

Superintendent requests an early evaluation

By KIMBERLY DAVIS
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The Oberlin School Board talked last Monday about setting up a meeting at the end of the month to plan a performance evaluation for the new superintendent.

Dr. Pat Cullen said it's important for him to know what the board wants him to work on. Hopefully in the near future, he said, the board can take some time to discuss that.

He suggested setting up a special meet-

ing or work session and maybe talking with Charlie Mansfield with McPherson and Jacobson, the consulting firm which helped the board in the selection process, to see if he can help out, since that was part of the contract agreement between the district and the recruiting company.

The board suggested Dr. Cullen talk with Mr. Mansfield to see what will work.

Dr. Cullen said he wanted to congratulate Principal Duane Dorshorst for his appoint-

ment to the Kansas Education Leadership Commission. That recognition helps give Oberlin and the district a good name.

After walking through the high school, said Dr. Cullen, he noticed some damage at the entrance to the high school gym near the shop room. He said it looked like the roof leaked, causing some damage to the gym floor, which is now warped.

Dr. Cullen said he didn't think the damage would be covered under the district's

insurance. The damage isn't on the court, he added, just in the doorway, but it might be something they want to check into fixing.

He said he would need to talk with a contractor, but he said it's possible the whole floor would need to be replaced to fix the spot.

In other business, the board:

- Gave Dr. Cullen the OK to move forward on putting in railings on the stairs in the junior high gym.

- Heard that the annual Back-to-School picnic is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15, in City Park.
- Held closed sessions for 10, 5, and 5 minutes to discuss negotiations. No action was taken.
- Held a 10-minute closed session for personnel. No action was taken.
- Accepted a gift of \$100 from the Bargain Box Plus to buy a new art-project dryer rack for the preschool.

School board prepares itself for school year

The Oberlin School Board held its organizational meeting for the new school year last Monday, electing a board president and vice president and making appointments and designations for the year.

The board re-elected Dewayne Jackson as president for a third year and elected Monte Moore as vice-president.

The board agreed to have its regular meetings at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the district office. If there is a conflict, the board will have the meeting the day following the regular one. If a second meeting is needed, it will be the fourth Monday of the month.

The board agreed that Mr. Moore will serve as the representative on the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center board, with Dan Nedland as the alternate. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Moore were named to the bid committee.

School Roundup

At a meeting last Monday, the Oberlin School Board:

- Agreed to meet at the end of the month to talk about a performance evaluation for the new superintendent. Story above.
- Elected a board president and vice president, along with adopting all of the beginning-of-the-year items. Story at left.
- Approved changes to the student and the faculty handbooks at the grade school. Story to come.
- Met with members of the alumni association to discuss getting the high school on the state historical registry. Story on Page 1A.

