

## OUUSD Board Meeting

Via Zoom

June 8, 2021

Present:

Board Members: Maegan Ballou, Angela Colbeth, Danielle Corti, Carol Cottrell, Chelsey Perry

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Marla Ianello, Morgan Moore, Jean Wheeler, Robin Wozny, Brian Emerson, Linda Metcalf

Others: Bud Haas, Ted Pogacar, Monique Priestley, and other Members of the Public

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Danielle Corti, Chair. Those present were welcomed, and the protocols of Zoom meeting were reviewed.
- II. Board Business
  - A. The agenda was reviewed. The financial update will be moved to just before the Superintendent's report.
  - B. Motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Carol Cottrell to approve the Board minutes of May 12, 2021. Motion voted on and approved with one abstention (Chelsey Perry)
  - C. Correspondence
    1. Letter from Kim Frydman was read, sharing her concern and frustration with the turnover of counseling/social work staff at Bradford Elementary. She implored the Board to develop a plan for stabilizing and retaining this very necessary resource in our schools. Danielle Corti noted that the Board realizes the importance of stabilizing the staff, who work to support the social/emotional health of our students. This will be added to a future agenda.
- III. Committee Reports
  - A. School/Community Engagement: will be deferred to the next meeting
  - B. Strategic Plan: will be a topic discussed in Executive Session
  - C. Budget Committee: Recommendation that the Board seek a professional management service to manage the trust funds, scholarship funds.
- IV. Public Comment:
  1. A. Bud Haas: asked about the upcoming meeting regarding purchase of the Newbury property. D. Corti: That will be July 12<sup>th</sup>.
    1. B. Haas: asked about possible plans to have regular meetings in person. D. Corti: We hope to have an in-person meeting, but if that isn't possible, it will be an outdoor meeting with a vote from the floor.
    2. B. Haas: What about Article 3? He feels it hasn't made it to the district meeting level, and it's been almost 3 years. He suggested that the Board make a commitment not to restructure classes or schools until such time the District gets the chance to vote on Article 3. As it now stands, Article 3 terminates June 30, 2021, and the Board can then restructure schools as it sees fit. B. Haas hopes there will be a vote on that at the District level sooner rather than later.
    - D. Corti noted that is on the agenda tonight. The Board hopes to be able to

schedule a vote on that in September or October. B. Haas: is there a version of this that has been vetted by a Board attorney? D. Corti: yes.

V. Information

A. Financial Update: Linda Metcalf

1. Shared financial information for each of the schools and each line item that is over or under the budgeted amount by \$10 K. This report shows 11 months of our fiscal year through May and includes the expense side only. L. Metcalf feels we're in pretty good shape.

B. Tax anticipation note.

1. Motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Chelsey Perry to authorize the Board Chair, Treasurer, and Clerk to sign the tax anticipation note on behalf of the Board in the amount of \$2,709,229.00. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

C. Superintendent's Report:

1. Motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Maegan Ballou to approve the proposed sub rates as follows, to become effective July 1, 2021: \$13.50/hr. for paras and teachers, \$140/day for a nurse, \$13.25/hr. for custodial. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

2. This is Morgan Moore's last Board meeting with us. The Board recognized her for her time with us and thanked her for all she has done for Newbury. Ms. Moore will be directing summer programming and outdoor experiential learning for Kingdom East. Bruce Williams will be officially finishing with OESU June 16<sup>th</sup>. He is on his way to Montana after that. The Board wishes him well also, and he will be missed.

3. End of year dates and events.

a. Newbury Elementary School: June 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM, 6<sup>th</sup> promotion ceremony

b. Bradford Elementary School 6<sup>th</sup> grade promotion ceremony, 12:30 PM on June 17<sup>th</sup>

c. Oxbow High School graduation Friday evening, June 18<sup>th</sup>.

d. They will be having some meet and greet opportunities with the new principals.

i. Bradford Elementary June 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:30-5:00 to welcome Marla Ianello.

ii. Newbury Elementary June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3:30 to welcome Loretta Cruz. This one involves ice cream because it's Ms. Cruz's birthday.

e. Public meeting on the ESSER plan with public comment as part of the OESU meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The plan in detail and the needs assessment are on the website.

4. COVID guidance.

a. We anticipate the Governor will lift the state of emergency soon. After that, schools will still stay at the current level of guidance through the remainder of the year. We anticipate there will have a pretty

normal return in the fall. We are not anticipating the need for social distancing, but are waiting for direction from the Dept. of Health. Suzie Tann will stay on as COVID coordinator until we are in the clear.

5. Land purchase for Newbury. Supt. Knisley has been working on the legal paperwork for this.

6. One of the areas of feedback is around how to have conversations in school on issues of equity. Several members of the leadership team from the OUUSD have started taking a course from Harvard Graduate School of Education on the topic of Making Caring Common: Justice, Care, and Equity Leadership in Schools.

VI. Discussion

A. Newbury Property for Outdoor Classroom

1. D. Corti: We have entered into a purchase and sales agreement. We worked with E. Knisley and used a buyer's agent and have made an initial offer. We hope to have the vote July 12<sup>th</sup> and have lined up a Moderator. The meeting would be in person and will vote on two articles: approve the purchase, and authorize the Board to use unallocated surplus funds to make the purchase.

2. It was agreed that the Board would table approving the Warning until it had finalized the purchase price.

B. Article 3 update and agreement not to restructure classes or schools.

1. E. Knisley: shared proposed wording for Article 3. This wording has been vetted by an attorney. The Board feels this wording is clearer and spells the process out better. The Board will send the proposed wording for Article 3 back to the Articles of Agreement committee. After the Committee has seen this, it will be brought to the Board. Motion by Danielle Corti, seconded by Carol Cottrell that the Board commits to holding off on restructuring of classes at NES, BES, and Oxbow until the community has the opportunity to vote by Australian ballot on the edits made to Article 3. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

C. Summer Meeting Schedule

1. Suggested not meeting in July and meeting August 11<sup>th</sup>. Will keep August 25<sup>th</sup> penciled in just in case.

VII. Public Comment--None

VIII. Executive Session

A. Motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Chelsey Perry to enter Executive Session at 6:46 PM, pursuant to VSA 313, Sec. 1 (a), the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting. Motion voted on and approved unanimously. Accompanying the Board were Emilie Knisley, Marla Ianello, Morgan Moore, Jean Wheeler, Robin Wozny, Brian Emerson, and Monique Priestly.

B. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:02 PM. No action taken.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM on a motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Maegan Ballou. 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.**