



Board Notes

Shaker Heights City School District

January 11, 2012

At the annual organizational meeting of the Shaker Heights Board of Education on January 10, 2012, the Board took the following actions:

- Administered the oath of office to newly elected Board members **William L. Clawson II** and **Reuben Harris, Jr.**
- Elected **Annette Tucker Sutherland** as President and **Jennifer P. Mearns** as Vice President of the Board for the 2012 calendar year.
- Set 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month as its regular meeting time.
- Appointed the Superintendent or his designee as hearing officer for student discipline matters and as District representative to the Ohio High School Athletic Association.
- Dispensed with the adoption of separate resolutions for approving checks.
- Established a Service Fund to cover expenses incurred by Board members in the exercise of their official duties.
- Authorized memberships in the Ohio and National School Boards Associations, the Ohio High School Athletic Association, the Ohio Schools Council, and the OSBA Legal Assistance Fund.
- Authorized participation in the Ohio Schools Council Lake Erie Educational Media Consortium.
- Authorized participation in Cuyahoga County educational programs and in private grant and state and federal funding programs.
- Authorized non-salary remuneration for staff (e.g., awards and refreshments at meetings).
- Authorized the Superintendent to accept staff resignations; to take emergency action if needed; to establish lunch and milk prices and student fees; to select instructional materials, courseware, and textbooks in consultation with the faculty; and to conduct parental notification of the Ohio core curriculum requirements.
- Authorized the filing of real estate complaint documents and student activity contracts.
- Appointed as legal counsel the firms of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P.; Brindza McIntyre & Seed LLP; Taft, Stettinius & Hollister LLP; and Wilkerson & Associates Co., L.P.A.; and the City of Shaker Heights Law Department.

At the regular meeting of the Shaker Heights Board of Education on January 10, 2012, the Board recognized the following:

National Merit Semifinalists: **Joshua Barnett, Benjamin Claus, Terence Conlon, Rachel Jensen, Aleksa Kaups, Matthew Krantz, Claire Lo, Rachel Shafran, Nathan Sun, and Benjamin Walker.**

National Achievement Semifinalists: **Morgan Hammonds, Nia Morgan, and Rachel Shands.**

National Hispanic Scholars: **Anamaria Boyd, David Levitz, and Spencer Seballos.**

National Merit Commended Students: **Kristen Amaddio, Brian Benton, Shoshana Bieler, Noah Eisen, Vincent Gassman, Jiawei He, Burcu Kahriman, Jackson Laskey, Jack Lawrence, Ian Limoli, Hannah Lyness, Hannah McCandless, Nia Morgan, Maneesha Pimplikar, Diana Ponitz, Karim Ragab, Spencer Seballos, Rachel Shaw, Brianna Stack, Audrey Steiner-Malumphy, Joan Thompson, and Lukun Zhang.**

The Superintendent reported the following:

- President Obama honored Shaker with a visit to the High School last Wednesday to deliver a speech. Among those in attendance were about 600 students and about 30 faculty members. At the request of the White House, students were selected to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and to sing the national anthem. The High School's jazz combo provided entertainment before the program. This was the President's second visit to Shaker; he held a town hall meeting on health care at the High School in 2009.
- Art students from the High School won fifty-one awards in the 2012 Cuyahoga County Regional Scholastic Art Competition and Exhibition, receiving more honors than any other participating high school group and garnering the highest number of awards received by the High School to date. The awards included 14 Gold Keys, 13 Silver Keys, 18 Honorable Mentions, an American Visions nomination, two Cleveland Institute of Art Awards, two Prizm Art Supply Awards, and a Sue Wall Award for Painting.

The High School's winners are: **Elise Barrington**, Gold Key and American Visions Nominee in Painting for *Reflect*; **Ian Bartimole**, Honorable Mention in Sculpture for *Stasis*; **Shoshana Bieler**, Silver Key in Drawing for *Ascending, Waiting, Looking Through*; Silver Key in Painting for *Hesitating*; Honorable Mention in Drawing for *Reflecting*; Honorable Mention in Painting for *Reels*; Honorable Mention in Painting for *Filtered*; Gold Key for Art Portfolio; **Tristan Braman**, Gold Key in Digital Art for *Sanctuary*; Honorable Mention in Digital Art for *Struggle*; Honorable Mention in Digital Art for *Solitude*; Gold Key in Film & Animation for *Snip*; Silver Key in Drawing for *Break*; Silver Key in Drawing for *Owl From Observation*; Honorable Mention in Drawing for *Lassitude*; Honorable Mention in Drawing for *Anguish*; Honorable Mention in Photography for *Mental Exhaustion*; **Becca Christman**, Gold Key and Sue Wall Award in Painting for *Vitality*; **Ian Clark**, Gold Key and Cleveland Institute of Art Award in Photography for *Le Chilien*; **Candace Cunard**, Honorable Mention in Digital Art for *Blue Moon*; **Isabel Dimoff**, Honorable Mention in Photography for *Skyward*; **Renee Farrell**, Silver Key in Jewelry for *Flower Cuff Bracelet*; **Dana Gabriel**, Honorable Mention in Jewelry for *Metropolis*; **Dayzia Gadson**, Gold Key in Jewelry for *Netted Flowers*; **Gracie Gerhart**, Silver Key in Jewelry for *Antique Flowers*; **Taylor Henning**, Honorable Mention in Design for *Yamaha Logo*; **Sarah Jacobs**, Honorable Mention in Jewelry for *Golden Tiki*; **Grant Johnson**, Honorable Mention in Design for *FIFA World Cup Logo*; Honorable Mention in Painting for *Bald*; Honorable Mention in Painting for *Flavor*; **Cecilia Li**, Silver Key in Digital Art for *Ice*; Silver Key in Digital Art for *DJ Squid*; Gold Key and Cleveland Institute of Art Award in Film & Animation for *Someday*; Gold Key and Prizm Art Supply Award in Drawing for *Quiet Nest*; Gold Key and Prizm Art Supply Award in Drawing for *Some Sense of Security*; Gold Key in Drawing for *Fish From Observation*; Silver Key in Drawing for *Garden of Eden*; Gold Key in Art Portfolio; **Conor Matthews**, Gold Key in Photography for *Olive Eyes*; **Shane McKeon**, Gold Key in

