



News

Oak Hill receives \$50,000 donation

Central Indiana Ethanol feels giving money is the 'right thing to do'

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The Oak Hill United School Corp. received a \$50,000 donation from Central Indiana Ethanol at the Tuesday night meeting.

This is the second time in two years that the company has donated a large portion of money. They previously donated \$110,000.

"We do it because we think it's the right thing to do," Gary Drook, chief executive officer of the Marion ethanol company, said. "We want to give back to the community."

Strong school systems attract more people and encourage CIE employees to live in the area, he said.

Drook said when they presented the board with the donation, the only thing he told them they could not do with it was to fill holes in their budget.

"We wanted them to use for things to go above and beyond," he said.

Superintendent Joel Martin said the last donation was used to resurface the track and purchase a fine arts display and upgrade the phone system.

"We're just very excited about their generosity," he said.

Dana Biggs, board president, said the board will likely follow what they did in the past in using the money for something predominant, where the community can see it. He said as of now, though, only there are only preliminary ideas on how to use the money, and more will likely surface in the next executive session.

Oak Hill also had budget hearings Tuesday. Martin said no one asked questions or expressed any concerns.

Following the budget hearings, the board approved the four action items and Martin gave an update on enrollment. He said the district has 21 more students than last year. He said the number hasn't fluctuated a lot since classes started Aug. 10.

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