

BOARD REPORT

September 27, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$1,565.54.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board approved the renaming of Solon Preschool to the Joseph V. Regano Early Learning Center.

Leah Pollard was approved as a candidate for graduation contingent upon her successful completion in meeting all state and local requirements for graduation. The Board revised the contract of the following individual as a teacher for the 2021-22 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Natalie Carder	Bachelor's + 15 Step a(0) Kindergarten Parkside Elementary School	\$47,868.00

The following individuals were hired as substitutes on an as-needed basis for the 2021-22 school year:

Tenney Deane	General Education
Emily Lightner	General Education
Rebecca Molyneaux	General Education
Phillip Moore	General Education
Julie Ogle	General Education

Bryan Ashkettle, Crystal Cespedes and Peter Havens were approved as home instruction tutors for the 2021-22 school year. Supplemental contracts were approved to the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Judy Eastman	ELL - 1 Day Extended Time	\$ 392.34
Kristen Griffin	Outdoor Education - Orchard (2.5%)	1,206.92
Megan Ivons	Outdoor Education - Orchard (split)	2,843.88
Cindy Kyler	Math Club Advisor	34.39 per hour
Kathy Mummey	ELL - 1 Day Extended Time	580.92
Eileen Ours	Outdoor Education - Orchard (2.5%)	1,289.75

Christine Rabe	ELL - 1 Day Extended Time	456.70
Maureen Robinson	ELL - 1 Day Extended Time	407.96
Melissa Sutphin	ELL - 1 Day Extended Time	519.81
Christy Wilhelm	Intramural Art Club - Orchard (Sept.-Apr.)	460.00
Christy Wilhelm	Intramural Yearbook Club - Orchard (12 dates)	240.00

A non-district pupil activity permit contract was approved to the following individual:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nicole Gregory	SMS - Speech and Debate	\$2,298.90

The Board authorized the Ohio Schools Council to advertise and receive bids on behalf of Solon City Schools, per the specifications submitted for the cooperative purchase of five (5) school buses for the 2022-23 school year. The Board authorized the Business Manager to advertise and secure bids for the following projects:

Dual School Roof 11;
Orchard Middle School Roofs 8, 11A, 11B, including gymnasium HVAC upgrade;
Solon High School Roofs 6, 34, 34A, including HVAC upgrade; and
Lewis Elementary School Roofs H, I, and J.

Tuition reimbursements were approved for 3 individuals in the amount of \$2,556.80. The next board meeting will be October 11, 2021, 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

FEDERAL GRANT ROBUST PROGRAMS – INADEQUATE FUNDING

Our District receives some federal grant financial assistance based on our overall curriculum and student need. This federal funding sometimes can vary greatly from year to year. Our 21-22 school year federal grant funding has been reduced to the point our General Fund will need to pick up the additional expenses. If the General Fund did not pick up the additional expenses, our programs associated with these federal grants would be significantly harmed and not nearly as robust as they are today.

Should our federal grant funding increase in the future, the additional funds will be utilized to once again fund these positions.

IDEA Part B: We have 13 employees who are working each day on approx. 85% IDEA Part B, but we only have enough funding in 516 to pay for 64% salaries and 54% benefits

Title III LEP: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 73% LEP, but we only have enough funding in 551 LEP to pay for 27% salaries and 0% benefits

Title III Immigrant Ed: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 13% Immigrant Ed, but we only have enough funding in 551 LEP to pay for 0% salaries and 0% benefits

Title I: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 100% Title I, and an additional 6 employees who are working approx. 50% Title I, but we only have enough funding in 572 to pay for 80% salaries and 48% benefits

Title I Expanding Opportunities: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 90% Title I Expanding Opportunities, but we only have enough funding in 572 to pay for 11% salaries and 0% benefits

Early Childhood: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 93% Early Childhood, but we only have enough funding in 587 to pay for 17% salaries and 0% benefits

Title II-A: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 93% Title II-A, but we only have enough funding in 590 to pay for 46% salaries and 0% benefits

SOLON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS EARN NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION

Solon High School is celebrating 50 members of the senior class who have been named Semi-Finalists or Commended Students in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program.

“Having 50 seniors earn National Merit honors demonstrates the consistency and excellence in academic achievement at Solon High School,” said Principal Erin Short. “The high numbers of Solon students recognized every year are always among the highest in the state. We are very proud of their accomplishments.”

The 34 seniors named as National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists for 2022 are: Srihan Anand, Mira Atwah, Timothy Barron, Meghna Bettaiah, Vaibhav Bhargava, Shree Ghosh, Gabriele Glusauskas, Ryan Goldfeder, Adina Guo, Lucas He, Rohan Jaiswal, Simone Johnson, Aaron Kaiser, Eugenia Karulina, Dara Klugherz, Andrew Li, Ryan Li, Grant Maiorana, Lindsey Maurer, Yubin Moon, Pranav Nampoothiripad, Jared Ogle, Ava Parikh, Michelle Park, Avani Pham, Oshin Samuel, Lily Scherer, Andrew Shao, Easton Singer, John Williams, Iris Yu, Alanna Zhang, Scott Zhao and Dennis Zhitenev.

