

Okemos Public Montessori Facilities Committee
June 3, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Notes

OPM Facilities Committee		
Kelly Sundeen OPM Principal	Brian Lieber OPS Director of Operations	John Hood OPS Superintendent
Erin Gould OPM Lower Elementary Teacher	Kelly Bertilrud OPM Upper Elementary Teacher	Jillian Winn OPM PTO Representative
Susan Soper Begindergarten Parapro	Jennifer Hall-Berman OPM Parapro	Sue Hallman OEF Chair, former OPM Principal
Mark Polsdofer Ingham County Commissioner	Natalie Warren OPM / OPS Alumni	Katie Cavanaugh OPS School Board Member
Lori Mazzullo OEA President	Shannon Beczkiewicz OPS Communications & Public Relations Specialist	Jennifer Schlicher Begindergarten Teacher

(Those in attendance for this meeting are in bold.)

OPM Environmental Resources Website: <https://www.opsenvironmental.net> (Where you can see test data and other information.)

Update from Director of Operations Brian Lieber:

1. Update on Filter First Law

- Have state guidance now, still unpacking.
- OPS schools are in good shape for meeting guidelines (every school needs additional fountains, but there are enough to start).
- Fountains are about \$1500, but they can cost 4-5x more depending on installation costs required.
- Looking for financial support for implementation.
 - There will be grant money available to fund work required to become compliant with the Filter First Law, however, the grant applications have not opened up yet.

- Asked if we could do the work this summer and get reimbursed from the grant and they said no. Must apply for grant first and then do work after approved.
 - Waiting to spend additional monies after hearing from state grant timeline. Submitted a \$60,000 reimbursement request to the Michigan Legislature for money already spent from previous work. Still waiting to hear back.
- Edgewood timeline will begin this fall.
- Filtered water for enrichment, PPK will probably be implemented district wide. Not sure about higher grades, will depend on budget. Current guidelines say the faucets need to be labeled “not for drinking” if not filtered.
- Testing and communication will be clearer moving forward and other districts will be doing what our district has implemented.
- Flushing will stop at end of year, no flushing in June and July; will restart at beginning of August (still planning for what flushing may look like after school begins; waiting for ERG and health department for guidance).
- OPM is different than the other schools with lead water issues because other schools had issues at the faucet level, while OPM has issues with the facility system supplying the water, so additional flushing has been required.
- The flushing plan for next school year will be re-evaluated.

2. Summer Cleaning

- Still developing schedule due to media/tech upgrades and building projects.
- Majority of work this summer at OPM is outside:
 - Third party group to ask for their schedule.
 - Tree roots in front of building - water drainage and sewer lines.
 - Cafeteria / Enrichment Rooms / Bottom Floor Area - foundation work for water intrusion, will be excavated over summer.
 - Maybe add? Blacktop resurfacing for PTO project
 - Fencing - Openings repaired, reinstalled gates, install new fence along south side of building with gate, additional signage. (No fencing added to the back of the building).
 - Cameras - additional camera coverage (3x as many outside), including a camera in the fenced in courtyard at the back of the building.
 - Lighting - some of the old lighting on the building will be replaced/updated, but no new lighting (playgrounds close at dusk, so no additional plans for lighting).
 - Goal is for every space deep cleaned (maybe OPM has lesser needs because of deep clean in winter?)
- Staff will need to clear off surfaces for operations (put things in cupboards?); will staff get a schedule? (trying, but worry about changes to timelines)
- Staff will get new key cards to get access over the summer (!) because they are switching to a new access system.
- There will be a portion of time with no internet access in the building over the summer.

- Trial run year to figure out a process that is not intrusive.
- Additional support from food service enlisted and extra summer workers hired to support this work

Lessons Learned:

- Takeaways for the District
 - Parents still have questions and wonder about follow-up and follow-through - provide summaries and plans moving forward, give an update (active communications - newsletters etc. vs. passive communication - website updates)
 - Bring people along with you versus 'doing to' them
 - When teachers tell something, hear and acknowledge and share responses done
 - Understanding where district expertise stops and experts need to be utilized/started
 - Continued monitoring even after issue is 'addressed'
- Takeaways for the Committee members

Preview Montessori Study Committee

- Convene next school year
 - Can reach out to Brian Lieber to request to reconvene this facility committee as needed.
- Superintendent expectations
 - John noted that the Montessori "Study Committee" is on track for beginning next fall 2024.
 - Depending on the report from the Montessori Study Committee and then Board of Education's recommendations for actions, it could be possible to move up the timeline for a new facility for OPM, but if that were to happen, it would likely be bundled with other district needs, such as increasing accessibility, busing, increasing tech (more than just Montessori), in order to make it appealing to a more general audience.

Thank You and Next Steps

- Thank you for serving on the OPM Facilities Committee
- Future facilities concerns: reach out to Brian Lieber