

# THE Hardwick Gazette

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## A Visitor from Outer Space

Comet NEOWISE seen from Cabot on Friday night. The comet can be observed in northwest skies after sunset for a few more days.

photo by Paul Wade

## OSUED Board Hears School Reopening Update

by Emmett Avery

**HARDWICK** – The board of the Orleans Southwest Union Elementary District (OSUED) met July 15 for a long and chaotic combined in-person/remote meeting.

Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union (OSSU) Superintendent Adam Rosenberg told the board he recently received additional guidance from the state on schools reopening. He said the new guidelines give the district flexibility to teach in a “hybrid model, where we have a combination of in-person, in-school instruction and at-home remote learning.”

Rosenberg said the administration is still working out specifics, but they are “hoping to be able to give some options and choice to families.” He said that according to state guidelines, adults and students will be required to wear masks during the school day. In response to a question from a board member about how schools will deal with truancy in the new pandemic-influenced world, Rosenberg said new state guidelines allow schools to count remote learning as attendance and that truancy “looks very different now.” The district, he said, “has certainly adapted to the situation.”

The board spent a short time working up a list of overarching goals for the next year. They included supporting the students and administration through the COVID-19 outbreak; supporting social and emotional learning growth, especially with COVID-19; and making sure all students of color feel heard, represented, and safe.

Katharine Ingram, chair of the OSUED board, said the board needed to be more specific about how it would pursue the last goal.

This discussion will continue at next month’s meeting.

The board discussed its role within the school system; what it is tasked with vs. the administration’s and staff’s responsibilities, and how board members should interact. The board created a list of “norms” for how board members should behave and how meetings should be conducted, specifically dealing with issues that come up during remote meetings.

See **REOPENING, 2**

## DRB Reconsiders Denial of Outside Sound Amplification at HCA

by June Pichel Cook

**GREENSBORO** – The Development Review Board (DRB) will reconsider its June 18 decision on the Highland Center for the Arts’ (HCA) request to use amplified sound outside the building on Hardwick Street.

A virtual hearing to reconsider its decision, which denied allowing outside sound amplification, is scheduled for Monday, August 10, at 7 p.m.

Attorney Robert Halpert, representing HCA, e-mailed the Request for Reconsideration on July 8, to reopen the hearing to

amend Condition 5 of the HCA’s Conditional Use Permit. Condition 5 of the original Conditional Use Permit granted in 2014 prohibits outside sound amplification at the facility. His letter included data charts on outside sound testing which was conducted.

Halpert sought the reconsideration based on the vague generality of the DRB’s “Findings of Fact,” in its negative decision. The DRB referenced zoning by-laws, citing “the character of the area” as a concern generally and “...the noise or air pollution in the area” as a concern specifically. No factual

See **RECONSIDER, 2**



photo by Vanessa Fournier

A thank you banner was presented to the Greensboro Nursing Home (GNH) staff from the GNH board to salute their efforts at maintaining the facility’s five star rating through the COVID-19 pandemic. Pictured (front row, left): Elizabeth Daniels, Director of Nursing; Brittany Marsh, LNA; Sandy Thompson, LNA. Back row (left to right) Tonya Langdell, Assistant Director of Housekeeping; Brian Labelle, Administrator; Gina Jenkins, President of the Board; Travis Langmaid, Dietary Manager; Joni LaRow, Director of Rehab Activities.