



Ontario School District 8C
Regular Session of the Board of Directors
May 18th at 4:30 PM at the Ontario School District Board Room

This meeting was broadcasted via Zoom to the public, the Board of Directors met in person at the Ontario School District Boardroom, with an audience of about 55

Board Members Present:

Abby Apodaca
Mike Blackaby
Jenna Mejia
Lisa Reeser
Bret Uptmor

Administrators in Attendance:

Superintendent Nicole Albisu
Director of Nutrition Pam Suyematsu
Director of Personnel Eric Norton
Director of Public Relations and Communications Taryn Smith
Director of Student Services Melissa Williams
Director of Federal Programs Anabel Ortiz-Chavolla
Director of Facilities Bob Bennett
Director of Technology Kenneth Monson
Director of Finance Devin Collins
Director of District Improvement Initiatives & Grants Jodi Elizondo
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Andrea Salazar

Call to Order/Welcome to Visitors

Chair Uptmor begins the meeting and welcomes everyone in the room and on Zoom, then leads the room in the flag salute.

Consent Items

Director Blackaby makes a motion to approve the consent items, Vice-Chair Apodaca seconds the motion.

Chair Uptmor votes yes.
Vice-Chair Apodaca votes yes.
Director Blackaby votes yes.
Director Mejia votes yes.
Director Reeser votes yes.

OHS Student Report – Lily Bini Acheson

Student at OHS Lily Bini Acheson shares some of the updates going on at OHS, the freshman class completed their last activity for the year and seniors are getting ready for graduation soon.



There is no OMS Student Report – Aylin Ayala Trujilo

May Licensed Staff Recognition

Principal at Ontario High School, Ken Martinez honors Ryan Roulston for Teacher of the Year; “Ryan Roulston has been a driving force at Ontario High School this year. As an instructional coach, he improves student outcomes by building trust and helping teachers deepen their practice through modeling and personalized guidance. Beyond coaching, Ryan is indispensable, covering classes, supporting substitutes, and coaching the Esports team. He regularly meets challenges with thoughtfulness, and routinely provides essential support that helps his colleagues grow and thrive.”

Principal at Ontario High School, Ken Martinez honors Rachel King for Teacher of the Year; “Rachel King has transformed the Ontario High School Choir Program into a sanctuary of belonging. She possesses a unique gift for making every student feel seen and valued, providing a vital anchor for those who need it most. Her work ethic is equally remarkable. Building a program of this caliber does not happen by accident. It takes years of planning, rehearsing, advocating, and pouring yourself into something bigger than any single performance. Rachel has done all of that — and she has done it with grace.”

Principal at Alameda Intermediate School, Andrea Buchholz honors Heidi Blankenship; “Alameda Intermediate would like to recognize Heidi Blankenship as our Teacher of the Year! Heidi is a beacon of positivity at Alameda Intermediate. Her self-motivated nature and infectious joy uplift our entire staff, while her students absolutely adore her. Heidi’s commitment extends far beyond the classroom; as a vital member of the PBIS team and Site Council, she is instrumental in setting goals that drive our school’s success. Truly “in it for the kids,” she selflessly pours her time and energy into every initiative, including growing future leaders while overseeing Student Leadership. Heidi is an amazing educator and person who perfectly embodies the excellence of Teacher of the Year.

Principal at Aiken Elementary School, Tobey Huddleston honors Stephanie DeLong; “We are thrilled to celebrate Stephanie DeLong as our Aiken Teacher of the Year! Misty Long is the Bomb! This is what past students have shared, actually thinking her name is Misty Long (Ms. DeLong)! Stephanie is the ultimate team player, always first to volunteer, collaborate, and welcome extra students into her room. Stephanie consistently uplifts our staff family with her contagious positivity and wonderful humor. For her students, she provides an amazing, structured environment full of fun, creative lessons and high expectations. From teaching after-school programs to selflessly supporting kids in need, her compassionate heart shines every single day. “Her new hairdo is the icing on the cake!” We are incredibly lucky to have you, Stephanie. Congratulations!”

Principal at Ontario Middle School Lisa Longoria honors Ashley Jones; “Students and staff alike know they can count on Mrs. Jones. She is consistently present at work and available, creating a stable, supportive, and trusting environment where students feel valued. Mrs. Jones proactively seeks out advice from mentors. More importantly, she thoughtfully puts that feedback into practice, demonstrating a commitment to mastering her craft. It has been a pleasure to observe Mrs. Jones growth at OMS.”

Principal at Ontario Middle School, Lisa Longoria honors Scott Horrace; “Mr. Horace plans and delivers well thought out lessons, teaching bell to bell, each and every period. Having students engage in math practice on whiteboards stationed around the room, Mr. Horrace has cultivated a culture of “thinking classrooms.” His solutions-oriented mindset and genuine empathy ensure that every student, regardless of their learning profile, has equitable access to high-level mathematics.”

