

Orange County School Boards Association

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MINUTES: DELEGATES' MEETING May 4, 2022 VIRTUAL

In Attendance: Bill Boss, Jean Pavek (OU-BOCES), Sandy Nagler, John Pasichnyk (Chester), Larry Berger (Cornwall/OU-BOCES), Martha Bogart (OU-BOCES), Susan Selser, Sarah Hadden (Greenwood Lake), Shannon Johnson (Goshen), Faith Aprilante (Highland Falls), Karen Brooks (Marlboro), Amy Creeden, John Williams (Middletown), Joseph Flaherty (Minisink Valley), Sarah Messing (Valley Central), William Fanos (Warwick), Robin White (Washingtonville). **Guests:** Robbie Greene, Mid-Hudson School Study Council

- Call to Order** President Joe Flaherty called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Secretary's Report** President Joe Flaherty asked for a motion to approve minutes from 3/2/22, which was m/s/c.
- Presentation: MHSSC Update** Robbie Greene, Executive Director of Mid-Hudson School Study Council, began by thanking districts for all the hard work that's been done by everyone. She talked about the MHSSC Awards Ceremony taking place on May 12th, and the need to recognize and celebrate the good that's going on amid challenges. She encouraged districts to participate in their annual employer survey, which is split into two parts. The survey sent to districts in the fall provides an opportunity to note the quality and preparedness of newly hired teachers, with resulting data being shared with higher ed teacher prep programs. The second part is sent after winter holidays and offers the chance for districts to identify immediate and future hiring needs in subject areas, and to identify "degree deserts". This data is also shared with higher ed programs. She also provided info about their newly SED approved SUNY CAS School District Business Leader certification program, which helps qualified candidates fast track their certification. Local school districts have received information about this program which can be shared with their own professionals who may want to move into a business office position. Lastly, she reminded everyone about the MHSSC Law Conference being held on August 5th.
- President's Report** President Flaherty first thanked the Middletown district for sharing pole vault equipment with Minisink Valley. He then invited all members to join OCSBA at the in person Annual Meeting to be held on June 1st at Costimo's in Middletown. There, members will vote on the slate of officers and budget for the 2022-2023 school year. Guest speakers include Darcie Miller, Commissioner of OC Dept. of Social Services & Mental Health, and Julika von Stackelberg, Parenting & Family Life Coordinator from Cornell Cooperative Extension. He also announced the Executive Committee's plans to meet over the summer to conduct their annual audit of OCSBA's financial records.
- Nominating Committee Report:** President Flaherty shared that the Nominating Committee recently met. He presented the proposed slate of officers for 2022-2023, which remains the same with all current officers remaining in their current offices.
- Treasurer's Report** Treasurer Faith Aprilante reported on the Budget Committee's meeting, whereby it was decided that OCSBA membership dues be raised by 2% for the coming year. Dues have not been increased since the 2016-2017 school year. She reviewed expectations for projected revenues and expenditures for 2022-2023 and noted that the budget would be formally presented and voted upon at the June 1st Annual Meeting.

**General Reports
NYSSBA DEI**

John Williams, Middletown Board President and 1st VP OCSBA, reported on the most recent NYSSBA meeting of its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. He shared that Superintendent Dr. Lorna Lewis from the Malverne UFSD was at their last meeting to discuss the use of data to drive DEI efforts. He also said that NYSSBA would soon be releasing further information on DEI training opportunities.

OU-BOCES

OU-BOCES Cooperative Board President Jean Pavek thanked all component districts for supporting and passing the OU-BOCES budget. She also recognized Terry Reynolds, now retired but formerly the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, who is being awarded the National School Development Council's Award for Cooperative Education. She also wished success to all districts on their upcoming budget votes and board of education elections. Bill Boss, Martha Bogart, and Larry Berger seconded Jean's comments thanking districts for their support. Likewise, Joe Flaherty and John Williams commended BOCES on the quality of their programs and on their communication outreach to districts in order to understand school districts' needs.

**Delegates
Comments/Concerns**

Delegates shared news regarding their districts' budget votes. Other topics of discussion included:

- What local districts are doing to address the increase used of vaping and/or drug use by students.
- Recognizing that parents have also experienced trauma from the pandemic, and trying to understand how to provide outreach to address family trauma and stress
- The need to help students remember how to behave now that school is in-person
- NYSSBA's Leadership in Education event in August.
- Superintendent searches and business official searches.
- Continuing to look at restorative justice practices.
- Ability to enforce district codes of conduct in light of the legalization of marijuana.
- Electric school buses and associated expenses and infrastructure needs.

Adjournment

President Flaherty thanked all for attending. Motion to adjourn was m/s/c at 8:15 PM.