



Letter to the Board

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“When someone asks you, “A penny for your thoughts”, and you “Put your two cents in” what happens to the other penny?” /: >

-- George Carlin

Board Letter

1. **Board Goals Workshop:** The goals setting workshop went very well and I wish to thank all of you for your input and discussion. I am looking forward to our continued work in September as we develop the board goals.
2. **District Calendar:** Amy is in the process of preparing the district calendar. She has a new format she is designing which I believe you will be very pleased with. If the board has any thoughts on suggestions or comments you have heard through the year, now is the time to share them.
3. **Summer Building Projects:** While we are enjoying a summer free of capital projects, the buildings are bustling with the usual maintenance work, clean up and general repairs. Mr. Miller’s staff is focusing on carpeting the library at OE, installation of smartboards in classrooms throughout the district, carpeting the staff room at MS, sealing the parking lots and driveways at HS, and athletic field work, all while working in conjunction with the many summer programs.
4. **Workshops:** Lori has asked that if board members are planning on attending any of the many workshops or conferences that have been sent out recently to let her know so that she can process paperwork. Also, a reminder about the annual convention in NYC. Please let Lori know if anyone other than Joyce is planning on attending.
5. **Flags at Half Staff:** The Governor has ordered all flags on government buildings to be lowered to half staff from dawn to dusk on Friday, July 18 in honor of 2 soldiers deployed from Fort Drum who were killed in action. Sgt. Alex Jimenez (Mass.) and Specialist Byron Fouty ((Mich.) had been listed missing – captured since May 12 when their patrol was ambushed near Baghdad. On July 9 their remains were recovered.
6. **Ontario Library:** The Ontario Library was recently awarded a grant from the “National Endowment for the Humanities.” This grant consists of a collection of American Art reproductions entitled “Picturing America” grouped by themes capturing highlights of American history. The themes are leadership, freedom & equality, democracy, courage, landscapes, and creativity & ingenuity. You may view the

collection at www.picturingamerica.neh.gov. The Ontario Library Director, Sandra Hylan hopes to make this collection a shared tool for our school curriculum.

7. **Administrative Retreat:** As I write this letter, we are closing our retreat. It has been extremely productive as the administrators have worked on their plans for improving academic achievement. These plans will be modified appropriately with the board goals once they are completed. We will present the goals to the BoE at the August meeting.

8. **Upcoming Events:**

July 26 – August 10 – Block Out Week – No meetings/activities scheduled

August 14 – Board of Education Meeting @ DO Conference Room – 7:00 p.m.