

March 24, 2024

Dear Oak Grove Community,

Thank you to everyone who attended the OGS Board meeting in person or through our new streaming option. Please see the brief recap of the meeting. As a reminder, these are not approved minutes, as minutes will be formally approved at our subsequent meeting in April.

1. On behalf of the Board Facilities Committee, the administration shared proposals for adjustments to the OGS Facility Project Planner to accommodate the 4 million-dollar increases in inflationary project costs over the next five years. The committee, with agreement from the Board, will conduct the Request for Qualification (RFQ) process. This process acts as an “interview” process of architects to determine their capacity and qualification to design and construct building additions. Taking this step now will allow for a qualified architect to be at the table with stakeholders during an exploration phase of building an addition. Taking this step is not a cost to the district and does not commit the district to completing any type of construction project.
2. Mr. Murray, Mrs. Dunn, and Mrs. Weber, along with teacher leaders, shared an update on results of last year’s Five Essentials Culture and Climate Survey. The annual researched-based survey is designed by the University of Chicago and is also a requirement of schools in the state accountability system. Performance indicators that exemplified OGS strengths and areas of growth were included. Both the administration and teachers shared their collective efforts over the last year to address the findings. Results from the survey administered this March will be released to administration in the summer months.
3. The superintendent shared that the first annual OGS Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast will be on April 27 from 7:30 – 9:30 am. The breakfast will honor everyone who volunteers their time to support students and staff in classrooms, during lunchtime and school events, and on committees, such as our PTO, OGSEF, and DEI. Invitations will be going out the week of April 3rd to several hundred volunteers we are grateful to have at OGS.
4. At this month’s meeting, we were pleased to be joined by our 8th grade students who are behind the design of the new OGS Express. The students pictured designed this “pop-up” coffee shop last year to provide breakfast treats to staff. Through this process, the students explored the steps of building a business plan, including marketing and advertising and determining the appropriate costs for their products. This year, they brought the shop to families during parent/teacher conferences. We would like to thank Mrs. Yarc and Mrs. Zurawski and students for this creative project and the enjoyment it brings to our staff and families!
Pictured here (left to right: Mrs. Yarc, Yalini Arasu, Hooriya Haroon, Kaitlyn Phan, Asna Qureshi, Abby Mayer, Eleanor Schuman, Mrs. Zurawski. Weston Chasely (not in photo).
5. Mr. Murray shared the parent night for new, incoming kindergarten students will take place on April 20, at 6:15 p.m.

As always, we look forward to working diligently and professionally with the teachers, administration, and all of you.

The Oak Grove School Board of Education

