

BOARD REPORT

March 14, 2016

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$3,182.55. The RC-2 "Schedule of Records Retention and Disposition" was approved. The Board approved a resolution authorizing the Treasurer to issue notes for the purpose of eliminating the bond debt and increasing our 2018 debt payment.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board approved the retirement and rehire of David VanEtten for the retire/rehire incentive that is part of the collective bargaining agreement with the Solon Board of Education and Solon Education Association complying with Ohio Revised Code 3307.353 which requires the notification of a hearing to be conducted at the regularly scheduled board meeting of June 13, 2016, at the Board of Education offices.

Aaron Short was hired as the Strength & Conditioning Coordinator. The retirement of Patricia Staiger, Speech & Language Pathologist at Arthur Road Elementary School, effective July 1, 2016, was approved. Kevin Lavin and Louise Maniglia were approved as home instruction tutors for the 2015-16 school year.

The Board approved a trip for the Speech and Debate Team to travel to Salt Lake City, Utah, from June 12 to 18, 2016, for the 2016 National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament.

The Board authorized the Superintendent and Treasurer to take the legal steps necessary to recover tuition and to seek any other available remedies resulting from a parent's fraudulent enrollment of a student in the district when the parent is not a resident of the district.

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 four (4) conventional school buses and one (1) lift school bus. The Board agrees to pay \$325.00 to Ohio Schools Council for school district membership as a service fee for this purpose.

A contract was awarded to Whitehouse Construction, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$855,000.00 for the Lewis Exterior Refurbishment and Dual School Secure Vestibules. A contract was awarded to Whitehouse Construction, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$356,100.00 for the Dual School Exterior Renovation Phase II.

Four individuals were approved as substitutes on an as needed basis for the 2015-16 school year. One non-district pupil activity permit contract was approved.

A supplemental contract was approved to the following individual:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jim Willard	Girls Track - SMS Coach	\$3,233.55

Tuition reimbursements were approved for five individuals in the amount of \$4,492.90. The next board meeting will be April 11, 2016, 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

SOLON MOCK TRIAL GOES UNDEFEATED AT REGIONALS; QUALIFIES FOR STATE TOURNAMENT

Solon's all-freshman Team Kennedy went undefeated at the Ohio Mock Trial Cuyahoga Regional Competition at the Cuyahoga County Courthouse and earned a trip to the state tournament in March. This is the first all-freshman team in Solon history to qualify for state finals.

The team includes members Zilong Huang, Jacob Levine, Grace Gao, Shivangi Mohta, Samuel Oguntoyinbo, Albert Zhu, Lea Kim and John Cha. Three team members earned individual honors: Grace Gao and Shivangi Mohta both won best attorney awards in their trials and Lea Kim won outstanding witness in her trial.

Team Kennedy was one of four Solon teams competing at regionals. Overall, 20 teams from 10 schools competed. Only six of the 20 teams, including Solon's Team Kennedy, went undefeated and qualified for states. Solon's three other teams were 1-1, and two came within one point of also making states, according to adviser and SHS social studies teacher Rob Rivera.

Ohio's Mock Trial program is sponsored by The Ohio Center for Law Related Education and is the second largest program in the nation, with close to 400 teams competing statewide. Fewer than 10 percent of participating teams are undefeated in districts and regionals like Team Kennedy and make it to states.

"It is remarkable for our ninth graders on Team Kennedy to advance to the state final in their first year competing in Mock Trial," Mr. Rivera noted. "Needless to say, all 32 of Solon's participants represented SHS amazingly well and judges paid them all high praise for their skills, professionalism and poise. They made us all very proud."

Other individual Solon students winning awards were Alec Huang, Annie Liu and Laura Duffy for Best Attorney and Lucy Dong, Hana Timta and Kenia Hale for Best Witness.

SOLON ADVANCES FOUR SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAMS TO THE STATE FINALS

Two Solon Middle School teams and two from Solon High School have qualified for the Science Olympiad state tournament in April.

The SMS teams took first and second place in their division, while the high school teams earned third and fourth in the senior division. The top six teams advance to states.

In capturing first and second, the SMS teams earned 13 first place medals, 11 second place medals and nine third place medals in the 23 competition events.

SMS team members earned medals in the following events:

- Air Trajectory: Scott Maurer and Ryan Li (first) and Jessie Kasper and Michelle Dong (third).
- Anatomy & Physiology: Kush Addepalli and Sampath Rapuri (first) and Lea Kim and Michelle Park (third).
- Bio-Process Lab: David Feng and Sriram Kolli (first).
- Bottle Rockets: Stephanie Wang and Derek Li (second).
- Bridge Building: Stephanie Wang and Ryan Li (first) and Michelle Dong and Michelle Park (third).
- Crave the Wave: David Feng and Albert Zhu (first) and Celina Zhuang and Yang KanKariya (third).
- Crime Busters: Rachel Wilson and Alex Luo (second) and Julia Fan and Albert Zhu (third).
- Disease Detectives: Lea Kim and Sandy Shen (second).
- Dynamic Planet: Julia Fan and Sinead Li (first) and Neha Gupta and Shadhvika Nandhakumar (second).
- Elastic Launched Glider: Rachel Zhang and Scott Maurer (second).
- Food Science: Julia Fan and Rebecca Liebson (first).
- Fossils: Rebecca Liebson and Scott Maurer (first).
- Green Generation: Lea Kim and Sandy Shen (first) and Ruth Johnson and Sriram Kolli (third).
- Invasive Species: Rachel Wilson and Michelle Park (first) and Albert Zhu and Sampath Rapuri (second).
- Meteorology: Michelle Dong and Shadhvika Nandhakumar (first).
- Mission Possible: Soham Jain and Forrest Liu (first) and Rachel Zhang and David Feng (second).
- Picture This: Alex Luo and Tony Peng (first) and Sinead Li and Stephanie Wang (second).
- Reach for the Stars: Michelle Dong and Neha Gupta (second) and Kush Addepalli and Michael Zhu (third).
- Road Scholar: Stephanie Wang and Michael Zhu (second).
- Wind Power: Shadhvika Nandhakumar and Yash Kankariya (second) and Derek Li and Ryan Li (third).
- Write It, Do It: Rachel Zhang and Michael Zhu (third).

ALL SOLON SCHOOLS RECEIVE SMARTER LUNCHROOM AWARDS IN MEETING THE U.S.D.A.'S HEALTHIER U.S. SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Of the 30 Northeast Ohio schools receiving the Healthier U.S. School Challenge: Smarter Lunchrooms Award for 2015-16, seven are Solon schools. Solon High School, Solon Middle School, Orchard Middle School, Arthur Road Elementary School, Lewis Elementary School, Parkside Elementary School and Roxbury Elementary School all received awards as Bronze Distinction Schools by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service. As part of the award, each school cafeteria will receive a \$500 grant for lunchroom program enhancements.

The Smarter Lunchrooms award recognizes schools enrolled in the U.S.D.A. Team Nutrition Program that are creating healthier school environments through the promotion of good nutrition and physical activity.

The award recognizes “schools that go above and beyond federal requirements within the entire school nutrition environment” and encourages schools to “take a leadership role in helping students to make healthier eating and physical activity choices that will last a lifetime,” according to the U.S.D.A.

Recognized schools improve the quality of the lunchroom foods served by offering a variety of vegetables, fresh fruits and whole grains, and provide students with nutrition education, physical education and opportunities for physical activity.

To qualify for the award, each Solon school met rigorous criteria in meeting federal dietary guidelines for school lunches and the food served outside of the organized school lunch meals program, especially lunchroom snacks.

“We encourage families to check out the wide variety of lunch options our students can choose from by perusing the monthly menus through our online NutriSlice tool,” said Joanne Samuels, Solon’s director of food service. “Complete nutritional content information is detailed for all menu items within NutriSlice. Additionally, parents and students can easily view the menu items and identify foods and snacks containing the eight most common food allergens, such as wheat, peanuts, tree nuts, eggs, fish, shellfish, milk and soy.”

NutriSlice is accessible on the district web site by clicking on Lunch Menus under Quick Links as well as through the App Store and Google Play for a mobile version. Just download the app, choose Solon and every day’s lunch menu with complete nutrition information is readily available on any mobile device.

WORK SET TO GET UNDER WAY ON DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

The Solon Schools are convening three action teams to address key objectives in the district Strategic Plan: finances, facilities and communications. The action team members represent key stakeholders in the district, including board members, teachers, administrators, parents and community members.

The action teams are reviewing and updating the district plans to execute the finance, facilities and communications strategies:

- **We will educate our policymakers and Solon stakeholders about the financial crisis facing the Solon Schools and our community and actively engage both to find solutions that provide adequate funding to ensure financial stability.**
- **We will ensure we can maintain the quality of our programs and facilities so they can support academics, arts, athletics and activities.**
- **We will more consistently and effectively communicate our educational goals and initiatives to staff, parents and our community.**

Community members are invited to join the process and one of the action teams. The first meeting will be Monday, April 11, at 7 p.m. at the Solon Board of Education. Subsequent

meetings will be set by each action team. To participate, contact Tammy Strom at (440) 349-2914 and complete the Google form posted on the district home page.

As the Strategic Planning process continues this spring, additional information and updates will be communicated to community.