

1                                   **Lake Region Union High School Board Meeting**  
2                                   **Lake Region Union High School - Orleans, Vermont**  
3                                   **Meeting Held on Google Meet and In Person**  
4                                   **November 16, 2020**  
5

6   **Board members in attendance in person or through Google Meet:** Dave Blodgett, Toni  
7   Eubanks, Michael Sanville, Jennifer Edlund, Gerry Cahill, Jason Racine, Jennifer McKenzie,  
8   Linda Michniewicz, and Tammy Wiggett

9   **Administrators/Faculty in attendance in person or through Google Meet:** Andre Messier-  
10   Principal, Bev Davis- Superintendent, Mike Moriarty- Director of Instructional Services

11   **Community members in attendance on Google Meet:** Leanne Harple- *The Chronicle*, Eric  
12   Edlund- *Lake Region UHS Newspaper*, Rod Owens, Susan Holson- VSBA

13   **Call to Order:** David Blodgett, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:20.

14   **Additions/ Deletions:** Delete a planned executive session for discussion of the proposed  
15   negotiated agreement.

16   **Privilege of the floor:** Eric Edlund introduced himself as a Lake Region student and writer for  
17   the Lake Region newspaper. He had questions regarding the state’s recently approved act  
18   requiring schools to provide condoms to middle and high school students beginning July 1, 2021.  
19   Board Chair, Dave Blodgett, invited him to submit his list of questions via email and said he  
20   would get back to him with answers.

21   **Approval of Consent Agenda Items:** Jason Racine moved to approve the following items: the  
22   minutes of the November 2, 2020 board meeting, written reports, updated FY ’21 financial  
23   reports, and payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Michael Sanville and approved  
24   by unanimous vote.

25   **Old Business**

26   **Board Retreat Planning:** Since the retreat had been postponed due to health and safety  
27   concerns related to Covid-19, Mr. Messier provided suggestions about how the work could move  
28   forward in the absence of a full retreat. He suggested presenting the information and having  
29   discussion in bits and pieces as time allowed at regular board meetings. This would allow for  
30   participants to join the meeting virtually. Some board members suggested that it would be more  
31   effective to hold the discussions and presentations in person when that was possible. In the  
32   meantime, Mr. Messier would present a draft of potential student survey questions for the board  
33   to review.

34   **New Business**

35   **Superintendent Search Process:** Susan Holson from the VSBA introduced herself and  
36   explained the services the VSBA would provide in the search for a new superintendent for  
37   OCSU. She also explained the timeline, which included a goal of announcing the new  
38   superintendent around the time of Town Meeting Day. A screening committee, made of  
39   stakeholders from each community, would begin to meet in December to move the process  
40   forward.  
41

42 **Appointing a Voting Member to the OCSU Board:** Since Pat Davis has resigned his position  
43 on the Lake Region board, the Lake Region board needed to appoint a voting member to the  
44 OCSU board to finish out Pat Davis’s current term on that board. The board appointed Gerry  
45 Cahill to fill the position for the rest of the current term.

46  
47 **Authorizing Participation in Boys Hockey:** Michael Sanville moved to approve Carter  
48 Hoffman playing boys hockey in the winter 2020-2021 season for Lyndon as part of the  
49 Member-to-Member agreement, with the provision that he solely participate in remote learning  
50 until such time as interscholastic sports activity is allowed. It was seconded by Jennifer Edlund  
51 and approved unanimously.

52  
53 **Authorizing Participation in Girls Hockey:** Michael Sanville moved to approve Reese Petit  
54 playing girls hockey in the winter 2020-2021 season for Lyndon as part of the  
55 Member-to-Member agreement, with the provision that she solely participate in remote learning  
56 until such time as interscholastic sports activity is allowed. It was seconded by Jennifer Edlund  
57 and approved unanimously.

58  
59 **Discussion of Proposed Negotiated Agreement:** Postponed.

60  
61 **Administrative Requests/ Reports**

62 **Winter Activity Outlook:** Mr. Messier reported that schools were waiting for updated guidance  
63 from the state regarding winter sports. Practices were set to begin on November 30, with  
64 competitions between schools scheduled to begin after the new year. It was unknown how the  
65 recent increased prevalence of Covid-19 would affect these plans.

66 **Solar Learning Lab:** Mr. Messier reported that work on the solar learning lab was moving  
67 forward. A trench would be dug for the wiring, and the panels would be installed in the coming  
68 week.

69 **Food Service Grant:** Mr. Messier reported that the school would receive a grant to help pay for  
70 a new dishwasher. The grant would cover \$37,000 of the anticipated \$41,000 expense.

71 **Current Challenges:** Mr. Messier noted the challenges of keeping the school staffed and opened  
72 with the quarantining requirements that are currently in place. It was unclear if staff and students  
73 who attended mixed-household gatherings would be required to quarantine, but this would  
74 greatly add to the current staffing challenges if required.

75 **Executive Session**

76 None

77 **Business of the Board**

78 **Career Center RAB Report:** Michael Sanville reported that the Career Center Regional  
79 Advisory Board met and reviewed the proposed budget.

80 **OCSU Board:** Dave Blodgett reported that the OCSU Board met and reviewed the process for  
81 hiring a new superintendent. Also, they entered into a 3-year contract extension with Butler’s  
82 Bus Service.

83 **Finance Committee:** Michael Sanville reported that the Finance Committee met and reviewed a  
84 draft of the proposed budget. It includes a 2.21% increase over last year before an addition to the  
85 Capital Reserve fund, and a 3.16% increase including an addition to the Capital Reserve fund.  
86 Two of the largest cost drivers include a 10% increase in health insurance costs and a 22%  
87 increase in Special Education expenses. On a positive note, the amount of ‘Carry Forward’ funds  
88 would be higher than anticipated. The proposed budget would include expenses of \$7,048,171  
89 plus \$65,000 for the Capital Reserve Fund. The committee would present the budget to the full  
90 board for approval in December.

91 **Future Agenda Items**

- 92 • FY '22 Budget Presentation and Approval
- 93 • Hybrid Teaching and Learning
- 94 • FBLA Presentation
- 95 • Board Retreat
- 96 • Proposed Negotiated Agreement

97 **Upcoming Meetings**

- 98 • Full Board: Monday, December 7, 2020 at 6:15 PM
- 99 • Full Board: Monday, December 21, 2020 at 6:15 PM
- 100 • Full Board: Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6:15 PM

101 **Adjournment:** David Blodgett adjourned the meeting at 7:49.

102 Respectfully submitted,

103 Tammy Wiggett