

BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

GARVIN LIBRARY

April 3, 2019

Present:

Board Members: Angeline Alley, Chair; Paul Hazel; Allison Ingerson; Judy Murray; Kristen Murray; Julie Oliver; Kelsey Root-Winchester

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Donna Waelter

Members of the Public

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Angeline Alley, Chair
- II. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Judy Murray, to approve the Board minutes of March 6, 2019. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
- III. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary
 - A. On a nomination by Judy Murray, seconded by Paul Hazel, Angeline Alley was unanimously elected as Board Chair.
 - B. On a nomination by Angeline Alley, seconded by Julie Oliver, Paul Hazel was unanimously elected as Board Vice Chair
 - C. On a nomination by Judy Murray, seconded by Paul Hazel, Kelsey Root-Winchester was unanimously elected as Board Secretary
- IV. Budget Update
 - A. BMU's assessment figure from the OESU came in a little lower. Administrative cost center is less. Small adjustments decreased the budget by \$8,883.00. The old assessment amount was \$382,812.00 and the new amount is \$373,929.00
- V. OESU Update
 - A. Donna Waelter updated the Board on Co-teaching presently going on at BMU. It is happening across the whole school at various grade levels and in various courses. Hopefully this will continue. BMU will recommend that it be continued next year. It has been more successful some places than others, mostly because of the availability of common planning time. Special Ed teachers can work with Special Ed students in mixed groups. There has been excellent participation by the students. They are meeting IEP goals and doing well in classes with co-teaching.
 - B. New Special Ed model for next year
 1. There will be one Special Ed Director at the OESU level and a contact person in each school. The goal is to integrate Special Ed. Alison Kidder will be the Director at the SU level, and there will be 3 Coordinators, one of whom is Donna Waelter, who will each oversee several schools. There will be a lead teacher in each building (and two at BMU—one in PreK-Gr. 6 and another Gr. 7-12).
 - C. Supt. Emilie Knisley was offered a three-year contract as Supt. of OESU and has accepted and signed her contract.
 - D. Oxbow, Bradford, and Newbury will be forming their new Board on May 8, 2019. A Transitional Board is operating right now.

- E. Work on policy will be going on. The numbers of policies will be aligned throughout the district
- F. The OESU Board has started thinking about strategic planning. They are working on addressing items of non-compliance.
- VI. Act 46 Update—(included in above reports)
- VII. Correspondence
 - A. Letter of resignation was read from Savannah Eng, effective at the end of the current school year.
- VIII. Public Participation—None
- IX. Action Items
 - A. Motion by Julie Oliver, seconded by Paul Hazel to accept the letter of resignation from Savannah Eng with regret. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - B. The Board will hold only one meeting per month going forward. Motion by Julie Oliver, seconded by Judy Murray to set the Board meetings for the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - C. Board stipends
 - 1. Motion by Julie Oliver, seconded by Kristen Murray to set Board stipends for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary at \$1250. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - 2. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Julie Oliver that stipends for all other Board members be set at \$1000. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - D. Request received from Senior Aria Hedges, whose family has moved out of the District, to remain a student at Blue Mountain for the remainder of the school year and to graduate from BMU. Motion by Judy Murray, seconded by Wade Parker to approve her request. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
- X. Executive Session—none needed
- XI. Committee Assignments
 - A. Budget and Operations Committee: Allison Ingerson volunteered to serve. Angeline Alley and Paul Hazel also serve on this committee.
 - B. Building and Grounds: Kristen Murray volunteered to serve.
 - C. Policy Committee: Paul Hazel and Kelsey Root-Winchester currently serve, and Judy Murray will be added to that committee.
 - D. Personnel: Sara Dennis and Julie Oliver and currently members, and Angeline Alley volunteered to serve.
 - E. River Bend Board representative: Wade Parker volunteered to serve.
 - F. OESU Board: Allison Ingerson agreed to serve, along with Angeline Alley and Judy Murray
- XII. State Board of Education Visit
 - A. Some members visited the kinesthetic classroom.
 - B. The Board's biggest concern revolved around equity.
 - C. The broadcast journalism class, which was broadcasting the meeting, intrigued them.
- XIII. Other Business
- XIV. A. On April 11th at 6:00 PM, there will be a presentation called "Getting to Y".

1. Three main topics from the recent student survey were picked out on which to focus more deeply. The community and surrounding communities are invited. Vendors will be there starting at 2:00 PM
 - B. Julie Oliver thanked the staff and administration for ever-so-subtly keeping our kids safe when all the chaos in St. Johnsbury was taking place yesterday.
 - C. Judy Murray thanked those who are responsible for the post cards with information of upcoming events, that are coming out again. They are so very helpful
 - D. ALICE training will be explained to the Board in coming weeks
- XV. Setting the agenda for upcoming meetings
- A. More student presentations are always enjoyed
 - B. Judges will be needed for May 16th, Senior Exit Night
- XVI. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 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.