

Orange County School Boards Association

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MINUTES: DELEGATES' MEETING November 2, 2022 OU-BOCES

In Attendance: Martha Bogart, Ed Estrada, Bill Hecht, Deborah Heppes (OU-BOCES), Sandy Nagler (Chester), Lori Gorcsos (Florida), Tom Loftus, Allison Salte (Goshen), Faith Aprilante (HFFM), John Williams (Middletown), Mike Ciriello (Monroe-Woodbury), Diana Revoir (Valley Central), Robin White (Washingtonville), Karyn Meier (OCSBA).

Guests: Darci D'Ercole, NYSSBA Director of Leadership Development

- Call to Order** Vice President John Williams called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Our guest was welcomed and OCSBA attendees were introduced.
- Secretary's Report**
Approval of Minutes Second Vice President Robin White asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the 10/12/22 meeting, which was m/s/c.
- Presentation:**
"Best Practices for Effective Boardmanship" Darci D'Ercole led an in-depth conversation about the different approaches that boards can take to ensure effective board operations. She addressed questions submitted in advance and took questions and comments from attendees. Questions regarded micromanagement, the differing responsibilities of boards versus superintendents, leadership styles, the purpose and use of board retreats, expectations for protocols, relationships with school personnel, understanding a board member's responsibilities in interacting with members of the public, the difference between being a representative versus being a trustee, the purpose and advantage to utilizing parliamentary procedures, handling conflict, appropriate board committees, board self-evaluation and codes of conduct.
- President's Report**
(given as part of Executive Director's Report) Executive Director Karyn Meier reported that OCSBA's next meeting is Wednesday, December 7th, with the guest speakers Brian Shea and Anthony Cashara from School Aid Specialists who will discuss how districts can maximize revenue and aid available to their districts.
- General Reports:**
Executive Director's Report Executive Director Karyn Meier thanked BOCES for hosting the NYSSBA Voting Delegates meeting for those who wanted to be together during NYSSBA's Annual Business Meeting, and talked about the interactions had via group texting with delegates who were voting off-premises which resulted in a positive experience. She also discussed a point brought up at the Pre-Convention Law Conference regarding a recent update (August 17, 2022) to Special Ed policy requirements regarding reporting on the use of restraint and seclusion districts. She shared info about the dinners OCSBA hosted during the NYSSBA Convention, and asked people to thank and recognized our sponsors. She shared info from the COLSBA meeting regarding Capital Conference and other future events. On behalf of Area 9 Director John Redman, she offered thanks to everyone who participated in the Annual Business Meeting and Convention.
- OU-BOCES Report** COO Bill Hecht thanked board members and local districts for including information on their district websites about OU-BOCES' Capital Project, and thanked Orange County voters for their participation, and was appreciative of the positive vote. He shared info about the 2022 Regional Conference Day to be held on November 8th with the theme of empowering student voice and building civic engagement. In partnership with BOCES' Department of Health & Safety, and the County Executive's department, BOCES is hosting an active shooter hostile event "Emergency Response Table Top" that same day. Bill Hecht also shared that he submitted his letter to retire at the end of this year, and he thanked everyone for their continued support over the years, which sentiments were returned to him from many attendees.

NYSSBA DEI Report
(given at start of meeting)

Vice President John Williams reported that the DEI Committee is pleased with the work its accomplished so far, and reinforced that the concept of DEI is not limited to race and ethnicity, but encompasses much more. As a result, the committee is considering updating its name to indicate the greater purpose of the committee.

**NYSSBA Resolutions
Committee**

Second Vice President Robin White shared that the Business Meeting seemed to go according to plan.

Delegates

A first-year board member shared that she found the discussion about board service to be helpful in gaining a better understanding of a board member's roles and responsibilities.

Comments/Concerns

Adjournment

Second Vice President White thanked everyone for attending. Motion to adjourn was m/s/c at 8:54 PM.