

ORLEANS CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION

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

Nov. 18, 2020 – 6:00pm

This is a special meeting to discuss the proposed budget for FY22

Information to join the meeting:

meet.google.com/mio-hkqe-ecn

Join by phone

(US) +1 539-302-0886 PIN: 891 670 702#

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: Amy Leroux, Angelique Thomas, Tabitha Armstrong, Josh Webber, Linda Michniewicz, Dan Demaine, Matt Kittredge, Phil Roberts, Debbie Brunelle

Admins: Bev Davis, Heather Wright, Angelique Brown, Kelly Locke, Steve Owens, Sherrie Gentry, Jenna Lawrence, Joe Houston, Larry Fliegelman, Mike Moriarty, Paul Simmons

1. Call to Order 6:06 pm
2. Privilege of the Floor None
3. FY22 Budget.
 - a. Budget includes a few increases as well as a 2.5% salary and 10% health insurance.
 - b. Increases include more custodian hours in Barton, more tech support for Brownington (balances with other schools), more money for new technology, transportation (1.5% increase), more money for substitutes to reflect current usage.
 - c. Overall assessments from OCSU are going down.
 - d. Other decreases are a general para and the after school program in Albany.
 - e. There are increases and decreases in maintenance.
 - f. Overall budget is 2.38% increase without the \$100K in capital reserve, with capital reserve increase is 3.17%.
 - g. Some discussion about how to keep after school programs. Albany is not offering after school this year and the EMS 21C grant to offer programs at more schools was denied last year.
 - h. Some discussion on technology and whether it can be funded through either CARES or titles. Both CARES and titles are maxed out in other areas. The increased funds for technology will put all schools on the same footing for tech support and also decrease the replacement schedule from 6 years to 5 years.

- i. Some discussion about capital budget. Joe had asked the board to consider raising the capital request \$100K to \$200K. Matt shared that with the increase request it would be helpful to have some detailed information on the condition of the capital plant in every school and replacement schedules to allow for long term capital planning. With COVID and other emergencies, Joe has not had time to do this yet. At this point, the board is hesitant to increase the request to \$200K.
- j. Also, discussion of the need for more teaching staff to cover leaves that happen every year. Currently, there is roughly \$130K in the substitute budget. Principals expressed that they are hesitant to support a full-time licensed sub that could cover multiple buildings as needed. They view other needs as more important. Board is still concerned about using long term subs to cover classes.
- k. Also, discussion of ESSER (federal covid funding). There may be the possibility of using some of these funds for next year. The funds are being used for cleaning supplies and some other uses but some could be used for the teachers in the remote academy this year if we choose. Board feels we should try to draw down as much as possible this year given the uncertainty in the future.
- l. Some discussion of pupil count. On the one hand, there are lots of people moving in, on the other hand the home school and remote populations are very large and it is hard to predict how those families will change for next year. This also makes staffing levels difficult to predict.
- m. Some discussion of principals' concerns. Paul shared his interest in more support for students especially interventionist and social emotional coach. Sherrie and Angelique shared their hope to have positions that were either not filled this year or transferred to the remote academy. Jenna shared her concern that some full-time specials in Barton (esp. music) may be shared with other schools leading to less opportunities for Barton students.
- n. There was a larger than expected carryover from last year. If the board wants, some of these funds could be shifted to capital reserve if the electorate approves it at the annual meeting. This would reduce the increase request.
- o. For the next meeting, the board wants to have a staffing list for each school that includes what is happening this year and what is planned for next. Board also wants accounting of how ESSER funds are being used and a plan for how titles funds will be used.

4. Matt motions to adjourn at 7:35 pm. Phil 2nd.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Demaine