

**OESU BOARD MEETING**

**OESU Office and via Zoom**

**August 24, 2021**

Present:

Board Members:

BMU: Angeline Alley, Judy Murray

OUUSD: Angela Colbeth, Danielle Corti, Chelsey Perry

Thetford: Charlie Buttrey, Donna Pluta, Megan Snider

Waits River: Jason Rogers

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Randy Gawel, Susanna Tann, Jean Wheeler

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Angeline Alley, Chair
- II. A directive has been received from Sec. French that masks must be worn in schools, regardless of vaccination status
- III. Angeline Alley: Recommended that this be handled as an administrative policy
- IV. Emilie Knisley: Regarding the memo from Sec. French, members of the Supt. Association asked how we can require masks be worn? Legal counsel said to put a policy in place that is a requirement of attendance. This will be similar to various other vaccines that are a requirement for students to attend school
- V. E. Knisley: Her suggestion is that we make it a requirement of being in school. It will not be a discipline issue.
  - A. The discussion seems to be, do you want this to be an administrative procedure? Or do you want to create Board policy? We need to consider the time it takes to develop and adopt Board policy
- VI. E. Knisley: What I have found is that an administrative procedure moves faster than a bureaucracy. This would give us the authority to react more quickly.
- VII. A. Alley: feels this should be in place for the beginning of the school year.
- VIII. Susie Tann: She does support the authorization. It gives us the fluid ability to do that and meet the needs of our families. She feels that enforcing universal masking is one of the most effective means of keeping our kids in school.
- IX. Motion by Danielle Corti, seconded by Megan Snider to delegate the authority to the Supt. to mandate masks. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.
- X. Motion by Danielle Corti, seconded by Angela Colbeth to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 PM.
  - A. Board members were reminded that the third Tuesday in September, September 21<sup>st</sup>, is the next OESU meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Perkins, Minutes Clerk

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