

**Oregon Virtual Academy
Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: 8/24/2021
Note Taker: Trisha Wick

Participants:

Voting Board Member: Barry Jahn, Myk Herndon, Paul Tannahill, Franklin Roberts, Megan Trow, MJ Sandall

ORVA Academic Team Members: Jamie Stiles, Kerry Foley, Elyse Hanson, Caitlyn Klenz, Leanne Moll, Ashley Smithey, Melinda Kramer, Stephanie Martin

K12 Regional Team:

Call to Order @ 6:31 pm

[Meeting Recording](#)

Agenda Item: Approval of Agenda	
Discussion: Jamie Stiles would like to add a revised school calendar for students. Mrs. Stiles will talk about it in her Director Report. She'd like the calendar re-vision to be approved later this evening.	

Agenda Item: Public Comments	
Discussion: Christina Schiedler would like to share since the last Board meeting, they had their official vote through the NLRB and are over 84% reconfirmed to unionize. On behalf of the OEU to be working and collaborating with the Board to negotiate contracts that meets everyone's needs. Vanessa Martin would like to speak on behalf of the office staff at the admin building. She'd like to be heard based upon the vaccine mandate considering several employees are not willing to conform or compromise their beliefs with the new mandate. There have been many safety precautions put in place on their behalf. The office staff feel whether they get vaccinated or not nor should be told what they have to be put in our bodies in order to keep a stable income. Some staff feel the Board/Government are putting us in an undue hardship by not providing us a choice when we are the only source of income for our families. There is belief that there is conflicting science that there are many risks in taking the vaccine. There are questions regarding the exemptions that can be filed. What are the exemptions and what will happen to staff if they do not get the vaccine?	

Agenda Item: Finance and Budget Report	
Discussion: Chris Daniels with Charter Schools Business Management shares the finance and budget report . After the presentation Barry Jahn asks Myk Herndon if he is comfortable with what STRIDE has provided at this point. Mr. Herndon responds that he has a meeting with Paco Burke and one of the Senior of VP of Finance and will be talking to them about the historical data that Mr. Daniels mentioned in his report. That seems to be the only gap, but Mr. Herndon will also be talking to them about the timing of the audit that they took the responsibility on for this year. Mr. Herndon learned about a couple of concerns starting with the resignation of Paco Burke &	

Lorna Bryant both will be moving on so new relationships will be built. Mr. Jahn asks Jamie Stiles how she is feeling about the transition and she responded that she happy to be extending an offer to a finance manager which will hopefully strengthen everything but like Chris said it'll take a couple months to see thing's settle in.

Agenda Item:
IT Update

Discussion:
David Spitzer appears not to be the meeting but Myk Herndon speaks on his behalf. Mr. Herndon talks about why the student computers were purchased earlier then expected but this is because there is a chip shortage for computers which pushed ORVA to purchase those computers now. Half the order has arrived and the other half should arrive at the end of the school year and pay for them next school year so the cost can be spread out. Mr. Herndon also mentioned that Mr. Spitzer probably would have talked about is that Mr. Spitzer has a good contact at STRIDE on the learning solutions side that will help ORVA get historical data, student records and teacher files out of their onedrive over into drives Spitzer has provided for ORVA staff. The other thing Mr. Spitzer is doing is an upgrade at the admin office in North Bend particularly with the bandwidth to operate efficiently. Mr. Spitzer is also getting the office a new server since the old one is out of date and not supported by Microsoft. Barry Jahn mentions to Jamie Stiles that it would be nice to get feedback from the faculty regarding the new computers and tech support. Mrs. Stiles replies that Spitzer Tech has went above and beyond and Jason Isbell is working on creating a survey for staff to complete about the new staff computers etc. and Mrs. Stiles will work with Jason to get a climate survey out so feedback can be given to the Board.

Agenda Item:
Governor's Educational Mandate

Discussion:
Barry Jahn discusses on August 19th the Governor's mandate about all school employee's must get vaccinated. Mr. Jahn realizes this will be an ongoing process and this will be the initial discussion but the mandate says the rule applies to Oregon Public & Private K12 Schools and the only likely exemptions would be for religious or medical reasons and those are to be determined. ORVA is in a unique situation since it is a virtual school. The biggest concern is the admin office in North Bend and their being some employees that are vaccinated but also the Delta Variant taking place and looking at all the hospitals data it's about an 8 to 1 ratio with non-vaccinated patients. The health and safety of ORVA staff is very important and it's understandable that there may be some exemptions. In the meantime the Governor is pretty clear that if we are going to be working within a building with other employees it needs to be decided whether we go with the rules or not and think about the health and safety of everyone. MJ Sandall commented that on Thursday, August 26th at 11 am their will be further guidance coming from Kate Pattison which is a virtual conference that you can register for. Mr. Jahn asks the Mrs. Sandall to forward meeting invite to admin and the Board members. Myk Herndon refers to what Mrs. Martin said previously in the public comments and would like to meet with the staff in North Bend. Mr. Herndon feels everyone voice needs to be heard even the ones that wishes everyone to be vaccinated. Mr. Jahn asks Jamie if she could coordinate a meeting with the Board and office staff. Mrs. Stiles the mandate information is still unclear but has some meetings coming up which will provide more information and direction for staff. The direction would be to find out what the exemption process will look like for those who are unvaccinated. Mr. Herndon explains that there might be two sets of rules since there's staff that work virtual and staff that are working within a building and that is impossible but once again it depends on what the State mandates. Mr. Jahn mentions that it sounds like the office staff do have safety precautions in play with social distancing, wearing the masks and sanitization.

