**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT B**

**August 26, 2024**

**OLDHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CONCERN**

Consider an update to the report on District Awards.

**DISCUSSION**

Our District’s strategic plan calls for all our pillar groups (students, staff, families, and community) to feel valued within the school community. During the 2023/24 school year, the Engagement Workgroup worked to come up with two new district awards to recognize individuals or groups who ignite passion or help others experience excellence within the Oldham County School District. Below are the names, criteria, and recipient groups for each of these awards.

**Ignite Passion Award**

* Given monthly at the regular scheduled OCBE meeting, 2-3 schools per month
* Each school is assigned a month and responsible for picking an employee, student, or community member for the award. Schedule HERE
* Recipient group: an individual staff member, student, community member, PTA/PTO person or group
* If a group is nominated, only one physical award will be presented

The "Ignite Passion" Award recognizes individuals or groups that have demonstrated exceptional commitment and efforts in fostering passion and enthusiasm within Oldham County Schools. Recipients of the "Ignite Passion" Award are not merely achievers; they are catalysts for positive change, transforming the atmosphere and culture within their school or within the school district. These individuals or groups possess a unique ability to ignite the flames of inspiration within students, staff, families, or the community, encouraging others to pursue excellence and embrace their own passions.

The recipient will excel at one or more of the following:

Staff member:

* Implementing creative and innovative teaching methods that inspire and engage students.
* Incorporating real-world applications and hands-on learning experiences into the curriculum.
* Acts as a role model for enthusiasm, dedication, and a passion for education.
* Developing strategies to motivate students and cultivate a love for learning.
* Demonstrating a positive impact on students' academic performance and overall enthusiasm for education.
* Mentoring colleagues or students to help them discover and cultivate their own passions in education.
* Organizing or participating in extracurricular activities that ignite students' interests and passions.
* Encouraging student involvement in clubs, competitions, or projects that go beyond the standard curriculum.
* Actively pursuing professional development to stay current with educational trends and best practices.

Community Member:

* Engages actively with the community to bridge the gap between businesses and schools, fostering a sense of shared responsibility for education.
* Demonstrates leadership qualities that inspire others to become involved in supporting education and student success.
* Actively contributes resources, time, or expertise to initiatives that directly benefit student achievement, growth, and well-being.
* Establishes or participates in partnerships that bring innovative educational opportunities to students, such as mentorship programs, workshops, or internships.
* Student:
* Creating a positive and inclusive learning environment that fosters a sense of belonging and enthusiasm.
* Enhances the overall school culture by promoting a sense of pride, motivation, and community involvement among students, staff, and parents.

**Experience Excellence Award**

* + One award, given monthly as a surprise at the recipient’s workplace
  + Any member of the school leadership team or department director may nominate someone for this award through a Google Form: https://forms.gle/ZTnBrE8cYi6R8XEJ9
  + Recipient group: any full or part-time OCS employee
  + Once someone is nominated, they will remain in consideration for the remainder of the school year

The "Experience Excellence Award" recognizes individual staff members within a school community who go above and beyond to ensure that students, parents, staff, and the community have an outstanding experience with Oldham County Schools. Recipients of the "Experience Excellence" Award are not just employees; they are champions of exceptional service and dedication. These individuals demonstrate an outstanding ability to exceed expectations, fostering an environment where students, parents, colleagues, and community members feel valued, supported, and engaged.

The recipient will excel at one or more of the following:

* + Effective Communication:
  + Demonstrating clear, open, and transparent communication with students, parents, staff, and the community.
  + Community Involvement:
  + Actively engaging with the local community and fostering positive relationships.
  + Collaborating with community organizations, businesses, and leaders to enhance educational opportunities.
  + Parent and Family Engagement:
  + Implementing strategies to involve parents and families in their child's education.
  + Creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for parents to participate in school activities.
  + Student-Centered Approach:
  + Prioritizing the needs and interests of students in decision-making processes.
  + Implementing initiatives that enhance the overall student experience within the school district.
  + Staff Development and Well-being:
  + Supporting professional development opportunities for staff to improve their skills and knowledge.
  + Promoting a positive and healthy work environment for staff members.
  + Community Events and Initiatives:
  + Organizing and participating in community events that promote a sense of belonging and pride in the school district.
  + Initiating projects or programs that benefit both the school community and the broader community.
  + Innovative Partnerships:
  + Establishing innovative partnerships with external organizations to enhance educational opportunities.
  + Leveraging resources and expertise from the community for the benefit of students and the school district.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Take the report under advisement