

BOARD REPORT

April 25, 2016

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$8,741.55.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board non-renewed the contract of Vicki Gliha, Transportation Supervisor, which was issued for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 school years and to direct the Treasurer to serve written notice of the Board action to her.

The Board approved the resignation and retirement of Marian DeAngelo, head custodian at Solon High School, effective July 1, 2016.

The Board approved new contracts for the following individuals: Fred Bolden, Patricia Bush, Christine Gruttadauria, Mark Miller, Kevin Krane, Jeff Pedicino, Joanne Samuels, Rocco Sciarabba, Debbie Siegel, Betsy Street, Amanda Sullen, Aubrey Woods and Karen Yasher.

The retirements of John (Jack) Calvey and Richard (Rich) Roark, maintenance employees for Solon City Schools, effective December 31, 2016, were approved.

Tuition reimbursements were approved for four individuals in the amount of \$2,073.12. The next board meeting will be May 16, 2016, 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

SUMMER BOARD MEETING TIMES

The June 13th, 30th and July 18th board meetings will begin at 8 a.m.

SOLON HIGH SCHOOL RATED ONE OF NATION'S BEST BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Solon High School is one of only 18 schools in Ohio – and three in Northeast Ohio – to earn a Gold Medal Best rating in the 2016 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools rankings. Additionally, SHS is the top-ranked Ohio school on the U.S. News Best STEM Schools list, ranking #24 in the nation this year. No other Ohio school is in the top 50 national STEM school ranking.

“Solon High School has earned a Gold Medal in U.S. News Best High Schools rankings for many years, which is a reflection on the consistency and rigor of our high-quality academic program here in Solon,” said Solon Schools Superintendent Joseph Regano. “We are equally

gratified to see that our students' high achievement in the areas of math and science led to SHS once again making the Best STEM Schools list, and ranking the highest of any Ohio high school."

The annual U.S. News Best High School rankings are based on data collected on more than 21,000 public high schools. The schools are ranked, with the top schools receiving gold, silver and bronze rating awards based on their students' performances on state assessments in math and reading, student-teacher ratios, and how well they prepare their students for college. The Best STEM Schools are identified from among the top 500 public high schools in the U.S. News Best Schools ranking as the best in science, technology, engineering and math education. Earning a high STEM School ranking is "based on the key principle that students at these schools must participate in and pass a robust curriculum of college-level math and science courses," according to U.S. News.

Solon High School's #24 national STEM ranking this year is up from #52 last year. The high STEM School ranking means that more than two-thirds of the SHS class of 2014 (the data year on which the rankings are based) enrolled in AP classes took and passed at least one AP STEM math and one AP STEM Science exam. The AP STEM math courses are Calculus AB and BC, Computer Science A and AB, and Statistics, and the STEM Science courses are biology, chemistry, environmental science, physics B and C, Electricity and Magnetism and Physics C: Mechanics.

SOLON MIDDLE SCHOOL WRITERS EXCEL AT REGIONAL POWER OF THE PEN TOURNAMENT

Competing against 200 writers from 30 area schools, Solon Middle School's Seventh Grade Power of the Pen team took third place at the regional tournament last week.

Additionally, two students – seventh grader Rachael Zhan and eighth grader Wenzhao Qui – earned "Best of the Best" awards. To earn the "Best" award, their top writing from the district competition was judged against other superior works from around the state. Their pieces will be published in the Power of the Pen Book of Winners and they will receive other "Best of the Best" prizes.

Overall, three SMS students qualified for the state tournament at the College of Wooster on May 27: Rachael Zhan, Wenzhao Qui and eighth grader Maleeha Ansari.

SOLON HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC SIGNING DAY IS APRIL 27

Solon High School is celebrating the accomplishments of the Class of 2016 with its annual Academic Signing Day on April 27. Modeled after the high-profile signing days for high school athletes to sign letters of intent to colleges and universities for athletics, the SHS Academic Signing Day marks the achievement of all Solon seniors. Throughout the day, seniors will have their photos taken while signing certificates announcing where they will attend college or other post-high school destinations, such as the military, safety force academies or the work force. The hundreds of signed certificates will then be posted in the school.

While not all seniors have made their final decisions about which colleges or universities they will attend, May 1 is the traditional "decision day."

The success Solon students experience in choosing their “right match” college is a reflection of a multi-year guidance process that helps students to identify the type of college they want to attend and present themselves as high-achieving and well-rounded candidates for admission.

SOLON FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVERS SUCCEED AT STATE BOWL

The 73 Solon students competing at the 2016 Future Problem Solving State Bowl hosted here in Solon at the Middle School captured 24 individual and team awards. Two Solon FPS teams and four individual students qualified for the upcoming International Competition at Michigan State University in June.

“Solon FPS had a very successful weekend,” said Solon’s FPS advisor Sabrina Tirpak. “Students from Orchard, SMS and SHS won numerous awards in several categories.”

The students invited to represent Ohio at the International Competition are: from Solon High School Justin Prindle, Joseph Feng, Vikas Jain, Cyrus Young, Jake Adelstein, Lauren Tucker, Ryan Ebenstein and Daniel Lin; from Solon Middle School Gina Kong and Gurnoor Majhail; and from Orchard Helen Otterman and Iris Yu.

Overall, Solon students won the following awards at the state competition:

Global Issues Problem Solving (Team):

Senior Division (grades 10-12): Justin Prindle, Joseph Feng, Vikas Jain and Cyrus Young (first); Jake Adelstein, Lauren Tucker, Ryan Ebenstein and Daniel Lin (second); and Connor Strobel, Madeleine Burland and Hannah Edelman (third).

Middle Division (grades 7-9): Helen Sun, Tony Ahn, Gina Kong and Derek Li (second); Tony Peng, Rebecca Lin, Samuel Li and Olivia Yang (third); and Sandy Shen, Julia Fan, Rachel Wilson and Katherine Dai (fourth).

Presentation of an Action Plan (Team):

Senior Division: Jake Adelstein, Lauren Tucker, Ryan Ebenstein and Daniel Lin (first); Josie MacDougall, Alex Fan, Amala Uli and Peter Alamir (second); and Connor Strobel, Madeleine Burland and Hannah Edelman (third).

Middle Division: Emily Ye, Kimball Otteson, Wesley Shen, Amy Zhang and Rebecca Liebson (second) and Albert Zhu, Lea Kim, Emily Gong, Nicholas Kernan and Zilong Huang (third).

Junior Division (grades 5-6): Grant Maiorana, Boris Khoretonenko, Edward Huang and Dennis Zhitenev (first) and Natalie Miller, Gabriele Glusauskas, Clara Morgan, Iris Yu and Genny Burland (third).

Individual Problem Solving:

Middle Division: Gurnoor Majhail (first), Annette Lee (second) and Rebecca Liebson (third).

Junior Division: Helen Otterman (first) and Genny Burland (second).

Scenario Writing:

Senior Division: Hannah Edelman (second).

Middle Division: Gina Kong (first) and Shadhvika Nandhakumar (fifth).

Junior Division: Iris Yu (first), Natalie Miller (second) and Emily Wilson (third).