Digital Art for *PopCan*; **Shala Miller**, Honorable Mention in Photography for *Disconnected*; **Ellie Montenegro**, Silver Key in Photography for *On the River*; Silver Key in Photography for *Clothespins*; **Jack Reese**, Silver Key in Comic Art for *Average Joe #0*; and **Yixuan Wang**, Silver Key in Drawing for *Duck Pond (With No Ducks)*.

The students' teachers are **Karen DeMauro, Kathleen Fleming, Keaf Holliday, Joel Rathbone, Susan Weiner**, and **Dan Whitely**. A panel of local professional artists and art educators juried the exhibit and selected the awarded pieces. Artwork receiving Portfolio Awards and Gold Key Awards will continue to the national competition held in the spring in New York City. The Scholastic Art Exhibition will remain on display in the Reinberger Galleries of The Cleveland Institute of Art until February 4.

- Senior **Spencer Seballos** has been selected to receive the 2012 Gold Medallion Hispanic Heritage Youth Award for Science in the Washington DC region. Created in 1998, the Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards program identifies, inspires, prepares, and positions Latino leaders in the classroom, community, and workforce in meeting America's priorities going forward. Spencer is entitled to an educational grant of \$1,000 and is eligible for a national award.

The Awards are divided into twelve different regions across the country: **Dallas, Houston, Denver, Los Angeles, San Jose/Bay Area, Phoenix, Chicago, Miami, New York/Philadelphia/New Jersey, and Greater Washington, DC**. Three recipients are selected for each category (Gold, Silver, and Bronze medallion) in each of the twelve regions. The categories for 2012 include Business, Community Service, Education, Engineering and Mathematics, Healthcare, and Science.

- Woodbury sixth grader **Andrew Mohar** has won his second Woodbury Geography Bee by responding "Australia" to the question, "Most of Wilkes Land, a vast coastal region in Antarctica, is claimed by which country that once served as a British penal colony?"

Sponsored by the National Geographic Society, the competition is designed to encourage teachers to include geography in their classrooms, spark interest in the subject, and increase public awareness about geography. Woodbury faculty member **Joseph Romano** coordinates the school's competition.

- Six Shaker Heights High School students, including **Kamela Abdul Razzaaq, Mario Belfiglio, Zoe Davidson, Rachel Krause, Alexis Moten**, and **Jonah Weinstein** competed in the fourth annual Shakespeare Competition held at the school on January 6. Zoe Davidson's first place performance of a monologue by Rosalind from *As You Like It* advances her to the Regional Shakespeare Competition, which will take place February 25 at Playhouse Square. Jonah Weinstein and Kamela Abdul Razzaaq were named first and second runners up respectively.

Sponsored by The English Speaking Union (ESU), the competition is designed to help high school students develop their communications skills and appreciation of language and literature through the study, interpretation, and performance of Shakespeare's monologues and sonnets. Students participate in three qualifying stages at the school, regional, and national levels. Winners of the regional competition will go on to compete in New York City in April. The national champion will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to study acting in England.

- The year-long Shaker Heights Centennial celebration kicks off on January 21 with a City-sponsored event, "It's a Shaker Thing," at 5 p.m. in the High School's Large Auditorium. Written and directed by Jon Leiken (SHHS '90) and Friends, the program will include appearances by Shaker students, celebrities, puppets, historic figures, public officials, and other surprise guests as well as a screening of the "*Shaker Sings Simple Gifts*" video. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students and children. For more information, visit the City's website, www.shakeronline.com.

The schools' first major Centennial event will be a concert at 7:30 p.m. on February 15 by the Shaker High Wind Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, and A Cappella Choir. The groups will perform music representing each decade from 1920 to the present, as well as the world premiere of a new musical

piece by native Clevelander and composer David Conte, with the poem “I Dream a World” by Langston Hughes as the text. The piece was specially commissioned for the event, with support from the Madeline and Dennis Block Fund of the Shaker Schools Foundation. The concert is free and open to the public. Check www.shaker.org for information. Centennial events are planned throughout the year in the schools and community.

The Board heard the following:

- Second reading of revisions to Policy EGAC (Use of District-Owned Telephone Services) and on the deletion of Policy JEDA (Tuition Rates for the 2008-2009 School Year).

The Board approved the following:

- Personnel items including curriculum writing and instructional planning, special assignments, tuition reimbursement, appointments, temporary employees and substitutes, supplemental contracts, leaves of absence, and resignations, including the retirement of **George Elder** (Custodian/Boulevard) effective December 30, 2011, after 23 years, 2 months of service.
- A change order with All Lines Technology for the wireless project.
- Payment in lieu of bus transportation for students who reside in the district and attend certain nonpublic schools.
- Revised Policies DJH (Use of District Credit/Purchasing/Stored Value Cards), DLC (Travel Reimbursements), EEBA (Use of District-Owned Motor Vehicles), and GCBD (Leave of Absence).
- Financial statements and interim investments for December 2011.
- Transfers between funds to support the athletic departments at the High School and Middle School.
- Supplemental appropriations.
- Adoption of the 2012-2013 Tax Budget.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will take place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2012, at Boulevard Elementary School.