

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 **September 21, 2020**
5

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

9 **Administrators in attendance:** Andre Messier- Principal, Bev Davis- Superintendent, Mike
10 Moriarty- Director of Instructional Services

11 **Community members in attendance on Google Meet:** Rod Owens, Karen Ceraso, Leanne
12 Harple- *The Chronicle*

13 **Call to Order:** David Blodgett, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:15.

14 **Additions/ Deletions:** Addition under New Business: Contract for a General Paraprofessional
15 position

16 **Privilege of the floor:** None

17 **Approval of Consent Agenda Items:** Jason Racine moved to approve the following items: the
18 minutes of the September 8, 2020 board meeting, written reports, updated FY '21 financial
19 reports, and payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Linda Michniewicz and approved
20 by unanimous vote.

21 **Old Business**

22 **Discussion of COVID-19 School Closure/ Fall Reopening:** Mr. Messier reported that teachers
23 and students are settling into the new schedule, and becoming more comfortable with the
24 procedures and protocols currently in place. He mentioned that attendance has been fairly good
25 for both in-person and remote learning. Teaching in-person and remote students at the same time
26 has been challenging, and teachers are working to adjust to these new demands. He mentioned
27 that schools were anticipating a move from Step 2 to Step 3 soon, and this would allow for
28 athletic competitions between schools.

29 **General Paraprofessional Position:** Jennifer McKenzie moved to offer Cynthia Adams a 113-
30 day General Paraprofessional contract at a pay rate of \$21.51 per hour, effective September 21,
31 2020. It was seconded by Jennifer Edlund and approved unanimously.

32 **New Business**

33 **Social Justice/ Equity Discussion:** Rod Owens addressed the board about issues related to
34 equity and social justice. He mentioned that he had met with Mr. Messier and discussed ways the
35 school could work on social justice issues. Mr. Messier had mentioned that some teachers were
36 interested in this work and would be good contacts for Mr. Owens. Mr. Owens mentioned that he
37 would like to see some collaborative work between middle school students and high school
38 students around social justice and equity. He suggested that the board make the topic of equity
39 and standing agenda item, as the elementary school- middle school board had done. He
40 mentioned the work that was underway on the OCSU Equity Team and suggested that it would
41 be good for the Lake Region board to be aware of that work. During this conversation, the board

42 was reminded of work Christina Suarez and the Social Studies Department has done with
43 embedding Ethnic Studies standards into the Global Citizenship course. After discussion, the
44 board agreed that Equity should be a standing agenda item. Linda Michniewicz attends the
45 OCSU Equity Team meetings, and other board members expressed interest in attending these in
46 the future as well. Mike Moriarty agreed to let board members know when the meeting schedule
47 has been firmed up.

48

49 **FY '22 Budget Building Timeline:** Mr. Messier reported that he planned to have preliminary
50 budget information to Heather Wright by October 16, 2020. The Budget Committee could then
51 meet on November 2 and November 16 at 5:00, in hopes of adopting the FY '22 Budget at a
52 regular meeting on December 7, 2020.

53

54 **Fall Board Retreat Planning:** The board decided to hold its fall retreat on November 10 at 5:00
55 in the Lake Region cafeteria. A meal will be catered by the Carriage House in Orleans. The
56 retreat will focus on School Culture (Strategic Plan) through a lens of equity. Dave Blodgett and
57 Mr. Messier will work on fine-tuning the plans.

58

59 **Appointment of Proxy to Vote at VISBIT and VEHI Meetings:** Jason Racine moved to
60 appoint Bev Davis as a proxy to vote at VISBIT and VEHI meetings. It was seconded by
61 Michael Sanville and approved unanimously.

62

63 **Administrative Requests/ Reports**

64 Mr. Messier's report was provided during the Old Business section of the meeting.

65 **Executive Session**

66 None

67 **Business of the Board**

68 **Career Center RAB Report:** None

69 **OCSU Board:** Dave Blodgett reported that the OCSU Board had changed its meeting schedule
70 so it would not be meeting on the same night as either the elementary-middle school board or the
71 high school board. The next meeting was to be held on October 7, 2020.

72 **Future Agenda Items**

- 73 • FY '22 Budget Building Process
- 74 • Board Retreat
- 75 • Equity Report

76 **Upcoming Meeting**

- 77 • Regular Board Meeting- Monday, October 5, 2020 at 6:15 PM
- 78 • Regular Board Meeting- Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:15 PM

79 **Adjournment:** David Blodgett adjourned the meeting at 7:48.

80 Respectfully submitted,

81 Tammy Wiggett