

1                                   **Lake Region Union High School Board Meeting**  
2                                   **Lake Region Union High School - Orleans, Vermont**  
3                                   **Meeting Held on Google Meet**  
4                                   **Monday, April 26, 2021**  
5

6   **Board members in attendance:** Dave Blodgett, Michael Sanville, Jennifer Edlund, Gerry  
7   Cahill, Barbara Postman, Jason Racine, Jesse Coe, Linda Michniewicz, Rachel Maxwell, and  
8   Tammy Wiggett

9   **Administrators/Faculty in attendance:** Andre Messier- Principal

10 **Community Members in attendance:** Leanne Harple- *The Chronicle*, Darlene Young, Mariel  
11 Hess, Louisa Dotoli, and Karen Ceraso

12 **Call to Order:** David Blodgett, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:15. He welcomed  
13 the three new board members, Barbara Postman, Jesse Coe, and Rachel Maxell and called for  
14 introductions.

15 **Organization of the Board:**

16 **Board Chair:** Jason Racine nominated David Blodgett as board chair. It was seconded by  
17 Jennifer Edlund. There were no further nominations, and David Blodgett was elected by  
18 unanimous vote.

19 **Vice-chair:** Michael Sanville nominated Jennifer Edlund as board vice-chair. It was seconded by  
20 Jason Racine. There were no further nominations, and Jennifer Edlund was elected by  
21 unanimous vote.

22 **Clerk:** Jason Racine nominated Tammy Wiggett as board clerk. It was seconded by Michael  
23 Sanville. There were no further nominations, and Tammy Wiggett was elected by unanimous  
24 vote.

25 **Negotiations Committee:** It was board consensus that David Blodgett and Gerry Cahill should  
26 continue to serve on the Negotiations Committee.

27 **Truant Officers:** It was board consensus to appoint the Orleans County Sheriff's Department as  
28 Truant Officers.

29 **Location to Post Meeting Agenda:** It was board consensus to post meeting agendas on the SU  
30 website and in the town public libraries, in addition to the town clerk offices.

31 **Newspaper of Record:** It was board consensus to appoint *The Chronicle* as the board's  
32 newspaper of record.

33 **Code of Ethics:** Those present reviewed the Code of Ethics for school board members.

34 **Additions/ Deletions:** None

35 **Privilege of the floor:** None

36 **Approval of Consent Agenda Items:** Jason Racine moved to approve the following items: the  
37 minutes of the April 5, 2021 board meeting, written reports, updated FY '21 financial reports,  
38 and payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Michael Sanville. Jennifer Edlund moved  
39 that the minutes be amended to more accurately reflect her statement on lines 139-140 by

40 changing the words to “noting that she was judged by the color of her skin and called a name in  
41 response to sharing her opinion.” The motion to amend the minutes was seconded by Michael  
42 Sanville. After a brief discussion, Michael Sanville moved to table approving the April 5<sup>th</sup>  
43 minutes until the following meeting and to approve the other consent agenda items listed in the  
44 original motion. This was seconded by Jennifer Edlund and approved unanimously.

#### 45 **Old Business**

46 **Report from Lake Region Ad Hoc Equity Committee Meeting:** Linda Michniewicz, Chair of  
47 the LR Ad Hoc Equity Committee, reported that the committee met on April 14, 2021. Barbara  
48 Morrow and Brian Carroll, visitors from the Orleans County Restorative Justice Center, shared  
49 information regarding restorative justice practices and how they are being used as a part of the  
50 criminal justice process in Orleans County, and also how they are being used to transform school  
51 culture in other VT schools. Linda stated that the committee is still in the process of gathering  
52 information and will begin having discussions soon regarding procedural recommendations to  
53 bring back to the board. The date of the next committee meeting was to be determined.

#### 54 **New Business**

55 **Summer Geometry Stipend:** Jason Racine moved to approve a stipend in the amount of  
56 \$9,303.00 for Michelle Badertscher to teach Summer Geometry during the summer of 2021. It  
57 was seconded by Michael Sanville and approved unanimously.

58 **Summer Algebra Stipend:** Jason Racine moved to approve a stipend in the amount of  
59 \$7,297.50 for Blake Fletcher to teach Summer Algebra during the summer of 2021. It was  
60 seconded by Michael Sanville and approved unanimously.

61 **Summer Driver Education Stipend:** Jason Racine moved to approve that Chris Wentworth be  
62 paid to prepare and teach Summer Driver Education during the summer of 2021 at an hourly rate  
63 as calculated by dividing his daily per diem rate by 8 hours. It was seconded by Linda  
64 Michniewicz and approved unanimously.