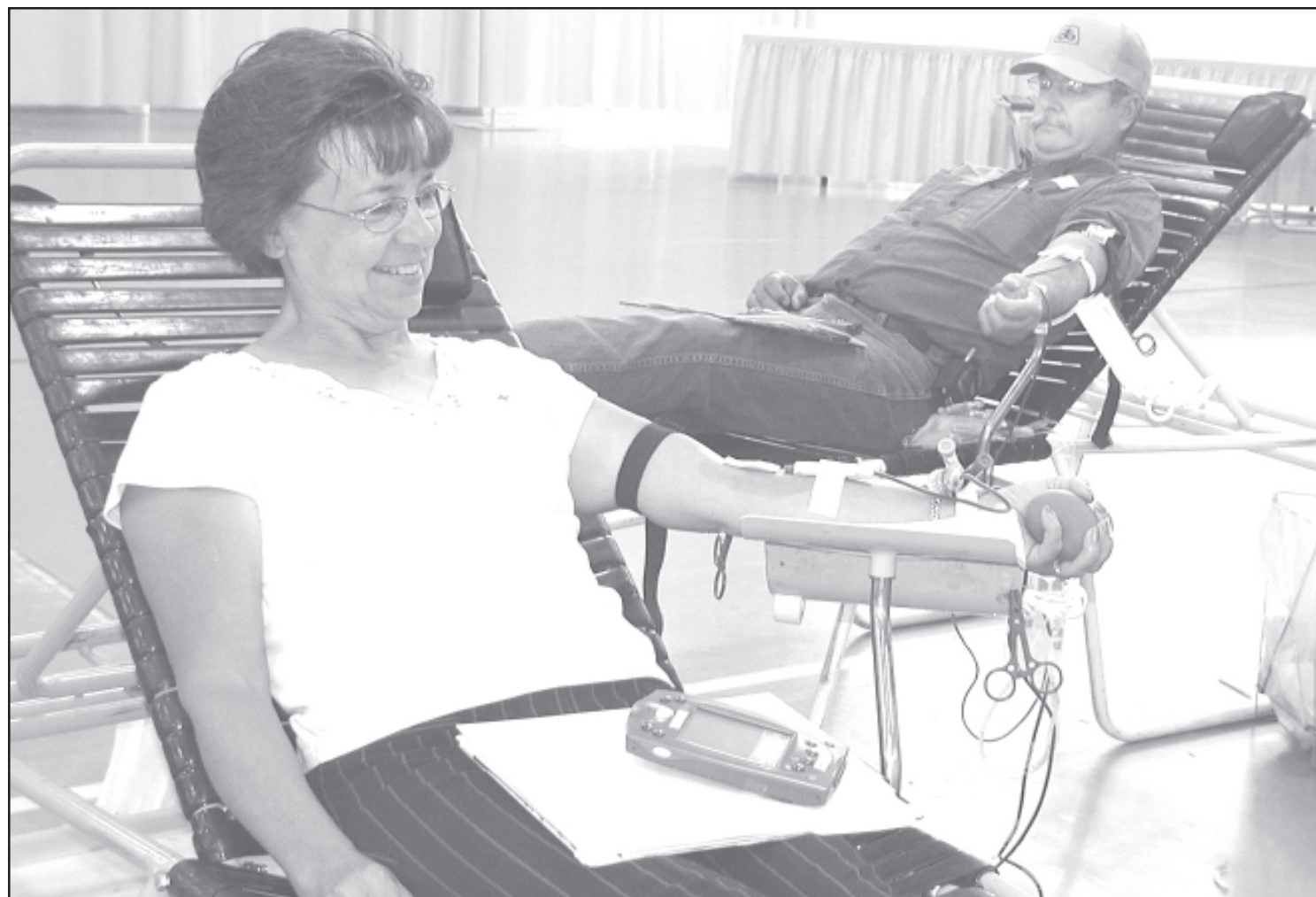
Members Barb Olson and Dan Grafel were appointed to the policy review committee, while Mr. Nedland agreed to be the governmental relations network contact.

In other business, the board:

- Rescinded all the actions of the board prior to July 1 and approved revised policies for the new school year.
- Signed a waiver from Generally Accepted Accounting Principles required by state budget rules.
- Put Principal Charlie Haag in charge of high school gate receipts and activity funds.
- Agreed that checks can be handwritten for bills outside the regular cycle.
- Tabled adoption of a new science curriculum until the August meeting.
- Re-appointed Vickie Lippelmann as the clerk of the board, Carla Depperschmidt as deputy clerk and Pam Simonsson as treasurer and using the Kansas Association of School Boards lawyers as the board attorneys.
- Approved using the same agenda form as they have been using.
- Agreed to use First National Bank as the district's depository and for activity accounts.
- Agreed that the board clerk and superintendent can invest idle funds per board policy.
- Agreed to not allow the pledging of district real estate for security.
- Selected Mrs. Lippelmann to serve as the representative for Kan-

sas Public Employees Retirement System.

- Selected Superintendent Dr. Pat Cullen as the food service program representative.
- Approved the district taking part in federal programs.
- Appointed Dr. Cullen as the freedom of information officer.
- Approved *The Oberlin Herald* as the official newspaper.
- Recommended the use of the current textbooks for the new year.
- Named Dr. Cullen as hearing officer for free and reduced-price meals and as the coordinator for federal "title" programs, with counselors Sheila Jansonius and Debbie Arp as Section 504 coordinators.
- Adopted a 1,116-hour calendar. This is similar to the old 186-day calendar.
- Designated Mr. Haag and Principal Duane Dorshorst as truancy officers.
- Established the mileage reimbursement rate at .47 cents per mile.
- Approved 10 applications for out-of-district attendance and transportation, meaning that other districts can come into the district to pick up the students. The applications came from Cindy Shirley, Sheila Ritter, Deanna Sumner, Rebecca Hartsough, Tammy Shaw, Kenneth McVay, Brent Phillips, Stephanie Ritter, Sherri Jacobs and Buddy Arthur.
- Gave permission for 2001-2002 financial records at Decatur Community High School to be destroyed.



Donors keep pumping to help fuel blood drive

DOING HER PINT, Court Clerk Janet Meitl (above) squeezed a red heart and allowed her blood to be gathered during a Red Cross drive last Wednesday. Behind her, Jim Wasson was donating also. After giving, donors like Andrea Burmaster (right) were offered drinks and lunch by Janice Kruse.

— Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes



County will maintain new crossing signs

Decatur County commissioners signed a contract to maintain railroad crossing signs on county roads after the Kansas Department of Transportation upgrades and replaces them.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman said crossings on the Kyle Railroad through Jennings and Dresden had already been done. Two sections of the Nebraska-Kansas Colorado RailNet line are to be done later.

