Nicole Tangle, ELP Support Aide, SV, eff. 9/25/23
 Christopher Truglio, Custodian I, (floater/Tuesday–
 Saturday), M&O, eff. 10/3/23
 Melissa Welch, Instructional Aide, SV, eff. 9/18/23
 Denise Yohanan, Café Clerk, Sierra View, eff. 9/20/23

- APPROVE RESIGNATION
CLASSIFIED 9.6.5 On adoption of the Consent Calendar, the Board approved classified resignation, as presented:
Ricardo Lopez, Before School Prog. Leader, SV, eff. 9/29/23
Rochelle Pitassi Henderson, Bus Driver, eff. 9/20/23
- DISPOSITION OF ITEMS
REMOVED FROM CONSENT 10.0 See Below.
- APPROVE RESOLUTION
#23-24-07, EXCUSE ABSENCE
OF BOARD MEMBER 9.3.3 It was **M/S/C (Schemper/Gilbert)** the board approve Resolution #23-24-07, to Excuse Absence of Board Member Clayton Schemper. A Roll Call Vote was taken and all Board members voted in favor.
- ADOPT MINUTES OF
9/11/23 AS PRESENTED 9.3.1 As mentioned by Mr. Oliveira in Public Comments, the first sentence attributed to him in the 9/11/23 minutes under Public Comments will be stricken.
- APPROVE WINTER
ATHLETIC SCHEDULES 9.4.4 Trustee Schemper expressed his concerns about the athletic schedules, overnight and out of state trips. He noted Basketball, Wrestling, Girls and Boys Soccer
- APPROVE WINTER ATHLETIC
TEAMS POSTSEASON
OVERNIGHT TRIPS 9.4.5 Tournaments. He noted the wrestling team missing 9 school days, and that they may need additional travel days. He noted we have a highly competitive wrestling team, and didn't want to disregard that, but is concerned that we stay focused on academics and not just focusing on wrestling. He understands that we are bringing home titles and trophies, but feels like that is a lot of days students will miss, and asked if people are monitoring student grades. Trustee Taylor noted students can't be in sports if they have less than a minimum GPA, and there can be no behavior issues. It was noted that coaches keep on top of kids. Board President Shatswell also noted that the coaches are on top of that, and cited a time when a coach pulled 4 players from participating in the "Every 15 Minutes" program because they were not doing well.
- APPROVE OUT OF STATE TRIP,
OHS WRESTLING 9.4.6
- APPROVE OVERNIGHT TRIPS,
OHS WRESTLING 9.4.7
- OHS Principal Mike Moore noted coaches monitor athletes all the time all through the season, and students are allowed to make up work. Grades are posted at quarter and are checked. Superintendent Mendonca

noted for the most part and in his experience, coaches keep a pulse on students' academic eligibility.

Trustee Duvall stated that he takes kids all over the country rodeoing, and the thing that caught his eye was they have wrestling tournaments that are invitational, that are extra tournaments they choose to go to.

Principal Mike Moore noted the closest most competitive tournament is Buchanan, which is 2.5 hours South. The other competitive tournament we are able to fit in to our schedule is in Reno, and it is an opportunity for kids to see other kids in competition. Superintendent Mendonca note the caliber of where that program has come, and that sometimes we have to travel out of the area to find that level of competition.

It was **M/S/C (Shemper/Duvall)** to approve Items removed from the Consent Calendar (9.3.1, 9.4.4, 9.4.5, 9.4.6, and 9.4.7). Passed unanimously.

REPORT, ETHNIC STUDIES
GRADUATION REQUIREMENT
& IMPLEMENTATION

- 11.1 Assistant Superintendent Wegener presented a report on the Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement which was signed into law in 2021 as AB 101. She explained that Ethnic Studies must be offered at all California high schools by 2025-26, and we can start by piloting it, and becomes a graduation requirement for those graduating in 2030 and thereafter, which would be our current class of 6th graders.