Principal at May Roberts Primary School, Kevin Capps honors Anna Van Weerdhuizen; “May Roberts is proud to recognize Anna Van Weerdhuizen as our Teacher of the Year. Anna has transformed her PE classes into an amazing learning experience. Equity is found in her classroom, she finds a way to help everyone participate and find success. Our students love her and love PE!



Mrs. VW promotes healthy lifestyles for students. At any time of the day you can see kindergarteners and first graders tracking their laps as they run around the track. Anna applied for and was awarded an amazing grant to receive indoor bowling equipment for the school. Anna is always looking to support our students by taking a lead during our Jog-A-Thon, concessions, and school events. She regularly attends school and district tag activities. Anna is deeply committed to our students, school, and community. May Roberts Primary is so thankful that Mrs. VW is part of our team. Congratulations Anna!”

Chair Uptmor states that the Board will take a 10-minute break for everyone to enjoy some light refreshments. The Board takes a break from 4:47 PM to 5:00 PM.

Board Bits

Director Mejia shares that she went to a lot of Ontario sporting events and is excited that middle school softball is doing well! The Alameda Spring concert was great, and I also attended the Education Association Banquet as well. Director Reeser states that the retirees' ceremony that was tonight was great. Director Reeser states she was unable to attend the Education Association Banquet, but was able to attend the sixth grade band concert. Vice-Chair Apodaca states she attended the middle school social and also got to be a hall monitor at OMS. Also, Vice-Chair Apodaca states she is the 5th grade soccer coach, and that has been fun to take on! Director Blackaby states that he attended the FFA banquet and the award ceremony at OHS. Then, Director Blackaby states that he attended the OSBA webinar for updating policies, and there would be policy updates sent out soon to administrators. Chair Uptmor states that he has seen students playing in our district facilities, and it has been great to observe the beauty of our schools. Also, the Alameda schoolyard is looking great, and is very thankful to staff for all that they do.

Finance Report – Devin Collins

Director of Finance Devin Collins states that he has presented the Board with a checklist of items to prepare the Board and the District for the upcoming Bond. Superintendent Albisu states that the district has received the Summer Learning Grant this year for summer school. ODE has received a lot of feedback on how to improve these grant applications, so it has been ensured for 3 years instead of year to year.

Superintendent’s Report – Nikki Albisu

Superintendent Albisu states that the district got a visit from ODE; it was the Superintendent of Equity and Inclusion. So, we gave the Superintendent a tour of our schools and an overview of the work we are doing in schools; he gave the district great feedback on how we are supporting our schools.

Authorize Pre-Bond Planning and Services

Superintendent Albisu explains that this business item is the Board confirming that they would like the District to move forward with the Bond. The current bond ends in 2027; Superintendent Albisu explains that by passing this Bond, there would be no out-of-pocket cost to the community. The new Bond would be the same as the current bond, but we are eligible to get a match on that Bond, depending on what amount the Board would like to go for. There are a lot of projects that the district would like to complete, Superintendent Albisu states, and we hope to present the community with a long-range facilities plan in the fall. Director Mejia makes a motion to authorize the bond planning and services; Vice-Chair Apodaca seconds the motion.



Chair Uptmor votes yes.
Vice-Chair Apodaca votes yes.
Director Blackaby votes yes.
Director Mejia votes yes.
Director Reeser votes yes.

S and R Agreement

Director Blackaby makes a motion to approve the settlement and release agreement. Director Reeser seconds the motion.

Chair Uptmor votes yes.
Vice-Chair Apodaca votes yes.
Director Blackaby votes yes.
Director Mejia votes yes.
Director Reeser votes yes.

Removal of Policy GAA

Director Reeser makes a motion to remove policy GAA, Director Mejia seconds the motion.

Chair Uptmor votes yes.
Vice-Chair Apodaca votes yes.
Director Blackaby votes yes.
Director Mejia votes yes.
Director Reeser votes yes.

First Reading of Policies: GBA, GBA-AR, GBN/JBA, GCBDA/GDBDA-AR, GCBDD/GDBDD, and JBA/GBN

Director Mejia makes a motion to approve the first reading of policies GBA, GBA-AR, GBN/JBA, GCBDA/GDBDA-AR, GCBDD/GDBDD, and JBA/GBN. Vice-Chair Apodaca seconds the motion.

Chair Uptmor votes yes.
Vice-Chair Apodaca votes yes.
Director Blackaby votes yes.
Director Mejia votes yes.
Director Reeser votes yes.

Topics for Future Meetings

Superintendent Albus states we will talk about the budget and budget resolutions next month. Chair Uptmor also states we can talk about doing a Board training in July if that is something the Board would like to do.

Adjourn



Vice-Chair Apodaca makes a motion to adjourn the meeting; Director Mejia seconds the motion.

Chair Uptmor votes yes.

Vice-Chair Apodaca votes yes.

Director Blackaby votes yes.

Director Mejia votes yes.

Director Reeser votes yes.

Meeting Ends at 5:34

Chairman

Clerk