

BOARD REPORT

August 13, 2018

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$78,754.08. The Board approved the original permanent appropriation of funds for the Solon City School District to provide for current operating expenses and other expenditures during fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. The Board approved the resolution approving revisions to the OASBO Section 457 Plan. The Board authorized the Treasurer to request and receive an advance of funds for 2019.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A \$3,000 adjustment to the contract of Carla Rodenbucher was approved. The Board approved a trip for Music in Motion to travel to Chicago March 8 through 10, 2019, for the Wheaton-Warrensville show choir competition.

The Board hired 116 monitors and aides for the 2018-19 school year. Supplemental contracts were approved to the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Trish Kruse	Girls Tennis - Middle School Coach	\$3,612.68
Gerald MacDougall	High School Jazz Band II	1,445.07
William Nyerges	Fine & Practical Arts Department Head - SHS	4,053.52
Nicole Westendorf	Guidance – Roxbury – 10 Days Ext. Time	5,373.01

The Board approved the following individuals as substitutes on an as needed basis for the 2018-19 school year:

Kelsey Ansec	K-12 Intervention Specialist (Mild/Moderate)
Jill Braun	General Education
Ellyn Cohen	K-12 Intervention Specialist (Mild/Moderate, Moderate/Intensive)
Nicholas Davidson	4-9 (Math / Science)
Richard Fishman	7-12 (Integrated Math)
Meribethe Ingram	P-3
Mary Moore	Elementary 1-8
Chelsea Peterson	K-12 Intervention Specialist (Mild/Moderate, Hearing Impaired)
Barbra Schroeder	K-8
Thomas Snitzky	4-9 (Social Studies)

Doug Snyder 7-12 (Math)

Non-district pupil activity permit contracts were approved to the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Natalie Bourlas	Girls Tennis - Volunteer	\$ 0.00
Nick Davidson	Football - Gr. 7 Coach - 40%	1,963.04
Matthew Fakler	Boys Cross Country - Volunteer	0.00
Nina Finelli	S.M.S. Assistant Soccer Coach Gr. 8	3,380.70
Stephanie Vlk	Show Choir Choreographer	3,380.70

Bus routes for the 2018-19 school year were approved. The Board approved the resignation of Amanda Schwind, interventionist at Solon High School, effective August 31, 2018.

The Board approved a resolution authorizing the execution of a purchase agreement with the Cleveland Hebrew School & Institute of Cleveland for the purchase by the Solon Board of Education of real property located at 6545 SOM Center Road, Solon, Ohio.

As part of the ongoing assessment of district facilities to meet the needs of academic and extra-curricular programming, the Solon Board of Education is acting on the purchase of property and the school building at 6545 SOM Center Road. This building currently houses Learning Trails School.

Contingent on Board approval, the \$1.7 million bid on the property enables the district to fulfill a need at a cost far below what could be achieved through renovations or additions to existing Solon school buildings.

During the district's last two Strategic Plan updates in 2014 and the spring of 2016, the Facilities Action Team deliberations and reports accepted by the Board emphasized the importance of a long-term facility renovation and building plan as critical for the continuing evolution of the district. The Action Team recommendations are based on a key strategy within the district Strategic Plan to "ensure we can maintain the quality of our programs and facilities so they can support academics, arts, athletics and activities."

Toward that end, recent district change initiatives have been implemented to meet the directives of the Strategic Plan, including the closing of Arthur Road School as a K-4 attendance building. Given the current enrollment levels and building structures at the other district K-4 buildings, the Solon Schools Preschool has continued to be housed in the Arthur Road building.

Coinciding with the Strategic Plan deliberations regarding facilities over the past four years, the property and school building at 6545 SOM Center was placed on the market.

"It was at that time that we began considering the potential use of that school building in the greater Solon community – a building that was constructed specifically for use as a preschool," said Joseph Regano, superintendent, Solon City Schools. "We also knew that our least reliable and costly building for ongoing maintenance has been Arthur Road, which is in large part why that school was closed as a K-4 building during our elementary redistricting in 2015. Although our preschool is still housed at Arthur Road, practically we continued planning for where that program would relocate long-term and what we do with the Arthur Road building.