She reviewed the purpose of Ethnic Studies, which is an interdisciplinary field of study that encompasses many subject areas including history, literature, economics, sociology, anthropology, and political science. It emerged to both address the American experience from a variety of perspectives and to encourage critical thinking with these perspectives in mind. She explained that Districts have the flexibility to create an ethnic studies curriculum that fits their community; it can be a stand-alone class or integrated into an existing class. It must focus on the four ethnic studies disciplines of African American Studies, Native American Studies, Chicano & Latino Studies, and Asian American/Pacific Islander Studies; as well as include exploration of students' individual heritages, backgrounds, and interests.

She reviewed 8 Outcomes of Teaching Ethnic Studies:

- Pursuit of justice and equity
- Working toward greater inclusivity
- Furthering self-understanding
- Developing a better understanding of others
- Recognizing intersectionality – we belong to multiple groups
- Promoting civic engagement
- Supporting a community focus
- Developing interpersonal communication

She reviewed the 6 Chapters that comprise the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC), explaining the district would be using the model approved by the State Board of Education in March 2021, and will be used by most California school districts as a guide in setting up the Ethnic Studies Curriculum, as opposed to the first draft Liberated Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum which is more strident, was vetoed by the State Board of Education, is not mandated, but is being used by some districts.

She explained that Critical Race Theory is a graduate school level theory exploring the idea that racism has shaped past and current public policy, and is often studied in law schools. She explained that CRT is mentioned 6 times in the entire Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum, and there is no mandate that it be a part of the ethnic studies curriculum that a district might create. She stated that CRT is not appropriate for K-12 education and will not be a part of any of the Ethnic Studies coursework developed for Oakdale High.

She reviewed the tentative plan for implementation:

- Ethnic Studies would be integrated into junior English classes which already focus on American literature.
- English teachers will teach English skills, but use specific works of literature and assignments with an Ethnic Studies lens.
- Each quarter could be dedicated to one of the four foundational disciplines and literature might include a major work (play, novel, nonfiction), poetry, and primary documents that would explore the experience of that group.
- Each quarter could also include an activity in which students explore their ethnicity or heritage or one of their own interest.

She noted benefits:

- Students could complete two graduation requirements at once.
- No disruption to current schedule.
- No new teachers would need to be hired.
- No new classrooms would need to be found.
- Experienced staff would build and implement the curriculum.

She noted that any works chosen will be vetted by the community and the Board, and we will be transparent in this process.

She reviewed the Ethnic Studies Implementation Timeline

- Stage 1: Basic planning; discuss with high school; Listening Committee (Aug. – Nov. 2023)
- Stage 2: Establish committee of teachers, administrators, students, and families to work to develop the course (Jan.- May 2024)
- Stage 3: Teacher training, planning, collaboration (Aug. 2024 – May 2025)
- Stage 4: Implement and fine tune (Ag. 2025 - May 2028); Graduation Requirement as of 2030

She reviewed the purpose of the Community Voice – Listening Sessions, to give community members a chance to share their ideas, concerns, thoughts about an Ethnic Studies class at Oakdale High. Sessions are scheduled:

October 17, 3-5:00 pm

October 19, 5:30-7:30 pm

October 25, 8:30-10:30 am and Noon -1:40 pm

Anyone interested may sign up by picking a date and time on the Ethnic Studies Listening Sessions Form which will be posted on the district website tomorrow morning in both English and Spanish. There will be 20-minute sessions for one or two community members at a time, and input will be shared with the Board.

Dr. Wegener invited people to come in and talk with her, she will put input together and share presentation at Board and will be transparent. If we do need more time, we will go further into November. If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact her.

Superintendent Mendonca expressed appreciation to Dr. Wegener, a lot of hard work on planning stages. Any public that wants to provide input, this Board has established that we will not bring in any CRT. We have a lot of control of what we are able to bring in, a lot of latitude to bring in what works for us, and to get something in place that will benefit our kids.

In response to a question from Trustee Duvall about how we will work into English class, noting students sometimes struggle with reading comprehension, Dr. Wegener explained we would not be taking anything away, we would just be changing the literature they would be covering. We would replace the literature they are already doing. We would not be taking away grammar or reading skills.

