

This is a summary of the actions of the Oak Park and River Forest High School Board of Education at its regular Board meeting on Thursday, December 18, 2003:

**Board
Actions**

- approved the consent items of Opened Minutes of November 17 and November 20, December 1, 9, and 11, the personnel recommendations; the financial reports; the textbook *Major Problems in American Women's History* for the History Division, reviewed by Ms. Lucchesi;
- amended Policy 20, Board of Education, as presented;
- amended Policy 4123, Voluntary Affirmative Action in Employment—Certified and accepted its Procedures, as presented;
- deleted Policy 4223, Voluntary Affirmative Action in Employment—Educational Support Personnel, as presented;
- amended Policy 5127, Credit through Extension and Correspondence Study, as presented;
- amended Policy 5136, Student Travel;
- approved for first reading, Policy 4360, Acceptable Use of Technology—Personnel, as presented;
- adopted the resolution relating to estimated tax levies for 2003;
- accepted, with gratitude, a donation of \$1,000 from the Sam's Club Foundation to be used for the education of minority students; a donation of a set of Sweets Catalogs (a 15-volume set and indexes of products available to architects and contractors) and a 4-drawer set of flat files from Nicholas and Elisabeth Foussianes for the Theatre Department; a Toyota from OPRFHS employee, Edward Kras, to the auto shop; a donation of \$500 from Norman Clearfield and Joan Hutchinson to the music department; a donation of woodworking power tools and a digital circuit computer and equipment from Carl Nolte, an 1982 OPRFHS graduate to be used in the woodworking class; and a donation of a 1998 Volkswagen from Joshua Sergo to the auto shop.
- approved the purchase of computer hardware equipment for implementation of the Skyward Student and Financial Management System;
- appointed the Sherlynn Reid, Robert Senechalle and Martha Trantow to District 200's Local Ethics Commission for the 2004 calendar year;
- approved the closed session minutes of November 17, November 20, December 1, December 9, and December 11, 2003;
- expelled student EXP 12/09/03-11 as of December 18, 2003 for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year, but held the expulsion in abeyance contingent upon enrollment and regular attendance at an off-campus placement recommended by the special education team for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year and ongoing counseling.

Reports

Dr. Bridge reported that 1) 116 students were honored with Human Relations Awards for being recognized for their behaviors which encouraged and promoted good human relations within our school and community; 2) the Pack the Place event on December 12, 2003 was well attended; 2) OPRFHS International Thespian Troupe #5404's "Story

Theatre” was chosen for production at the Illinois High School Theatre on Friday, January 9, 2004 at ISU in Bloomington/Normal; 3) students Rachel Kirshenbaum and Drew King were selected for the crew of the All-State production, “Arabian Nights”; 4) The Huskie Boosters contributed another \$12,000 for an ice machine, a high jump pit, and a volleyball set up for the west gym; 5) student Harriet Fertik is a recipient of the 2003 National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Award in Writing; and 6) fourteen OPRFHS students were chosen by the Illinois Music Educators Association for All-State Competition.

Ms. Witham gave an update on the sale of the general obligation bonds. Because these bonds received an Aa2 rating, the District was able to save \$27,000 in insurance fees. The Board of Education thanked a community member for information about the Whistleblower Act, but the attorney for the District advised not to sign up for it at this time.

The Board Members reported on their various Board committee and liaison representative responsibilities.

Personnel

Non-Certified

Appointments **Mara Podolner**, Special Education TA, effective 11/19/03

Resignation **Ivona Pedzinska**, Special Education Secretary, effective 12/19/03

The next regular Board Meeting will be on Thursday, January 22, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room.