

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 8, 2020**
5

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

9 **Administrators in attendance:** Andre Messier- Principal, Bev Davis- Superintendent

10 **Community members in attendance on Google Meet:** Rod Owens, Robin Smith- *Caledonian*
11 *Record*

12 **Call to Order:** David Blodgett, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:18.

13 **Additions/ Deletions:** None

14 **Privilege of the floor:** Rod Owens addressed the board as an OCSU employee, a parent, and a
15 community member. He spoke of his interest in engaging the board in a discussion about racial
16 and social inequities and supporting student activism at Lake Region. He mentioned the Lake
17 Region Action Plan goal to improve school culture by making the environment more inclusive
18 for all students, and he wondered what progress had been made toward the goal thus far. He has
19 requested to make a presentation to the board about racial and social justice issues at a future
20 board meeting.

21 **Approval of Consent Agenda Items:** Jason Racine moved to approve the following items: the
22 minutes of the August 17, 2020 board meeting, written reports, updated FY '21 financial reports,
23 and payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Toni Eubanks and approved by
24 unanimous vote.

25 **Old Business**

26 **Discussion of COVID-19 School Closure/ Fall Reopening:** Mr. Messier reported that school
27 had reopened with a Freshmen Orientation on Thursday, September 3, 2020. During the week of
28 September 7, each class was to attend on one day in order to teach, practice and fine-tune
29 routines and procedures. He mentioned that he held virtual parent information meetings, which
30 were well-attended.

31 He reported that two teachers had been found eligible for accommodations, which allow them to
32 teach completely remotely. This created a need to find coverage for their students on the days
33 they are in the building.

34 Mr. Messier reported that the school had received authorization to provide free meals to students
35 through the end of the year. Meals were being served from four points in order to allow for
36 physical distancing at meal times. Meals were not being delivered to families, but families could
37 pick up meals for their students who were learning remotely.

38 Students involved in fall sports were allowed to begin practice on the first day of school.
39 Contests between schools were to be allowed after the state moves to Step 3 in its reopening
40 plans.

41 Mr. Messier reported that he and the faculty would be examining the requirements for graduation
42 in light of the spring school closure. It may be necessary to adjust the number of folio tasks
43 required. He mentioned it may also be necessary to make adjustments to the Community Service
44 program in light of the restrictions caused by COVID 19.

45 **New Business**

46 **Additional Paid Days for Tim Chamberlin:** Jason Racine moved to approve paying Tim
47 Chamberlin at a per diem rate for 10 additional days for work done beyond his
48 210 day contract. It was seconded by Jennifer McKenzie and approved unanimously, with
49 Tammy Wiggett abstaining from the vote.

50 **Creation of a Position for a General Paraprofessional:** Jason Racine moved to approve
51 creating a General Paraprofessional position. It was seconded by Toni Eubanks and approved
52 unanimously.

53 **JV Girls Soccer Coach:** Jason Racine moved to approve hiring Blake Fletcher as the JV Girls
54 Soccer Coach for the fall 2020 season. It was seconded by Toni Eubanks and approved
55 unanimously.

56 **Administrative Requests/ Reports**

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

58 **Executive Session**

59 None

60 **Business of the Board**

61 **Career Center RAB Report:** Michael Sanville reported that the Regional Advisory Board had
62 not met. Mr. Messier reported that Lake Region students would be attending the Career Center
63 four days per week.

64 **OCSU Board:** Dave Blodgett reported that the OCSU Board had met the previous week. They
65 created a new meeting schedule so that they would not be meeting on the same night as either the
66 Elementary Board or the High School Board in hopes that this would make it easier to have a
67 quorum.

68 **Future Agenda Items**

- 69
- 70 • FY '22 Budget Building Process- Mr. Messier would ask Heather Wright to provide
 - 71 potential meeting dates
 - 72 • Racial/ Social Justice Presentation by Roderick Owens
 - 73 • Discussion about Planning a Board Retreat

73 **Upcoming Meeting**

- 74
- 75 • Regular Board Meeting- Monday, September 21, 2020 at 6:15 PM
 - 76 • Regular Board Meeting- Monday, October 5, 2020 at 6:15 PM

76 **Adjournment:** David Blodgett adjourned the meeting at 7:17.

77 Respectfully submitted,

78 Tammy Wiggett