

ORLEANS CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION

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

Location: Albany Community School

January 13, 2020 – 6:00pm

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.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order 6:06
2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda One addition to Business of the Board.
3. Privilege of the Floor None
4. Principal Updates Steve provided an update on siding work that was done last fall. More work will be done in the spring.
5. Focus on Learning: Handle with Care. Steve Owens presented on how difficult behavioral situations are handled. Handle Care is a patented behavioral management system that comes from the mental health industry and is used by many agencies that interact with OCSU schools (ie. NEKLS). There is another system called CPI which was used previously and comes from the prison system. Physical restraint techniques used in Handle with Care apply to a very small amount of cases but is supported by all of the behavioral efforts with students. There is a trainer team composed of principals, special educators, and central office support that plan and deliver training to all schools (including pre-school). Verbal de-escalation is a key component of the technique but teaching physical restraint also gives confidence to use verbal de-escalation. Physical restraint is very rare. There was some discussion of how often trainings happen and the board feels strongly that regular trainings and refresher courses are offered to all staff.
6. Consent Agenda (Action) Debbie moved, Angelique 2nd. All in favor.
 - a. Approve Minutes from Dec. 16, 2019
 - b. Approve Bills
 - c. Accept Financial Reports
7. Business of the Board (Discussion and Possible Action)
 - a. Joe Houston, our new facilities manager, dropped by. He lives in Craftsbury and has a background in teaching and coaching in area schools as well as working in construction.
 - b. FY2020-2021 Budget. There have been some changes since last draft that brought overall spending planned for FY2021 to an increase of 3.27%. Including \$100K for capital reserve there is a 4.11% increase. Debbie motions to approve a budget of \$12,312,957 for FY 2021. Phil 2nd. All in favor.
 - c. Annual Meeting Warning. Debbie motions, Angelique 2nd. Bev passed around the warning and all attending members signed. There will be elections for some EMS and high school

members. Bev is planning on writing a letter to the editor in February to preview the annual meeting. All in favor.

- d. Principal Contracts. Debbie motions to offer Angelique Brown a three year contract and Paul Simmons and Jenna Lawrence each two year contracts. Phil 2nd. Contract terms will be discussed later. All in favor.
 - e. Debbie motions to approve request for three days of unpaid leave for April 15, 16, and 17 for Jennifer Schoen. Theresa 2nd. All in favor.
 - f. Debbie motions to approve the superintendent's recommendation to hire Sarah Melendy-Wentworth as a 1.0 FTE (pro-rated) elementary teacher for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Theresa 2nd. This is an interventionist position in Irasburg and will be on an emergency license so she will need to attain certification to continue into next year. Her position is funded from a combination of sources. All in favor
8. Administrative Requests, Reports & Information (Discussion & Possible Action)
 - a. Staffing Update. Brownington has been able to fill the two open positions for licensed teachers. Unfortunately, another teacher had an accident and will be out for a few months. Glover still has no guidance.
 9. Committee Reports
 - a. OCSU Board
 - b. Facilities
 - c. Negotiations The teachers presented their offer and the committee will discuss it.
 10. Executive Session (if needed, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. sec. 313) Entered at 7:40 pm to discuss principal contracts. Came out at 7:55 pm.
 - a. Post Executive Session Action (if needed)
 11. Future Agenda Items & Next Meeting (Discussion)
 - a. EMS Board – January 27, 2020 – 6:00pm – Irasburg School
 12. Adjournment 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Demaine