

OESU BOARD MEETING
Oxbow High School Library
October 2, 2018

Present:

Newbury: Danielle Corti, Paul Jewett

Oxbow: Kathy Damon, Pat Dwyer, Adam Lornitzo

Thetford: Julie Acker

Blue Mountain: Angeline Alley, Judy Murray

Waits River: Alison Bruce, Joe Nolin, Ken Shaffer

Bradford: Lucas Barrett, Kim Frydman, Emily Shipman

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Lori Blood, Nicole Bell

Others: Sherry Hoyt, Ted Pogacar, Robin Wozny

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:08 PM by Danielle Corti, Chair
- II. The Chair welcomed those present, and the agenda was reviewed
- III. Board Business
 - A. Motion by Lucas Barrett, seconded by Paul Jewett to accept the Board minutes of August 7, 2018. Motion voted on and approved with one abstention (Angeline Alley)
 - B. Board Orders
 1. Reported to be all found in order
 - C. Contracts
 1. Contract addendum for Samantha Allen for salary adjustment from \$39,098 to \$44,313, due to step movement on salary schedule
 2. Contract change in FTE for Speech Pathologist Mary Shain from .5 to .64. This is a shared service.
 - 3 Motion by Emily Shipman, seconded by Julie Acker to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign both contracts. Motion voted on and approved with one abstention (Judy Murray)
 - D. Correspondence
 1. Letter from AOE dated September 12, 2018. They have completed statutory background check on Emilie Knisley, which came back as satisfactory, and have approved her to be hired as a permanent Superintendent
- IV. Public Comments—None
- V. Administrative Work Plan for OESU
 - A. Goal #1—Analyze technological structure of OESU
 1. Need to set up systems to be brought into compliance with new technology requirements
 2. Technology upgrades, technology infrastructure
 - B. Goal #2—State required to switch to new financial software

- 1. Plan to build the new FY 20 budget on the new financial software
 - C. Goal #3—Prepare master meeting calendar across the district
 - D. Goal #4—Nicole Bell will be bringing a new teacher mentoring program to the district
 - E. Goal #5—Review Integrated Field Report from last spring’s visit to OESU
 - 1. Will be used to evaluate the performance of each school in the district against those standards, to see if improvement has been made on the points the Team said needed improvement
 - 2. For accountability for ESSA
 - F. Goal #6—Update Human resource Protocols
 - 1. Have started a Teacher Leader Cabinet with representation from each school
 - G. The Board expressed willingness to support Supt. Knisley toward these goals
 - H. Supt. Knisley hopes to be able to give more specifics on the new Special Ed Plan. We must be in compliance with the State Law. The method of funding will be changing. As the new budget is developed, the Central Office hopes to start shifting toward the new State mandates.
- VI. Discuss Visit with Dan French, Secretary of Education
- A. Sec. French hopes to come out and visit the schools and attend an OESU Board meeting.
 - 1. The State Board is concerned with curriculum development and implementation, and management of other issues that are required to be under the purview of the Supervisory District.
 - 2. Perhaps he can be invited to the November OESU Board meeting, if he’s available. It was suggested that meeting be devoted to Technology and to work time.
- VII. Discuss Retreat and Work Session Timing
- A. A lot depends on how decisions are made regarding mergers. Discussed possibility of pending litigations.
 - B. Until we know what the next step is, perhaps we should carve out a date, because there is work that needs to be done. Perhaps the retreat could be devoted to technology and Special Education
 - C. Supt. Knisley shared a timeline of all that has to be done if a merger is mandated.
 - 1. Organizational Meeting
 - 2. Transitional Board which elects Chair and Clerk
 - 3. Adopt Articles of agreement
 - 4. Create Budget for the new entity
 - 5. On Town Meeting Day, elect representatives for new Board
 - 6. 14 days after that, new Board has to meet, take over from transitional Board, and consider budget created by transitional board
 - A. Send budget to voters by May 1st
 - B. New contracts are negotiated, which will supercede any contracts currently in existence
 - D. In November the Central Office should be able to have numbers for technology infrastructure upgrades and the cost involved.

1, Maybe plan an extra long meeting in November, including meeting with Sec. Dan French, and then allocate two hours to discuss a plan for the new technology.

2. Meeting date was set for November 6, 2018

E. In December, the plan is to have a first go at Special Education numbers.

VIII. Action Items

A. Hiring of VSBA for an OESU Policy Audit

1. Motion by Lucas Barrett, seconded by Julie Acker to hire the VSBA to do an OESU Policy Audit at the cost of \$1000. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

2. Will talk with VSBA and ask what they advise as a functioning model

3. Kathy Damon asked for a copy of the charge for the Advisory Council

B. Vacation/Sick Time Knisley Contract

1. Contract Addendum regarding benefits, vacation, and sick time

A. Entitled to carry-over of employee's vacation and sick time from leaving BMU

2. Motion by Lucas Barrett, seconded by Paul Jewett to approve the carry-over of vacation and sick time from leaving BMU and to authorize the Board Chair to sign. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

3. Shared letter from Melanie Elliott regarding change in third party administrator for Section 125 Plans from DataPath to Health Equity, effective January 1, 2019

C. Negotiations Letter

1. Motion by Lucas Barrett, seconded by Paul Jewett to authorize Supt. Knisley to send a letter to Lance Mills, President of the Education Association, on the Board's behalf, stating the Board's intent to negotiate with the professional staff of Union District #30 and Bradford Elementary. The motion also included authorization for Supt. Knisley to send a letter on behalf of Board to negotiate with support staff. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

IX. Financial Update for OESU

A. Business Manager Lori Blood reported that they are in the process of the audit right now. The Auditor will be here October 16 and 17. Orange East is in good shape, with an unaudited fund balance of about \$500,000. OESU underspent by about \$300,000 and received about \$100,000 more in revenue than expected

X. Executive Session

A. Motion by Lucas Barrett, seconded by Kim Frydman to move into Executive Session at 7:43 PM pursuant to VSA 313 (a) (7) student records and 313 (a) (1) employee contracts. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

B. Motion by Lucas Barrett, seconded by Kim Frydman to exit Executive Session at 8:10 PM. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

XI. Action

A. Motion by Joe Nolan, seconded by Alison Bruce to uphold the Superintendent's determination on the McKinney-Vento appeal. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

B. Motion by Angeline Alley, seconded by Paul Jewett to accept the resignation of Gerald Webster. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.

XII. Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Perkins, Minutes Clerk

The minutes are in draft format and are unofficial until formally approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting.