

ORLEANS CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION

**Lake Region Union Elementary-Middle School District
Board of School Directors Meeting**

Location: Google Meet

Date: July 20, 2020 Time: 6:00pm

meet.google.com/puh-qkku-npr

Join by phone

(US) +1 424-372-7418 PIN: 430 870 884#

OCSU Vision: All of our students will have choices for success throughout their lives.

OCSU Mission: It is the mission of the Orleans Central Supervisory Union to provide an environment that celebrates diversity and creativity, promotes inclusion and integrity, and partners with parents and community members to give students access to a 21st century education.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Bev Davis, Superintendent; Amy Leroux; Josh Webber; Kim Hastings; Sherrie Gentry, Orleans principal; Neil Urie; Megan Valley; Larry Fliegelman, Brownington principal; Kelly Locke, Director of Special Services; Joe Houston, Facilities Coordinator; Dan Demaine, Jenna Lawrence, Barton principal; Tabitha Armstrong; Linda Michniewicz; Angelique Thomas; Debbie Brunelle; Matt Kittredge

- 1) Call to Order 6:05
- 2) Vermont Open Meeting Law – Reminder that this meeting is being recorded
- 3) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda. Several additions
- 4) Focus on Learning: Social Justice Library Kyle Chadburn and Bridgette Carbonetti from Orleans Elementary discussed the OCSU social justice library. Kyle shared that literature is a good way to expose students to diverse identities and the library is a way to expose students to different topics and authors. Kyle got a \$750 grant to start the library and was able to purchase 100 books (titles available at bit.ly/OCSUslj). On the website there is a list of books, their suggested age range and the topics that are covered. The library is housed at Orleans and books are available by contacting Ms. Carbonetti by email and are available both to OCSU students and staff but also to community members. The library also includes an online resource list that helps share websites and articles on specific topics and there are longer term plans to develop curriculum around the library. There has been some good feedback on the library from parents already. The library has been the subject of professional development and in particular of middle school humanities teachers. There was some discussion on how to require more use of the library in the curriculum. The grant funds have been exhausted and they are exploring ways to continuing building on the work they have done.
- 5) Privilege of the Floor Martha Willey encourages board to vote on the 8th grade trip plans. Patrick Butterfield also discussed 8th grade trip and wants to make sure students' voices are heard.
- 6) Consent Agenda (Action) Linda moved. Angelique 2nd. All in favor.
 - a) Approve Minutes from June 22, 2020
 - b) Approve Bills
 - c) Accept Financial Reports
 - d) Motion to accept Melissa Hall's resignation
 - e) Motion to accept Travis Terrell's resignation

- f) Motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation to hire Peter Flaherty as a 1.0 FTE teacher beginning with the 2020-21 school year. Salary per negotiated agreement.

7) Business of the Board (Discussion and Possible Action)

a) 8th Grade Field Trip Funds

- i) Albany raised no money so this is not an issue.
 - ii) Barton has spent most of the money on gift cards (\$225 per student). There is \$335 remaining after accounting for carryover from the previous year. Jenna was only able to contact with less than half the families but they all seemed happy with how things went so far and are fine with spending the balance on a school improvement. Dan motions to replace a basketball hoop with the remaining funds. Linda 2nd. All in favor.
 - iii) Linda motions using Brownington's remaining funds to purchase a \$675 VISA gift card for each 8th grader. Angelique 2nd. The VISA cards will allow students to use the money at any store they need. The \$675 amount is nearly the entire amount the class raised and the balance will be given to the school's activity fund. All in favor.
 - iv) Glover students and parents prepared a resolution that proposed that a trust be formed with the students as beneficiaries that would convey \$2097 to each student upon their 18th birthday. Once the EMS board transfers the funds, the board has no responsibility for the funds or the administration of the trust. There was also discussion of the exclusion of one student from the trust since that student opted out of the fundraising and was not going on the trip. Dan motions to transfer the funds from the Glover 8th grade trip to the trust account. Angelique 2nd. 7 in favor, 1 no.
 - v) Irasburg has no funds left.
 - vi) Orleans had a meeting and half of the families attended and a few others were contacted afterwards. VISA gift cards also emerged as the solution that most families supported because of the flexibility they provide. Orleans school coordinates all fundraising and keeps careful records on what each student contributes through fundraising and students' families are expected to contribute any balance if they do not fundraise their entire amount. Therefore, the parents and students want students to get the exact amount that they fundraised. Linda motions that the Orleans funds be disbursed as VISA gift cards according to the records of what each student fundraised. Angelique 2nd. All in favor.
- b) Update on Irasburg Asphalt Plant. Joe applied for party status and has not heard yet if it is granted. Joe also had air quality testing done in the Irasburg School by KD associates and around the school and has not gotten results. The plant has also done testing that has not been released. There are anecdotally fewer complaints about the new asphalt plant reported by the environmental compliance officer. There was discussion about doing more frequent testing. Justin Veysey, an Irasburg parent, encouraged the board to continue to apply pressure to ensure safe conditions at the plant.
- c) Dan motions to set rate of pay for Dawn Desjardins, part-time food service at Glover at \$12.75/hr. Josh 2nd. This is in the range of other non-contract staff in the district. All in favor.
- d) Linda motions to hire Noah Racine as a long term sub at Brownington at a rate of \$205.82 per day. Josh 2nd. He will be teaching 5th-8th math until the teacher. All in favor.
- e) Linda motions to set the rate of pay as minimum wage for William Coburn, part-time summer custodian at Orleans. Tabitha 2nd. All in favor.
- f) The part time custodian at Orleans retired. He had worked 5 hours a day and was part of the bargaining unit. By changing it to 4 and making it year round would save a little money and provide help in the summer. Summer help currently needs to be hired. Matt motions to reduce the part time custodian at Orleans to 4 hours a day. Josh 2nd. All in favor.

- g) Linda motions to accept the superintendent's recommendation to hire Marjorie Goodstone as a 1.0 FTE Guidance Counselor starting with the 2020-2021 school year. Salary per negotiated agreement. Josh 2nd. She is expected to be at Glover. All in favor.
 - h) Busing
 - i) Kim Hastings Sick Days
- 8) Policies
- a) Policy D15: Electronic Communications Between Employees and Students
 - b) Policy F35: School Choice
- 9) Administrative Requests, Reports & Information (Discussion & Possible Action)
- a) Update on Fall Reopening Plans
 - b) Facilities Director Update. Projects are under way. Joe is spending lots of time on COVID planning and improving ventilation and ensuring social distancing.
- 10) Committee Reports
- a) OCSU Board
 - b) Negotiations
- 11) Executive Session (if needed, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. sec. 313)
- a) Post Executive Session Action (if needed)
- 12) Future Agenda Items
- a) Field Trips/Fundraisers
 - b) School Choice Guidelines

Adjournment Meeting interrupted at 7:30 for the OCSU meeting. The meeting resumed at 8:20pm but there was not a quorum so Amy Leroux adjourned the meeting at 8:25pm. The items that were not addressed will be on the agenda for a special meeting scheduled for July 27, 2020 at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Demaine