

ORLEANS CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION

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

Date: October 26, 2020 Time: 6:00pm

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
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PRESENT: Bev Davis, Superintendent; Phil Roberts; Angeliq ue Thomas; Megan Valley; Mike Moriarty, Curriculum Director; Larry Fliegelman, Brownington Principal; Steve Owens, Albany Principal; Debbie Brunelle; Sherri Gentry, Orleans Principal; Jenna Lawrence, Barton Principal; Heather Wright, Business Manager; Amy Leroux; Linda Michniewicz; Paul Simmons, Irasburg Principal; Joe Houston, Facilities Coordinator; Josh Webber; Kelly Locke, Director of Special Services; Dave Doucet; Matt Kittredge; Tammy Lalime; Dan Demaine

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Rod Owends; Karen Ceraso

1. Call to Order 6:03 pm
2. Vermont Open Meeting Law – Reminder that this meeting is being recorded
3. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda One addition.
4. Equity Update – Mike Moriarty provided an update on a recent in-service focused on equity. He also discussed the last equity group meeting on October 9th which included small group work surrounding curriculum (looking at [teachingtolerance.org](http://teachingtolerance.org)), professional development, and other topics. Next steps include developing an equity audit.
5. Privilege of the Floor None
6. Principal Updates No new updates.
7. Consent Agenda (Action) Phil moved. Angeliq ue 2nd. All in favor.
  - a. Approve Minutes
  - b. Approve Bills
  - c. Accept Financial Reports
8. Business of the Board (Discussion and Possible Action)
  - a. Debbie motions to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to hire Noah Racine for the remainder of the FY21 school year (temporary, non-renewable contract), effective Nov. 30, 2020. Salary per the negotiated agreement. Phil 2nd. This person has another commitment and can’t start before Nov 30. All in favor.
  - b. Tammy motions to approve superintendent’s recommendation to hire Kaylor Arant as elementary teacher for the remainder of the FY21 school year (temporary, non-renewable

contract), effective November 16, 2020. Salary per the negotiated agreement. Phil 2nd. This position is in Irasburg to fill vacancy. All in favor.

- c. OCSU Remote Academy next year. For budgeting a decision needs to be made whether to continue the remote academy for next year. For this year, there is waiver for teachers to teach remotely but this will likely expire. There are many decisions on staffing and administration that will be affected by whether the remote academy continues. There was some discussion about the difficulty of forecasting the future of the pandemic. More discussions on this will occur at future meetings.
  - d. Equity Coordinator. A member of the public raised the issue of having a separate equity coordinator for OCSU as exists in other SUs around the state. Bev looked into equity coordinator job descriptions from other areas and they included the duties of the homeless coordinator and director of special services. There was discussion of other duties that occur in the SU office and how the addition of a human resource coordinator and a grant writer have affected the jobs of Mike and Bev. There was also discussion of hazing, harassment and bullying investigations which principals currently do and could potentially be handled by the equity coordinator if they were qualified. There was discussion of the equity group's discussions on identifying the needs in SU and how this position may be premature while those discussions continue. The EMS board will continue to discuss these issues as they develop.
  - e. Preschool. Bev and Heather did some research on merging the preschool into the EMS. Heather shared some of the budget and logistical/legal changes that would have to occur. Some of the pre-K budget would have to stay in the SU because it is EEE which has to be. Heather will talk to lawyer to find out what legal process would have to occur to assume pre-K within EMS. This is a longer term discussion and not anticipated to be done for FY 22.
9. Administrative Requests, Reports & Information (Discussion & Possible Action)
- a. Facilities Director Report Joe updated work being done in a few schools with an Efficiency Vermont grant. New filters are being installed in many schools, in room ventilators in Barton, upgraded controllers in Glover, and some system cleaning. Joe is working on testimony for the Irasburg asphalt plant Act 250 permit to let the commission know that the district wants any permits to keep the air quality at the school safe. Joe is also working to install warning systems in schools in case of a freezer failure or water break.
  - b. Staffing Update
    - i. Albany has been having a hard time getting subs. Barton is still lacking paras in the CEC. Brownington is short a para. Glover has an anticipated long term sub for a maternity leave starting in February. Irasburg has a few leaves coming up and has lost its interventionist to remote. Orleans is also down an interventionist.
    - ii. A few neighboring schools have gone remote due to Covid cases and this has led to some staff needing to take leave if they had students in those schools.
    - iii. There have been discussions about the holidays and the potential of needing to be fully remote because of an anticipated rise in cases due to travel.
    - iv. There was new health guidance issued last Friday and administrators have been working through potential issues.
    - v. Principals are spending lots of time dealing with parents questioning how things are going in the school
10. Committee Reports
- a. OCSU Board None
  - b. Negotiations. Not quite done. Hope to be done at the Nov 5th meeting.

11. Executive Session (if needed, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. sec. 313)
  - a. Post Executive Session Action (if needed)

12. Future Agenda Items

Adjourned 7:28

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Demaine