

OESU BOARD MEETING

Via Zoom

February 16, 2021

Present:

Board Members:

BMU: Angeline Alley, Judy Murray

OUIUSD: Danielle Corti, Chelsey Perry

Thetford: Charlie Buttrey, Megan Snider

Waits River: Jason Rogers

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Bruce Williams, Melanie Rhoads, Nicole Bell, Robin Wozny

Others: Ralph Rood, and other members of the public

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Angeline Alley, Chair
- II. Executive Session
 - A. Motion by Charlie Buttrey, seconded by Danielle Corti that the Board finds that an Executive Session is necessary because the matter they are about to discuss is likely to reveal confidential information about an employee. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.
 - B. Motion by Charlie Buttrey, seconded by Megan Snider to move into Executive Session at 6:04 PM, pursuant to VSA 313 (a) (1) to discuss a Personnel matter. Motion voted on and approved unanimously. Accompanying the Board were Emilie Knisley, Bruce Williams, and Ralph Rood.
 - C. The Board exited Executive Session at 6:47 PM.
 - D. Action—None taken, however Mr. Rood will receive a letter from the Board within the five business days outlining what the transfer schedule looks like and when that paperwork needs to be in for that transfer.
- III. Board Business
 - A. Agenda review. The agenda was reviewed and under “Other” will be a VSBA report concerning some legislation that is pertinent for healthcare. Due to illness, Linda Metcalf is unable to attend tonight, so others will present financial information
 - B. Motion by Megan Snider, seconded by Danielle Corti to approve the Board minutes of January 5, 2021. Motion approved with one abstention (Angeline Alley).
 - C. Motion by Charlie Buttrey, seconded by Danielle Corti to approve the Board minutes of January 19, 2021. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - D. Board Orders—nothing out of the ordinary. Danielle Corti thanked the OESU office for being so accommodating when she comes in to review the orders.
 - E. Correspondence: letter of resignation from Roberta Kaplow. Motion by Danielle Corti, seconded by Megan Snider to accept the resignation with regret. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

F. Other: Judy Murray reported there has been some movement in the legislature regarding healthcare. A request has been received from VSBA that Board members reach out to their representatives regarding H-81. It is moving fairly quickly. This involves a major change in the law, and VSBA feel it must be amended so the proposed cost increase for both sides must be considered, particularly if an arbitrator is to make the final decision.

IV. OESU Budget

A. Have received updated documents which included changes in FTE's for the Tech Center and the final student counts. This changes the share of the assessments, and RBCTC's assessments dropped slightly. The changes in assessments have been included in all the budgets that are on the table at this point. Motion by Angeline Alley, seconded by Megan Snider to approve the assessments as presented. OUUSD had requested that the budget going forward be reduced. Even after taking into account the cost of the move and the surplus, the budget was still reduced. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

V. Policy

A. For Approval

1. C12 Prevention of Sexual Harassment as Prohibited by Title IX
2. C13 Homeless Students
3. Motion by Charlie Buttrey, seconded by Angeline Alley to approve the slate of policies. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
4. Bruce Williams noted that this completes the policies for the SU. The local districts will now be considering these policies. They will be asked to adopt these policies, making any changes to adapt to the local level, and then remove the old policies.

VI. Update—Assistant Superintendent Search

A. Tomorrow night is the Community and Board Forum. It was publicized in the local paper and on Facebook. There are four candidates, who will each have 30 minutes to share and to answer questions. There is a link that has an opportunity for feedback, which will be shared with the hiring committee. The hope is to offer a contract late this week or early next week. Candidates will be meeting tomorrow with Supt. Knisley, the OESU staff, and the principals. Danielle Corti thanked Emilie Knisley and Melanie Rhoads for all the work that has gone into this process. All the information was done in such a timely way. There has been a lot of community outreach. There were 18 applications, seven were interviewed, and it was narrowed down to four finalists.

VII. CARES & ESSER—Nicole Bell

A. OESU has received two sources of funding through the Coronavirus Relief Fund and from ESSER. The amount available for OESU is \$614,732.14. As of 2/4/21, this has all been claimed. It is important that we spend all of it. We must have all the money encumbered by March 19th and can reallocate money as needed. E. Knisley commended Nicole Bell for taking on this responsibility, along with being Curriculum Coordinator. The SU will be spending the money on personal protection equip; devices and technology needs; furniture needed for social distancing; remote learning teachers;

long-term substitutes; air quality study; instructional materials; replacement costs for devices, chargers and other instructional materials; Zoom and eSign subscriptions.

B. ESSER II: another allocation coming. We are still waiting for more specific guidance. It is estimated to be at 4 times as much as ESSER I. The funds will be used to fund the state mandated Recovery Plan. AOE focus: Literacy & Data.

VIII. Agenda for March Meeting

A. CARES with Linda Metcalf

B. Curriculum Report

C. Check in with OESU Board to update them on goals

D. Update on Assistant Superintendent

E. Suggestion for a future agenda: Conversation about Facilities projects and a Facilities Plan for the SU. B. Williams thinks this is a worthy discussion in the not-too-distant future. It's a complicated process and will take some time.

IX. Public Comments—None

X. Motion by Megan Snider, seconded by Charlie Buttrey to adjourn at 7:31 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.