

## OESU BOARD MEETING

Via Zoom

November 3, 2020

Present:

Board Members:

BMU: Angeline Alley, Allison Ingerson, Judy Murray

OUUSD: Danielle Corti, Melissa Gordon, Timm Judas

Thetford: Donna Pluta, Megan Snider

Waits River:

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Bruce Williams, Jean Wheeler, Robin Wozny, Alison Kidder, Melanie Elliott, Nicole Bell

Others: Members of the public

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Angeline Alley, Chair. Those present introduced themselves and were welcomed.
- II. Board Business
  - A. The agenda was reviewed and approved.
  - B. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Danielle Corti to approve the Board minutes of September 1, 2020. Motion voted on and carried with one abstention (Timm Judas)
  - C. Board Orders: Danielle Corti reported that payments went back out to the schools from the Federal Lunch and meals program. That program has been a huge benefit to us to feed the kids and to clear up the debts in the lunch account. She thanked the crew that was in charge of preparing and distributing the meals over the summer.
  - D. Contracts—None
  - E. Correspondence—None
- III. Curriculum Director Report (Nicole Bell)
  - A. Have prepared a curriculum framework at the SU level. It will ensure consistency throughout the SU. Learning expectations and learning outcomes are defined. The process involved multiple groups of teachers and utilized existing work. Expectations focus on continuity across grade levels. The Framework is by Grade Level and by domain and is based on the Standards. The next steps will include assessments.
    1. Timm Judas: suggested having a sheet with the acronyms spelled out.
    2. Nicole Bell: We are still in the process of getting teachers trained in various assessments. The process may go slower this year because the work has to be remote.
    3. T. Judas: Are there any certified art, music, dance, and theater teachers working with PreK or only with K-12? Emilie Knisley: Those are in the minority.
  - B. Motion by Timm Judas, seconded by Danielle Corti to accept and approve the OESU assessment plan as written. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.

- C. Motion by Melissa Gordon, seconded by Danielle Corti to accept and approve the math curriculum framework as written. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
- IV. OESU Budget Update
- A. Will be looking at the first draft in December and a second draft in January for '21-'22.
- B. Alison Kidder: We will look at how many students are on an IEP, how many students are graduating or leaving the district, etc.
1. Danielle Corti: Do you notice a trend? Alison Kidder: The majority of the Special Ed budget is salary and benefits. We are not seeing less needs by students. COVID will probably bring some new problems for some students. Alternative placement and transportation are a big expense. She is looking at ways to perhaps provide services in another way rather than an alternative placement. T. Judas: are any of these services reimbursable through COVID funding? A. Kidder: We are thinking of the possibility of adding a school psychologist next year. A. Kidder: Gave a shout-out to special educators and special providers for going above and beyond in so many ways. She wanted to publicly appreciate the wonderful work that her staff has taken on.
- V. Action Item
- A. Timm Judas rescinded his previous motion (from III, B), and Melissa Gordon rescinded her previous motion (from III, C). Motion to rescind both motions voted on and approved unanimously
- B. Motion by Timm Judas, seconded by Danielle Corti to approve the OESU assessment plan; PreK-12 ELA Expectations; PreK-12 Math Expectations; and PreK-8 Curriculum Framework as written. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
- VI. Policy Approval:
- A. Motion by Danielle Corti, seconded by Judy Murray to approve the following three policies as presented, with the addition of "quarterly" in the Modes of Instruction policy under "Responsibilities of the Superintendent". Motion voted on and approved unanimously
1. Electronic Communications Between Staff and Students (Required)
2. Delegation of Authority During State of Emergency Due to COVID-19 (Recommended)
3. Modes of Instruction During State of Emergency Due to COVID-19 (Recommended)
- VII. SU Retreat
- A. The Chair would like to have a retreat via Zoom with all the districts in the SU. Topics for discussion would include Technology, Special Education, COVID related issues, and where we would like to be in five years. She will send some suggested dates out to the Board chairs.
- VIII. Board Member Training
- A. It was suggested incorporating Board Training into the Retreat.
- IX. Agenda Items for December
- A. Budget
- B. Any other policies that are ready to be brought to the Board

- B. The new Business Manager will be invited to attend
  - C. Teacher Contract if it is ready
  - D. The Chair stressed the importance of having a quorum at all of these meetings
- X. Public Comment—None
- XI. Executive Session—Contracts
- A. Motion by Judy Murray, seconded by Danielle Corti to enter Executive Session at 7:19 PM pursuant to VSA 313. (a). (1) to discuss Contracts, after making a specific finding that premature general knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Motion voted on and approved unanimously. Accompanying the Board were Supt. Emilie Knisley and Melanie Elliott.
- XII. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:07 PM
- XIII. Action—None taken
- XIV. The Board had a brief discussion about attendance by Board members and possibly changing the date of the SU Board meeting. Angeline Alley and Supt. Knisley will look at the district calendars to see what might work.
- XV. Motion by Timm Judas, seconded by Judy Murray to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 PM. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

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.**