

ORLEANS CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION

OCSU Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 – 6:00 pm

Location: Google Meet

Meeting ID

meet.google.com/utt-ggvu-tbc

Phone Numbers

(US) [+1 413-752-7084](tel:+14137527084)

PIN: 306 384 946#

Our Vision: All of our students will have choices for success throughout their lives.

Our 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

Present: Amy Leroux, Dave Blodgett, Megan Valley, Gerry Cahill, Dan Demaine,
Administrators Present: Bev Davis, Kelly Locke, Heather Wright, Larry Fliegelman
Community Members Present: Donna Pion
Media Present: Ed Barber

1. Call to Order 6:00
2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda. A few additions
3. Public Comments (Listen & Defer Action) Ed Barber asked about lawsuit filed against LRUEMS recently. There is a lawsuit from parents wanting to send students to private or independent schools outside of the district at taxpayer expense. Several other districts are also being sued. Bev shared that the district's attorney will be handling the case.
4. Consent Agenda (Action) Megan moved. Dave 2nd. All in favor.
 - a. Approve Minutes from OCSU Board December 2, 2020
 - b. Accept Financial Reports
 - c. Approve Bills
5. Business of the Board
 - a. Donna Pion – Tax Abatement Ms. Pion came to request an abatement for overpayment of taxes. Amy shared that OCSU does not generate revenue on its own and is instead funded by assessments to the high school and EMS and therefore cannot hold a hearing on the abatement.
 - b. Review financial management questionnaire. This was included in the packet and the board members reviewed during the meeting. Dave motions for Amy to sign the questionnaire on behalf of board. Megan 2nd. All in favor.
 - c. FY21 Salary increases. Two OCSU employees not in the collective bargaining unit did not get an increase because the board was waiting to see how teacher's contract settled. Dave motions to approve a 4% increase for Monica Menard (SLP) and Sarah Stanley

(School Psychologist) for FY 2021 retroactive to the beginning of the year.. Megan 2nd. All in favor.

- d. Volunteer Drivers. Students in alternative placements (i.e. Turning Points in Morgan) are driven by volunteer drivers that get mileage. The drivers are not paid and provide their own insurance. Recently a student opened the door of a volunteer's car and accidentally damaged a neighboring vehicle. The volunteer has asked that OCSU cover the cost to the volunteer. Dave motions to pay the cost of the accident for the volunteer. Megan 2nd. All in favor.
 - e. Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) Expiration. This act allowed people to take leave for coronavirus related activities without using their sick or personal time. It expired on December 31 and now employees need some way to take leave to quarantine from exposure to the virus or from travel. Some other districts have required employees to take unpaid leave. There was some discussion about how to distinguish between different types of leave (i.e. inadvertent exposure vs going on vacation). Gerry motioned to allow OCSU staff to use accrued sick or personal time for leave related to coronavirus quarantines. Megan 2nd. All in favor
 - f. Snow Days. There has been some discussion about whether to have snow days or pivot to short term closure. Bev is thinking that keeping snow days will reduce stress on staff. This is especially true since staff are currently required to come into school on remote days. Board is fine with keeping snow days. Most other NEK districts are keeping snow days as well. If schools need to transition to all remote, then there will be no snow days.
 - g. Dave motions to change ELL teacher Johanna Snedeker to 0.58 FTE retroactive to November 16, 2020. Megan 2nd. Some discussion of how many students there are. Currently there are three schools with ELL students. All in favor.
 - h. Update on Superintendent search. The committee is almost full. Teachers have provided two representatives and support staff are not quite named. Once those are named, then community members will be named. Community members will be solicited once we know which towns are not currently represented. Susan Holson from VSBA is hoping the committee will have their first meeting next week. The search committee is hoping to identify three candidate
6. Administrative Requests, Reports & Information (Discussion & Possible Action)
 7. Anticipated Executive Session (if needed, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Sec. 313)
 - a. Post Executive Session Action (if needed)
 8. Future Agenda Items
 9. Adjournment (Action) 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Demaine