These students earned scores on the PSAT taken in their junior year that were among the highest in the state and qualified them as National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists. The number of Semi-Finalists varies from state to state, as the number selected is proportional to the percentage of the total number of graduating seniors in each state.

The 34 Semi-Finalists will continue in the competition to become National Merit Scholar Finalists by fulfilling several additional requirements in the coming months. First, they must attain an SAT score that confirms their achievement on the PSAT qualifying test. They must also demonstrate a record of outstanding academic performance throughout high school and be endorsed and recommended by their high school principal. In addition, the students and school officials must complete a detailed scholarship application that includes a student essay and information about their participation and leadership in school and community-based activities.

The 16 SHS seniors honored as National Merit Commended Students are: Shivangi Agarwal, Shayak Chakrabarti, Hannah Crane, Samuel Friedman, Jaidyn Gaymon, Dylan Hirsh, Alex Hsieh, Elizabeth Huang, Aditya Kalahasti, Audrey Lai, Natalie Miller, Fareeda Farhan Naduvil Valappil, Sanjanasri Vedavyas, Sara Wang, Victor Xie and Ferhat Yilmaz.

Congratulations to these students and their families.

CHILD FIND – IDENTIFYING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

School districts across the state of Ohio are participating in an effort to identify, locate and evaluate all children from birth through 21 years of age who may have disabilities that live within the District or attend a private school located within the District. Disability, in this instance, means such conditions as hearing impairments, visual impairments, speech or language impairments, specific learning disabilities, emotionally disturbed, multiple disabilities, other health impairment, physical impairments, autism, and traumatic brain injury.

Public schools have responded vigorously to federal and state mandates requiring the provision of a free appropriate public education regardless of a child's disability. But before school districts can serve children, they must be found.

Parents and students have rights in this process. Parents have the right to:

- Review their child's records;
- Refuse permission to release information (except as required by or permitted by law to be released); and
- Request that information they believe to be inaccurate, misleading or in violation of their child's privacy or other rights be changed. The district has a process to resolve disagreements about information collected.

The school district's policies and procedures for special education are available at:
<https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/solo/Board.nsf/Public>

School districts are interested in meeting the needs of children with disabilities. If you have or know of a child who may have a disability, contact the Solon Board of Education at 440-248-1600 for more information and help.

START WITH HELLO WEEK

During the week of September 20, schools nationwide, including our middle schools here in Solon, took steps to reduce the threat of school violence through improving school culture. Start with Hello Week is a national event through Sandy Hook Promise, a not-for-profit organization that helps schools implement programs that support solutions for safer and healthier schools.

The Start with Hello program "enables students to make a difference with their peers in a simple, fun and impactful way by encouraging them to take small but powerful actions to promote connectedness and inclusion, and to identify and help others who are showing signs of social isolation," according to Sandy Hook Promise.

Students at Solon Middle School and Orchard Middle School participated in theme days and activities throughout the week aimed at promoting a more unified and inclusive school environment. Throughout the year, other Solon students will participate in similar activities.

Providing a safe and secure learning environment for students is a priority in our schools every day. The district's emergency operations plan includes many safety and security measures. One tool we provide to students, parents and the community at large to support our safety and security efforts is the Safe School Helpline.

For all students and family members: If you see something, say something. The preferred method of contact is to go directly to a building principal, counselor or other trusted adult at the school at any time to share concerns, especially if a student is in crisis.

The Safe School Helpline is always available to report threats of violence, suicide or self-harm, weapons, bullying and activities that could harm children or adults in our schools. The helpline is administered by an independent, outside company and reports and communications are confidential and anonymous.

Safe School Helpline is easy to access – especially with the free Safe School Helpline app (available for download in the Apple Store or Google Play). Through the app, reports can be made by texting, making an online web report or calling. Texts, calls and online submissions can also always be made directly without using the Safe School Helpline app. Texting is the easiest way to make a report and share screen shots, photos and videos if necessary.

To start a report for Solon:

TEXT: Text 66746 and type TIPS as the message

ONLINE: www.safeschoolhelpline.com

CALL: 800-418-6423, ext. 359

All messages are relayed immediately to the appropriate district staff for investigation and follow up. All information remains anonymous, unless the individual making the report elects to share their identity. The key is that safety concerns are reported as soon as possible. Anyone reporting a concern through the Helpline receives a case number that can be used later to confirm the report was received and investigated.

COVID UPDATE

Mr. Bolden gave a covid update.