65 **Co-Athletic Director Pay Increase:** Jason Racine moved to approve an increase of \$300 to each  
66 of the co-athletic directors’ stipends for 2021-2022. It was seconded by Michael Sanville and  
67 approved unanimously.

68 **Hiring a Science Teacher:** Jason Racine moved to approve the Personnel Committee’s  
69 recommendation to hire and issue a contract to Jared Myrenton as a science teacher for the 2021-  
70 2022 school year with a salary per the negotiated agreement. It was seconded by Jennifer Edlund  
71 and approved unanimously.

72 **Hiring a Science Intervention Teacher:** Jason Racine moved to approve the Personnel  
73 Committee’s recommendation to hire and issue a contract to Bill Gilson as a science  
74 interventionist for the 2021-2022 school year with salary per negotiated agreement and funded  
75 with federal ESSER funds. It was seconded by Jennifer Edlund and approved unanimously.

76 **Hiring a Math Intervention Teacher:** Jason Racine moved to approve the Personnel  
77 Committee’s recommendation to hire and issue a contract to Deborah Rossman as a math  
78 Interventionist for the 2021-2022 school year with salary per negotiated agreement and funded  
79 with federal ESSER funds. It was seconded by Linda Michniewicz and approved unanimously.

80

81 **Hiring a Literacy Specialist Interventionist:** Jason Racine moved to approve the Personnel  
82 Committee's recommendation to hire and issue a contract to Marcia Woodside as a Literacy  
83 Specialist Interventionist for the 2021-2022 school year with salary per negotiated agreement and  
84 funded with federal ESSER funds. It was seconded by Jesse Coe and approved unanimously.

85 **LR School Board Meeting Schedule:** Jason Racine moved to approve the draft 2021-2022  
86 School Board Meeting Schedule, with the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting changed to March 10<sup>th</sup>. It was  
87 seconded by Michael Sanville and approved unanimously.

#### 88 **Administrative Requests/ Reports**

89 **Spring Activity Report:** Mr. Messier reported that the spring athletic season had begun. Plans  
90 were also in progress for spring music concerts and theatrical performances. Plans for the prom  
91 were moving forward, and more guidance regarding in-person graduations was expected to be  
92 given by the state soon. Plans for summer school and the Bridges program were being made.

93 **Covid Impact on Operations:** Mr. Messier noted that Lake Region will remain in the hybrid  
94 model of instruction for the remainder of the school year.

95 **School Culture Survey:** Mr. Messier reported that an in-house committee has begun to look at  
96 the survey data. The committee is being mindful of ways to share pertinent information without  
97 damaging student trust. He noted that in the future, it would be helpful to include a question  
98 regarding whether the student would be willing to speak to an adult about what they reported in  
99 the survey.

100 **Personnel Update:** Mr. Messier reported that there were two vacancies for interventionists and  
101 three vacancies for special educators. One of the special education positions was for the  
102 Foundations program.

#### 103 **Executive Session**

104 The board entered executive session at 7:50 to discuss the ratification of the support staff  
105 agreement. The board exited executive session at 8:20.

106 **Motion to Extend the Meeting:** Michael Sanville moved to extend the meeting by 20 minutes.  
107 It was seconded by Jason Racine and approved unanimously.

108 **Memorandum of Understanding:** Jason Racine moved to approve the Memorandum of  
109 Understanding between the Orleans Central Supervisory Union and the Orleans Central  
110 Education Association, dated April 20, 2021. It was seconded by Michael Sanville and approved  
111 unanimously.

112 **Support Staff Agreement:** Jason Racine moved to ratify the Support Staff Negotiated  
113 Agreement as presented. It was seconded by Linda Michniewicz and approved unanimously.

#### 114 **Business of the Board**

115 **Career Center RAB Report:** None

116 **OCSU Board:** None

117 **OCSU Equity Committee:** Mr. Messier reported that the committee met on April 5<sup>th</sup>. They  
118 worked on a newsletter and on a curriculum unit involving maple sugaring in Vermont and its  
119 connection to the Abenaki people.

120 **Coulter Scholarship:** Gerry Cahill, Linda Michniewicz, and Jesse Coe agreed to meet and select  
121 a recipient for the Coulter Scholarship.

122 **Future Agenda Items**

- 123 • OCSU Equity Committee Report (added as a standing agenda item)
- 124 • School Culture
- 125 • Part-time Seasonal Employees Salary Approval
- 126 • Committee Assignments, OCSU Board delegates

127 **Upcoming Meetings**

- 128 • Full Board: Monday, May 3, 2021 at 6:15 PM
- 129 • Full Board: Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:15 PM
- 130 • Lake Region Ad Hoc Equity Committee: TBD

131 **Adjournment:** David Blodgett adjourned the meeting at 8:28.

132 Respectfully submitted,

133 Tammy Wiggett