Mr. Stallman said the state will pay 80 percent of the costs and the railroads 20 percent. The railroads will have to maintain the crossbuck signs, while the county is responsible for the yellow advance warning signs. He wasn't sure how many crossings are involved.

The commissioners agreed to

ratify several purchases made by Mr. Stallman. He said he purchased rollers for the paddle wheels for one of the scrapers at \$543, road groomer blades and a cable for the big crane, and several types of oil from Allied Oil out of Omaha. He said he worked with Allied to put in new oil storage tanks, so the county had to fill them, and that costs more than \$4,000.

The commissioners also approved the purchase of 300 seven-foot blades for the motor graders that Mr. Stallman said he thought would come to around \$8,000.

Mr. Stallman said Red Willow County plans a hearing on a border agreement with Decatur County at 9 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 13, on the third floor of the courthouse.

The commissioners set their own

hearing for 9 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14, at the courthouse in Oberlin. The agreement is to govern maintenance on roads that border the counties.

Mr. Stallman said most of the roads along the border get minimum maintenance, but the new agreement includes a couple of changes. He is preparing information on those for the hearing.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Discussed flooding in Coffeyville, which inundated an oil refinery, and decided that Mr. Stallman

should buy fuel at his discretion at the best possible price. Prices were expected to rise after the shutdown of the Coffeyville refinery.

- Ratified the purchase of a computer for the main part of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation program in the dispatch office for \$760 plus installation at \$94 by FA Consulting out of Oberlin.
- Approved a resolution making it illegal to break into the city pound, which is at the High Plains Veterinary Service, since it is outside the city limits.

One shopper will win \$1,000 to spend in town

In less than four weeks, one lucky Oberlin shopper will have the chance to win and spend \$1,000 during Oberlin merchants' annual \$1,000 Shopping Spree.

Anyone 18 or older can enter the spree, organized by *The Oberlin Herald*, without making a purchase. Just fill out the small entry form available at participating businesses and drop it in the box provided.

The winner will be drawn at the Chamber of Commerce Back-to-School Picnic at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15, in City Park. The last time to enter is 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14.

The winner must be present to win. Names will be drawn until a

winner is found.

The one lucky person wins \$1,000 in scrip money and has from Thursday, Aug. 16, until Friday, Aug. 24, to spend it. The shopper agrees to notify *The Herald* so a photographer can go with them while making purchases.

Sponsors for this year's Shopping Spree include Prairie Petals, the LandMark Inn, Flowers by Lee, Stanley Hardware, R&M Service Center, Raye's Grocery, Ward Drug Store, Culligan Water Conditioning Co., Addleman Drug Store, Dale's Fish 'N' Fun, Countryside Veterinary Clinic and *The Herald*.

All of the prize money must be spent only at sponsoring businesses.

Principal named to leadership group

Principal Duane Dorshorst has been appointed to the Kansas Educational Leadership Commission by Dr. Alexa Posny, commissioner of education, effective Wednesday, July 25, with his first meeting the next day.

"The quality of educational leadership in Kansas is and will be facing many challenges as we advance through the 21st Century," wrote Dr. Posny. "Your work on the commission will help advance and create a more cohesive leadership system for our state."

Mr. Dorshorst said he received

a call in June to see if he would accept the job. He said the group was set up to study school leadership. Only five of the 19 members are involved in education.

The commission will meet once a month through December, said Mr. Dorshorst.

The commission, he said, will look at the way school leadership is going in Kansas and what direction it needs to take.

Mr. Dorshorst said he is one of two members from this part of the state. Diana Wieland, assistant superintendent in Colby, is the other.

HOUSES IN ALL PRICE RANGES!

804 E. Ash. Beautiful, 2 bedroom brick ranch home built in 1983. Features include full basement, 2 baths, main-floor laundry, oak kitchen opening onto patio, double car garage, privacy fence in backyard and mature landscaping.

411 N. Wilson. Remodeled in 1995, this cozy home has 3 bedrooms, kitchen with eating bar, very nice bath, laundry facilities on both levels and single car garage. The large backyard is ideal for gardening.

Johnson Realty, Inc.

122 South Penn, Oberlin, KS 67749

Robert Johnson, Broker • Lynn A. Johnson, Associate Broker/Auctioneer 785-475-2785

Jacqueline Votapka, Salesperson • Joe D. Green, Salesperson/Auctioneer • Michael Wilson, Salesperson

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LOST OVER WEEKEND:
Female Blonde Poodle
with blue collar and green dog tag
from Cottonwood Animal Clinic
If found call
High Plains Veterinary Service
(785) 475-2788 or
Curtis Meixner, (620) 442-1800
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