Trustee Gilbert commented on the focus being on the American experience, so we are looking at American authors, and asked if it would be significantly different than what we are already teaching. Dr. Wegener responded we will probably look at with more focused lens, projects students do, that requires another level of review, that is a learning curve that teachers will need to learn. Trustee Schemper commented that students can focus on a project geared to their ethnicity, and it provides opportunities to connect generations within our own community.

In response to a question from Trustee Schemper about whether we have looked at what literature we would be removing, Trustee Gilbert noted that is a good point and there is probably literature we are presenting at other

grades that could be incorporated. Dr. Wegener explained that will be part of the process we will be going through.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION
#23-24-05, RED RIBBON WEEK

- 12.1 Armida Colon, Director of State and Federal Programs, presented this item, reviewed the history behind this activity, and requested waiving reading of the resolution. She noted that in OJUSD, we have 2 weeks of Red Ribbon Week with the elementary sites celebrating one week and the secondary sites the following week.

It was **M/S/C (Gilbert/Schemper)** to adopt Resolution #23-24-05 Proclaiming Red Ribbon Celebration. A Roll Call Vote was taken with all members present voting in favor.

APPROVE RESOLUTION
#23-24-06, APPLICATION FOR
ELIGIBILITY: STATE & FEDERAL
SURPLUS PROPERTY PROGRAM

- 12.2 Chief Business Officer Cassandra Booth presented this item, explaining that in order to qualify for receipt of donations, the district must submit an application for eligibility, and identify district employees who will be authorized to acquire property on behalf of the district. She added that we have received a large amount of surplus property from the California Youth Authority because it is closing down, and would like to continue to receive these surplus items. It was noted the types of items received include 3 full sets of classroom desks, a forklift, ag equipment, shop equipment, retaining wall blocks to be used for wash bays at the school farm, classroom supplies, construction paper, 3,000-4,000 lbs. of clay for ceramics and 6 ceramic wheels.

Trustee Gilbert noted VP Joni McGinnis had been instrumental in working on setting this program up. Trustee Shatswell noted that when the Board members did their facilities tours, she was shocked at the items we acquired through this program, including the forklift and other large items. It was noted that not every school district has elected to be part of this program, and that we have acquired tens of thousands of dollars of equipment and materials through it.

It was **M/S/C (Duvall/Schemper)** to adopt Resolution #23-24-06, Application for Eligibility: State & Federal Surplus Property Program. A Roll Call Vote was taken with all members present voting in favor.

APPROVE QUARTERLY
DEVELOPER FEES REPORT

- 12.3 Chief Business Officer Cassandra Booth presented a report on developer fees collected during the first quarter, noting collections of \$177,000 in developer fees including 4 new builds in East Oakdale, 7 in the *Meadowlands* development, 2 in *Carmel Ranch*, 1 in *Tesoro*, and 4 accessory dwelling units.

It was **M/S/C (Schemper/Taylor)** to approve the Quarterly Developer Fees Report. Passed unanimously.

INFORMATION

- 13.1 OHS Drama Club Production of "Addams Family", OHS Theater
October 12, 13, 14, 20 & 21 at 7:00 pm
October 15 & 22 at 2:00 pm
- 13.2 Elementary Jog-a-Thon, October 13
- 13.3 K-12 Minimum Day / Staff Development, October 13
- 13.4 OHS Powder Puff Game, Stadium, Oct. 16, 7:00 pm
- 13.5 Elementary Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 16-20
- 13.6 OHS and OJHS Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 23 – 27
- 13.7 1-6 Minimum Day/Parent Teacher Conference, Oct. 23 – 27
- 13.8 OJHS Fall Concert, OJHS Bands, OJHS Gym, Oct. 26, 6:30 pm
- 13.9 Magnolia Fall Festival, October 27, 5:30-7:30 pm
- 13.10 K-12 Minimum Day / Staff Development, November 1
- 13.11 Veteran's Day Holiday Observed, Friday, November 10

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- 14.1 Board Study Session – Superintendent Mendonca reported he is working on making final arrangements on a Board Study Session.

ADJOURNMENT

- 16.0 The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.