



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: Board of Education

CC: Dr. Ushma Shah, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Ebony Lofton, Chief Learning Innovation Officer

DATE: October 10, 2023

RE: Memoranda of Agreement: Wrestling and Robotics

Wrestling

On November 16, 2021 a [proposal](#) for the establishment of a cooperative middle school wrestling team was presented to the Board of Education. On January 25, 2022, a [detailed funding plan](#) was shared with the board. Said funding proposal was approved during the February 8, 2022 Board meeting for the 2022-2023 school year. In May of 2023, the Oak Park Teachers' Association (OPTA) presented a Memorandum of Agreement that aligns the wrestling team provisions with the collective bargaining agreement. This alignment provides for two coaching stipends for the position of Middle School Wrestling Coach - one for Brooks Middle School and one for Julian Middle School - for two teams per *Article XVI, H Supplemental Pay, 1. Sports* of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Board of Education and the Oak Park Teachers' Association. The administration has reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement and collaborated with OPTA on the final version of the document.

The administration is requesting that the Board of Education approve this Memorandum of Agreement under the Consent Agenda at its October 10th board meeting.

Robotics

The robotics program has a robust history and District 97 has a vested interest in its support of the Robotics program. In May of 2023, district administration and the Oak Park Teachers' Association (OPTA) agreed on the establishment of the position of Middle School Robotics Coordinator. This position will be added to *Article XVI, H Supplemental Pay, 1. Sports* of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Board of Education and the Oak Park Teachers' Association. OPTA drafted the Memorandum of Agreement based on a collaborative discussion. District administration has reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement and has provided the final version of the document.

The administration is requesting that the Board of Education approve this Memorandum of Agreement at its October 10th board meeting.