

OUUSD BOARD MEETING
Oxbow High School Library
August 21, 2019

Present:

Board Members:

Newbury: Danielle Corti, Timm Judas

Bradford: Angela Colbeth, Melissa Gordon

Administration: Bruce Williams, Jean Wheeler, Brian Emerson, Kate Paxton, Morgan Moore, Robin Wozny

Members of the Public: Alex Nuti-de Biasi, Bud Haas, Jim Merriam, Ted Pogacar, Derrick Cipriano, Heidi Allen, Amy Hayward

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Danielle Corti, Chair.
 - A. Those present were welcomed, and the agenda was reviewed
 - B. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Timm Judas to approve the Board minutes of July 16, 2019. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - C. Contracts
 1. Motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Timm Judas to authorize the Board Chair to sign the contract for a staff member to be shared between BMU and RBCTC. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - D. Appoint Facilities Committee
 1. Angela Colbeth volunteered to serve, and the Chair appointed her to that committee. If Angela feels like there should be a second person, she will inform the Board of that.
 - E. Bruce Williams recommended an agenda item of "Facilities Update" be included for future meetings
- II. Public Comment
 - A. Alex Nuti-de Biasi asked if there is a statutory ruling as to whether a tuition request should be discussed in Executive Session
 - B. Bud Haas: asked about a policy regarding dealing with a tuition request and a justification for dealing with it in Executive Session. The Chair clarified that a policy will be worked on.
 - C. Bud Haas: Dan Perry asked if the Elizabeth Hale Fund could be transferred to the Town of Bradford. Bruce Williams explained that the purpose to which the money was devoted will not change.
 - D. Jean Wheeler shared a concern from a student regarding the Interscholastic Sports policy
- III. Solar Update
 - A. Jim Merriam, CEO of Norwich Solar, explained the Newbury array, which is now receiving credits from that solar array. He spoke of the savings realized from the

discount. The savings that the entire district is receiving has increased. It will be able to max out Newbury Elementary, Bradford Elementary, and most of Oxbow/RBCTC.

B. An electronic copy of the contract will be distributed, and any questions or concerns will be directed to the Chair. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Timm Judas to authorize the Board Chair to sign a contract to guarantee use of power by RBCTC and Oxbow of the current array, and to sign a net metering agreement for BES to go on their own array. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

IV. Communication

A. Received a request from a student, who has been at Oxbow since 7th grade, has moved to Wells River, and would like to stay at Oxbow for her senior year. This is for information only.

B. Lori Blood—sent information regarding the need for a tax anticipation note in the amount of \$4,487,209 to cover cash flow shortages throughout the school year.

1. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to approve the tax anticipation note in the amount of \$4,487,209. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

C. Gail Trede requested a leave of absence from her position as Bradford Elementary librarian for the 2019-2020 school year. This will be discussed further in Executive Session

V. Hiring Roles/Responsibilities/Chain of Command

A. Since the Board trusts the leadership, Timm Judas feels there does not need to be a Board member on a hiring committee for faculty and staff, nor does the leadership need to bring two candidates to the Board. The Principals noted that they appreciate the option of including a Board member if so desired.

VI. Articles of Agreement Review & Committee

A. It was suggested that after school year starts, Principals may have a name(s) to suggest, who might be interested in serving on this committee. Three parents from Bradford have indicated interest, as well as a few Newbury residents. The committee will consist of two Board members, one community member from Bradford, one community member from Newbury, one community member from each town that has a student in the school system, and 2 students.

B. It was suggested to post the date of the initial meeting on the List Serve, inviting any interested folks to attend.

VII. Policy Adoption

A. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Timm Judas to approve Policies C1 through C11. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

1. C1 Student Records
2. C2 Student Drugs & Alcohol
3. C3 Transportation
4. C4 Limited English Proficiency Students
5. C5 Firearms
6. C6 Home Study Students
7. C7 Student Attendance
8. C8 Pupil Privacy

- 9. C9 Nutrition & Wellness
- 10. C10 Prevention of Harassment, Hazing & Bullying Policy
- 11. C10-P Model Procedures for Prevention of Harassment, Hazing & Bullying
- 12. C11 Student Freedom of Expression in School Sponsored Media

B. First Read

- 1. CO1: Interscholastic Sports. There was discussion on eligibility. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Angela Colbeth to allow the administration to make an exception for those students to follow a protocol based on the proposed policy to be considered on September 19, 2019. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
- 2. D1 Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements
- 3. D2 Grade Advancement (removed from required list)
- 4. D3 Responsible Computer Internet & Network
 - 1. Suggested referencing Prevention of Hazing, Harassment, and Bullying policy
- 5. D4 Title One Comparability
- 6. D5 Animal Dissection
- 7. D6 Class Size Policy
 - 1. Edit dates
- 8. E1 Title 1 Parental Involvement Compacts
- 9. F1 Travel Reimbursement (will bring procedure to next meeting)
- 10. HB1 Low Forest Policy & Procedures (refer to Bradford Facilities Committee)

VIII. School Meals Programs/Prices

- A. Informational at this time, and Bruce Williams will get guidance from the Agency before the next meeting
- B. All Boards in the District have expressed strong interest in pursuing universal school lunch. Asst. Supt. Williams will bring a proposal to the OESU Board

IX. Reports

- A. Principals' Reports and Facilities Report
 - 1. All schools are now using Infinite Campus
 - 2. Each principal had submitted a written report
 - a. Board members requested a list of the faculty at each of the schools
 - b. An update was given on any unfilled positions

X. Retreat Date

- A. To come up with a vision and goals
- B. Facilities, and how to optimize space needs
- C. Budgeting process
- D. A date was set for Monday, September 16 at 4:00 PM. There will be a Board meeting first, then break for supper, and the Board retreat will follow the meal.

XI. Rose, Bud, Thorn Discussion—push this to the retreat

XII. September Meeting Agenda Items

- A. Policies
- B. Low Forest
- C. Recommended school transfer policy

- D. Tax Rate Explanation
- E. OESU Update
- F. Board Orders
- G. Administration will decide location of next meetings
- XIII. Public Comment
 - A. Request that the Board not hold meetings during the day since it would preclude teachers from attending
- XIV. Executive Session (Personnel Request)
 - A. Motion by Timm Judas, seconded by Melissa Gordon to enter Executive Session at 9:11 PM pursuant to VSA 313 1 a. Contracts to discuss a personnel matter, the premature dissemination of which may place the Board at a substantial disadvantage. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.
- XV. B. The Board exited Executive Session at 9:37 PM
- XVI. Action
 - A. No action will be taken as the Board feels that not all options have been explored.
- XVII. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Timm Judas and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 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.