

Board Connections

Board of Trustees: Patricia Singer, President; Jack Souders, Vice President; Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Clerk; Keri Gorsage, Member; Morgan Westmoreland, Member

February 25, 2025

Elementary School Presentation: Circle View

Principal Julie Ernst spoke about how Circle View is dedicated to removing barriers and creating opportunities for student success, both academically and creatively. Joined by teachers Janeen Autry and Eileen Stressling, information was shared about two key initiatives, Empower Hour and the Circle Singers, which exemplify this commitment. Empower Hour provides targeted, small-group instruction to help students close the gap in math problem-solving and reading comprehension. Meanwhile, the Circle Singers



is an inclusive choir fostering music literacy, vocal training, and performance excellence. These programs not only enhance learning, but also build confidence, creativity, and a strong foundation for future success. The Trustees even got a front-row seat to this commitment, stepping into the students' shoes during a Circle Singers lesson from music teacher Eileen Stressling.



Middle School Presentation: Vista View

Principal Manny Quezada highlighted one of Vista View's most innovative programs—the Computer Tech class—which integrates technology, art, and communication, providing students with hands-on experience in digital media production. Led by teacher Cindy Tith, students take on roles as journalists, editors, and producers, creating Weekly News videos and announcements. This student-driven class allows them to decide what stories to tell, how to tell them, and how to

engage their audience. Through video production, scriptwriting, and digital design, students develop communication, collaboration, and time management skills, working like professionals in the media industry. To illustrate the program's impact, students shared their first-hand experiences, discussing both the challenges they face and the pride they take in their work.

Celebrating Childcare in Ocean View School District

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Dr. Alice Lee and Child Development Programs Coordinator Jenna Landero shared how the OVSD Childcare Program supports students' academic, social, and emotional growth through hands-on learning, enrichment activities, and structured after school childcare. Offered across all 13 campuses, the program includes homework support, outdoor play, and enrichment classes, with partnerships like the Boys & Girls Club enhancing student engagement. Focused on safety and learning, OVSD Childcare Program keeps students engaged beyond the school day. The complete presentation can be viewed here.

Public Hearing on Trustee Area Map Composition for Potential Election Transition

Currently, under the "at-large election" system, all voters within District boundaries can vote for all five Board Members. The Board is considering transitioning to "by-trustee area elections," where voters elect one Trustee whose home address is within the same designated geographic area as the voter. The hearing offered a second in-person opportunity for community members to share their perspectives and contribute to the decision-making process. While no public comments were made in person, 13 comments were submitted online.