Fast forward to this year and the school building and property on SOM Center Road has remained on the market.”

This past spring, the state of Ohio began a no-cost review of the current physical status of all our district buildings and facilities. This state program is conducted through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. The final report will be delivered to the district this fall. The results of that report will be public and made available for review.

At that time, the district will reconvene the Strategic Plan Facilities Action Team for community dialogue and direction as well as engage an architectural site plan consultant to review the state report and Action Team recommendations. The ultimate goal would be to update the district’s facility site plan and overall footprint with an eye to the future to include any possible major additions, demolitions, new structures, and redesign and/or relocation of roads in and out of the campus area.

No significant changes in school locations, namely the preschool, or large-scale building projects would commence this school year.

Once the state facilities report is in hand and analyzed and the Strategic Plan Facilities Action Team is reconvened and makes recommendations, the Board of Education will be able to address specifics regarding the long-term strategic direction for Solon Schools’ facilities. The purchase of the SOM Center Road property and building will be an important component of that overall planning.

Tuition reimbursements were approved for 10 individuals in the amount of \$6,747.52. The next board meeting will be September 10, 2018, 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

SOLON EARNS TOP MARKS AGAIN IN STATE AND NATIONAL 2019 NICHE RATINGS

The Solon Schools are again topping the nationwide rating of more than 100,000 public school districts and schools released by Niche.com, a community and education comparison resource. The Solon Schools are ranked the #2 Best School District in the nation and the #1 District with the Best Teachers in America.

All Solon schools received A+ ratings and each ranked in the top 5 in Ohio and the top 100 nationally. Orchard, Parkside, Roxbury and Lewis all ranked in the top 10 nationally.

In addition to the national rankings, Solon also earned the #1 rating for Best School District in Ohio and Best Place to Teach in Ohio.

The 2019 Best Schools and Best School District in America rankings are based on a rigorous analysis of many student life and academic data points from the U.S. Department of Education and other sources, which include academics; state assessment and ACT/SAT scores; student-teacher ratio; the quality of colleges students consider; culture and diversity; teachers; resources and facilities; health and safety; clubs, activities and sports; as well as parent and student surveys.

All Solon schools also garnered the top spots in the Cleveland-area rankings:

Solon High School – #1 in Cleveland area, #2 in Ohio, #70 in the nation

Solon Middle School – #2 in Cleveland area, #2 in Ohio, #13 in the nation

Orchard Middle School – #1 in Cleveland area, #1 in Ohio, #10 in the nation

Parkside Elementary School – #2 in Cleveland area, #2 in Ohio, #4 in the nation

Roxbury Elementary School – #3 in Cleveland area, #3 in Ohio, #6 in the nation

Lewis Elementary School – #4 in Cleveland area, #4 in Ohio, #7 in the nation

Congratulations to Solon Schools' students, families and staff!

SOLON'S MUSIC IN MOTION SHOWCASED IN DOCUMENTARY

Solon's Music in Motion is one of four show choirs to be featured in a new documentary titled Ohio Show Choir.

The film is a project of Too Pink Pictures, the production company run by filmmakers and Solon High School graduates (and MIM alumni) Hannah and Audrey Leach. Hannah and Audrey are both passionate not only about show choir, but about their experience and arts education at Solon High School, which they credit for helping them to become the "confident creators they are today."

Ohio Show Choir will chronicle a year in the life of four Ohio show choirs – Solon, Garfield Heights, Ross, and Strongsville – from camp and the onset of the competition season (learning the show and meeting new members) through the actual competitions in fall and winter. The filmmakers are looking to provide a compelling behind-the-scenes glimpse into the artistry and level of hard work that goes into every competition season.

This project promises to be a great experience and educational process for students.