

**ORLEANS CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION**  
**Lake Region Union Elementary-Middle School District**  
**Board of School Directors Meeting**

Google Meet

Date: November 23, 2020 Time: 6:00pm

Information to join the meeting:

[meet.google.com/hrw-sjxc-kcp](https://meet.google.com/hrw-sjxc-kcp)

Join by phone

(US) +1 530-618-2259 PIN: 307 197 976#

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.

<b>MINUTES</b>
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Board Members Present: Amy Leroux, Megan Valley, Debbie Brunelle, Angelique Thomas, Phil Roberts, Neil Urie, Tabitha Armstrong, Linda Michniewicz, Josh Webber, Dan Demaine

Administrators Present: Bev Davis, Angelique Brown, Sherrie Gentry, Steve Owens, Kelly Locke, Jenna Lawrence, Mike Moriarty, Heather Wright, Paul Simmons, Larry Fliegelman

Members of the Public: Amanda Ticehurst, Jack Sumberg, Brian Carroll  
Press: Ed Barber

1. Call to Order
2. Vermont Open Meeting Law – Reminder that this meeting is being recorded
3. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
4. Equity: Equity Team Update: Mike Moriarty shared the Equity Newsletter with the board, which everyone should have received today. There will be a few new community members joining us on the 30<sup>th</sup>. At the last meeting, we reviewed the LR Equity Task Force's equity audit questions and began working on an OCSU audit to be done in December. Mike met with Rod Owens on Wednesday to talk next steps for the audit, as well as some additional workshops we might offer.
5. Privilege of the Floor: Amanda Ticehurst, parent from BCS, spoke to the board about a racial incident that happened at the school. She is upset that she doesn't know what kind of discipline was meted out. Superintendent Davis asked her to call to discuss further.
6. Consent Agenda (Action) Debbie moved, Phil 2nd. All in favor
  - a. Approve Minutes from Nov. 9, 2020; Nov. 18, 2020 Special Meeting
  - b. Approve Bills

c. Accept Financial Reports

7. Business of the Board (Discussion and Possible Action)

- a. Superintendent Search Update Amy has some work to do and will share an update next meeting.
- b. Budget Heather shared a staffing report.
- c. Town Meetings using School Facilities Brian Carroll and Jack Sumberg from the Glover select board attended the meeting to discuss using the Glover school gym for town meeting. The town meeting generally has attendance of 100 which cannot be socially distanced in the town hall. The select board would like to avoid using Australian ballot if possible and feels the Glover school gym is large enough to accommodate the town meeting safely. The town has resources to help get the gym ready and clean afterwards. Bev will look into the state guidance on using school property for elections and meetings and the cost of cleaning. Board has no objections to the use of the gym especially if the cost of cleaning is covered.
- d. EMS Annual Meeting. The warning for the meeting needs to go out in January and any changes will require some consultation with legal. Not doing an in person meeting requires finding a way for all to participate. The board would like to have an in person meeting if possible. If an in person meeting is not possible, doing a meeting on line is problematic because it will require roll call voting. If in person is not possible board would like to do Australian ballot with an informational meeting. There was also discussion of the annual report. There will be principal's reports (including staffing list for each school and a report for the remote academy), a superintendent's report. There are several EMS and high school board members up for election.
- e. Brownington high school board representative. Two Brownington residents expressed interest in filling the open position created by Pat Davis's resignation. Dan motions to appoint Michael Connor to fill the remaining term of open Brownington position on the Lake Region high school board. Debbie 2nd. All in favor.
- f. Some discussion about the Brownington parent who presented during privilege of the floor. The board has not received any information on the incident brought up and will not unless there is an appeal of the discipline decision which seems unlikely at this time.

8. Administrative Requests, Reports & Information (Discussion & Possible Action)

- a. Facilities Director Report. Joe was not able to attend the meeting. Bev shared that Joe did attend the ACT 250 meeting for the Irasburg asphalt plant and that the commission is now moving toward a decision on the permit.
- b. There was one positive in staff surveillance testing and there were positive cases in four of the schools last week. Bev detailed how the contact tracing happens. Generally the principal will be notified by the parents that a child has tested positive and then the principal determines who is a close contact and needs to be notified. At the same time, Bev is in contact with the health department to get guidance of how to conduct the contact tracing. This takes a lot of work. In the guidance, close contacts are told to quarantine but close contacts of close contacts do not have to quarantine. Amy shared that a new pop up site at North Country Hospital should allow more asymptomatic testing. At this time, it is up to families to make arrangements for testing their children if they are close contacts and they should not expect help or guidance from the health department.
- c. Multifamily guidance. There has been confusion about whether students/staff who participated in multifamily gatherings can be asked to quarantine before attending school. Initially, students were told that if they participated in a multifamily gathering, they would need to quarantine. Then the state said that it was not possible to exclude these students. Then new guidance released just before this meeting reversed this and allowed schools to

exclude these students. The admin team will meet tomorrow to decide how to proceed with this.

- d. There was also discussion about staffing issues. Currently more than half the staff are committed to keeping in person instruction and Bev is committed to keeping the schools open until staffing prevents it. She feels that the schools are following the guidance and that they are safe. There are staff who do not feel safe but they need to come to work as long as schools are open. Positive tests have the possibility to change this at any time.
- 9. Committee Reports
    - a. OCSU Board None
    - b. Negotiations None
  - 10. Executive Session (if needed, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. sec. 313)
    - a. Post Executive Session Action (if needed)
  - 11. Future Agenda Items
    - a. School Choice Guidelines
    - b. Preschool Governance
  - 12. Debbie motions Adjournment 7:12.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Demaine