

BOARD REPORT

April 23, 2018

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$732.28.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board approved membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association for the 2018-19 school year. Nick Davidson, Allison Gale, Emilie Macek, Grace Paul, Matt Pinney and Jake Voigt were approved as home instruction tutors for the 2017-18 school year. A leave of absence was approved for Dana Tangry, grade 4 teacher at Parkside Elementary School, for the 2018-19 school year.

The Board issued a limited teaching contract to the following individuals for the 2018-19 school year:

DISTRICT

Allison Babic
Marguerita Carrabine
Catherine Gingerich
Jessica Jagers
Peggy Roll
Andrea Vantaggi

ORCHARD

Carly Cancasci

ROXBURY

Kayleigh Finelli .5
Colleen Marsh
Sarah Militello

SOLON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lindsay Trutza .6

SOLON MIDDLE SCHOOL / SOLON HIGH SCHOOL

Jessica Khoury .6

The Board approved the retirement of Judy Tylicki, secretary for the maintenance department, effective June 1, 2018. Judy has been with the district for 20 years.

The Board awarded a contract to Whitehouse Construction, the lowest responsible bidder, for the SHS science lab renovation project in the amount of \$122,525.00.

The retirement of Paula Hardy, math teacher at Solon Middle School, effective May 31, 2018 was approved. Paula has been with the district 19 years.

Tuition reimbursements were approved for 13 individuals in the amount of \$3.610.

The next board meeting will be May 14, 2018, 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Three administrative changes were announced for Solon High School and Solon Schools Preschool for the 2018-19 school year.

First, Terry Brownlow, SHS assistant principal, will move from her role at the high school to become principal of the preschool. Terry is an experienced administrator who will be a responsible leader for our preschool students.

At the same time, we are relocating a small portion of our high school special education program to the cafeteria area at Arthur Road. This has been a recommendation from the high school, and specifically Terry, for several years to provide more opportunities for students who need different experiences and the space at Arthur Road will allow for this change. We will pilot this location change for a two-year trial to be sure it is meeting our objectives for student needs.

With Terry's move to the preschool, Erica Kosiorek, assistant SHS principal, will assume the curriculum leadership role for the high school team. Erica has the necessary skills and experience to step into this position and will carry on Terry's strong work at the high school.

Finally, Carla Rodenbucher, our current preschool principal, will join the Solon High School administrative team, taking on Erica's current responsibilities as an assistant principal.

SOLON SCHOOLS NAMED A 2018 BEST COMMUNITY FOR MUSIC EDUCATION

Underscoring the district's exemplary achievement in providing access to music education for all students, the Solon City Schools have received the prestigious Best Communities for Music Education award for 2018. Solon joins just 4 percent of other school districts nationwide in receiving the designation from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation.

"This award is significant for our district because it reflects our continuous commitment to music education," said Solon Schools Superintendent Joseph Regano. "Music programming in the Solon Schools provides wide-ranging opportunities to all students to learn and perform music. This award also recognizes the district's partnership with our families and community that results in an environment that values and supports the arts so vigorously."

To qualify for the Best Communities in Music designation, the Solon Schools provided comprehensive information about commitment to standards, funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, music instructional time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. The NAMM Foundation's reviewers assessed the quality of the district's music faculty and budgetary commitment to music education among other factors and the data submitted was analyzed statistically and verified via a follow-up audit by the Music

Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

In addition to a commitment to music education, Best Communities for Music Education honorees share two common traits: consistent funding to foster music education within the core curriculum and music programs in communities where music education is considered a “jewel of the school system,” according to NAMM in announcing the awards. Families, staff and community members take pride in the music programs and attend them regularly, NAMM noted, adding that these music programs provide important elements of well-rounded education for all children and highlight the vital role music plays in students’ overall success in school.

“Music and the arts are highly valued in Solon and Glenwillow and are important components of our overall Solon educational program,” Mr. Regano added. “Importantly, this honor recognizes the connections between music and our core content education for students. We always talk about the shared emphasis of the three A’s – academics, arts and athletics/activities – in our district and how that is critical to supporting the development of well-rounded students. Our commitment to the arts is a major reason why many families choose the Solon Schools.”

Research shows physical, cognitive and social benefits for students engaged in music learning and performance, according to NAMM. “Music and the arts are a critical component of the core curriculum, and strong community support and involvement in the arts helps build an even stronger foundation for student success in those areas of study and beyond,” said Christopher Johnson, a Kansas University researcher and professor. “Along with contributing to improved graduation rates and academic success, students in quality music programs are consistently more proficient in other subjects and develop many ancillary life-long skills. We have all noticed how the most involved music students are also exceptional critical thinkers and good listeners, able to persist through all kinds of adversities. The benefits of a strong music program extend far beyond the program itself, though the primary benefit will always be the unparalleled joys that good music brings to peoples’ lives.”

ACADEMIC SIGNING DAY

The Solon Schools are celebrating the academic achievement of the members of the senior class April 24 with a special Academic Signing Day, culminating the years of work students have put in to meet their post-high school goals. May 1 is the traditional national “decision day” when students need to make a commitment to a college or university by placing a non-refundable deposit. In the tradition of this day, the Solon senior class of 2018 will announce its intent on April 24.

Fashioned after the high-profile signing days when high school athletes sign letters of intent to colleges and universities for athletics, the Academic Signing Day allows all Solon seniors to have a signing day of their own. They will have their photo taken while signing a certificate indicating their college selections. Seniors who are going into the military, fire and police academies and the work force also participate in the signing day event. The hundreds of signed certificates will be posted in the school.

CLICK IT OR TICKET FOR SEAT BELT SAFETY

In partnership with the Solon Police Department, Solon High School is participating in the national Click It or Ticket program sponsored by the National Highway Transportation Administration.

Following a pre-check on seat belt compliance in early April and visible reminders all month along the high school driveways, Solon Police officers will be in the SHS parking lot on Wednesday, April 25, checking for seat belts and providing “incentive tickets” for student drivers and their passengers who are adhering to the law and wearing their seat belts.

Traffic at the high school going in and out of the parking lots and driveways will be slower on the 25th so please allow additional time in your schedule.

CHANGE IN VOTING LOCATIONS

Earlier this year we discussed the decision by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections to consolidate voting locations in Solon to create a “super site” at Arthur Road School. Since that time, the Board of Elections modified its plan and created two smaller super sites at Arthur Road and Grantwood.

Residents should have received notification from the Board of Elections directly about their assigned polling location.

The official Solon and Glenwillow polling locations for the May 8 primary election are as follows:

Solon:

- Ward 1- Grantwood Golf Course Clubhouse
- Ward 2- Arthur Road School
- Ward 3- Grantwood Golf Course Clubhouse
- Ward 4- Solon United Methodist Church
- Ward 5- Advent Lutheran Church
- Ward 6- Grantwood Golf Course Clubhouse
- Ward 7- Arthur Road School

Glenwillow:

- All Wards- Glenwillow Village Hall