<p>Agenda Item: Executive Director Report</p>	
<p>Discussion:</p>	
<p>Jamie Stiles present her Executive Director Report. Jamie Stiles provided and enrollment update and the enrollment numbers have dropped but feels there are still families trying to make the decision whether to attend brick and mortar or virtual since people are unsure. Mrs. Stiles mentions that the Student Support Team specifically Tiffany Folsom has been engaging with the community for marketing and outreach for the school. Mindy Kramer talks about the live info sessions on Tuesdays at noon and 5 pm there has been a lot of current and prospective families that have attended the live info sessions which is a great time for the support team to connect to families and to provide them with answers as well as how to start the enrollment process. Tiffany Folsom is also putting together a Learning Coach Academy program that will soon launch. Mrs. Stiles mentions that it would be nice to put a program in for Learning Coaches to be compensated for teaching new learning coaches like a small mentorship program. Jamie will put in a proposal for that program. Myk Herndon acknowledges that Steven Isaacs is not at the meeting, but he would totally be behind that program proposal. Jamie Stiles discusses the Summer School Wrap-Up and acknowledges Elyse Hansen and the Support Staff that made this program successful with an 80% passing rate. Franklin Roberts asks if this Summer School program will be available in the future since this year ORVA was able to use funding from various buckets that may not be available this upcoming year. Mrs. Stiles replies that ORVA may not be able to do such a comprehensive support staff group with those ratios. Elyse Hansen corrected the additional graduation students went from 7 to 12 students. The ratios may not be the same but because of the grant we may not be able to stipend as much without those funds. Mr. Herndon and Mrs. Stiles commends Elyse on all her work. Jamie Stiles discusses the ED Transition Report which covered the All Staff PD, Website feedback, Hiring and Staffing adjustments, Calendar Adjustments and MiFi Devices. Franklin Roberts asks about what a MiFi devices since he was wondering why they were issues to students. Jamie stiles explains that they are issued to families who may be going through economic hard times, McKinney-vento students or had poor reception in their location.</p>	

<p>Agenda Item: Consent Agenda Items: Previous Meeting Minutes, Staffing Updates & Approval Update of School Calendar</p>	
<p>Discussion: Barry Jahn notes that the Consent Agenda will be modified to reflect the removal of Pending Invoice and to add Approval Update of School Calendar.</p>	
<p>Motion: Franklin Roberts makes a motion to approve the modified consent agenda items. Myk Herndon seconds the motion. All in favor none opposed</p>	

<p>Action Item: Fill-In Pay Policy</p>	
<p>Discussion: Jamie Stiles discusses with the Board that the fill-in pay policy was originally brought to the Board by Steve Werlein a while back to meet a need when were short staffed in areas where a fill in was needed to do additional work beyond their regular job duties. It was a \$60 daily rate but Mrs. Stiles did some research and found that a day rate that was more acceptable was \$75 a day for hourly employees. This day rate is an increase but that's because the date rate has not been increased in a couple of years and mirrors what other schools are currently doing. This would be at the discretion of the Supervisor. Thee will be a curriculum rate of \$25 daily for certified or salaried employees. Mr. Jahn says this addresses a lot of issues that they have had in the past and this gives ORVA flexibility.</p>	

Motion:

MJ Sandall makes a motion to adopt the fill-in pay policy. Megan Trow seconds the motion. All in favor none opposed

Discussion:

Barry Jahn asks is there is any other discussion and Franklin Roberts would like to commend Jamie Stiles on everything she is doing and he enjoys seeing everything she has put in to do with ORVA. MJ Sandall says you can speak for her as well. All Board members agree and Jamie Stiles appreciates the compliment. Barry Jahn sends best wishes to everyone for the school launch this year and wants everyone know the Board is here for support and looks forward to providing the support. Megan Trow also would like to acknowledge Jamie since her personal experience with ORVA she always does her research when approached with a problem. MJ Sandal would also like to thank everyone for the 12 graduates from Summer School ORVA has made a difference in those students' life.

Franklin Roberts mentions before we break Tiffany Klugh has a question from a previous question for clarification. Tiffany Klugh asks the Board if they intend to have a date where they will decide about the vaccine information. She's concerned whether the vaccine mandate will determine her future with ORVA and her students. Barry Jahn says they will work this out since they want what is best for everyone but there's just not enough information right now. Myk Herndon says on the next Board meeting they will have more information and can make better decisions that everyone understands.

The Meeting was adjourned @ 8:09 pm