



OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

OSBA Legislative Policy Committee

Saturday, April 20, 2024, 8:00 AM

Salem Convention Center, 200 Commercial Street SE, Salem, OR 97301

Meeting Minutes

OSBA committee members in attendance at meeting start: Chair Emily Smith; Tracy Adevai; Kirsten Aird; Al- Sami Abdrabbuh; Kraig Albright; Jessica Arzate; Mitzi Bauer; Tom Chanez; Jeffrey Crapper; Sara Crawford; Chris Cronin; Jackie Crook; Katrina Doughty; Doug Furr; Sondra Gomez; Linda Hamilton; Kris Howatt; Tristan Irvin; Bruce Kevan; Greg Kintz; Kristy Kottkey; Steve Lowell; Sonja Mckenzie; Judy Newman; Alonso Oliveros; Melissa Potter; Chrissy Reitz; Brenda Rivas; Clyde Rood; Nichole Schott; Courtney Snead; Nancy Thomas; Becky Tymchuk; Glenn Wachter; Abbie Warmbier; Dawn Watson; Luhui Whitebear; Jill Zurschmeide

OSBA staff in attendance at meeting start: Acting Executive Director Emielle Nischik; Interim Chief Legal Officer and Deputy Executive Director Haley Percell; Director of Legislative Services Lori Sattenspiel; Legislative Specialist Efren Zamudio; Director of Communications Alex Pulaski (Zoom); Events Specialist Charissa Geib; Information Technology Analyst Henry van Vuuren; Executive Assistant La'Nell Trissel

Guests in attendance at meeting start: Guadalupe Martinez Zapata

OSBA committee members not in attendance at meeting start: Laurie Danzuka; Neelam Gupta; Maria Hinojos Pressey; David Linn; Judy Richardson

The meeting was called to order at 8:08 a.m.

I. Welcome and introduction

I.A. Welcome

Lori Sattenspiel provided opening remarks on meeting logistics and highlighted the roles and responsibilities of legislative policy committee members.

Chair Emily Smith introduced herself, provided additional comments on logistics, and initiated a round-robin style roll call. She then thanked everyone for participating in the meeting, provided an overview of the previous night's Board of Directors meeting, and opened an ice-breaker activity.

I.B. Roll call

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

I.C. Approve agenda

Motion: Kraig Albright moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Kris Howatt.

There being no votes in opposition, the motion passed unanimously.

I.D. Approve minutes

Motion: Kris Howatt move to approve the January 21, 2024, OSBA Legislative Policy Committee meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Courtney Snead.

There being no votes in opposition, the motion passed unanimously.

*** Sarah Finger McDonald joined the meeting at 8:35 a.m.***

II. Legislative Policy Committee recap

Lori Sattenspiel provided the Committee with an LPC activity recap, introduced the LPC resource training video, and discussed tools for developing regional communication strategies.

Efren Zamudio provided an overview of the changes in the legislature, through both post-COVID effects and legislators turnover, and how these changes will impact the Committee's work in 2025.

III. Warm-up activity - District growth and accomplishments in light of the Legislative Priorities and Principles

Emily Smith and Efren Zamudio asked committee members to engage in a discussion with their tables to answer the following questions and take notes on the notepads that were provided.

- 1) What's working well in your district? Was there anything that resulted from local school board decision making?
- 2) What should the legislature take up in 2025?

Efren Zamudio wrapped up the conversation by briefly describing why it is important to share these stories with local legislators and inviting committee members to attend their local legislator constituent events to do so.

The meeting recessed at 9:45 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:01 a.m.

*** Representative Hoa Nguyen joined the meeting at 10:01 a.m. ***

IV. Focusing on student success

Efren Zamudio introduced Representative Hoa Nguyen and her passionate work in chronic absenteeism. Rep. Nguyen spoke about her work with schools to look at key areas of structure where attendance can be embedded as a priority and asked the Committee to discuss and report out on a series of questions:

- Why is your district considering chronic absenteeism?
- What are the challenges that students are facing that result in chronic absenteeism?
- How is your district addressing chronic absenteeism?
- What are some local policies that you can influence around chronic absenteeism to build out supports for teachers and make sure students get what they need?

The Committee then broke into table groups to discuss, reported out by table, and were asked to add notes from each discussion to the notepads that were provided.

*** Sarah Finger McDonald left the meeting at 10:45 a.m. **

*** Representative Hoa Nguyen left the meeting at 11:25 a.m. ***

Lori Sattenspiel introduced the President of the Oregon Rural School Board Members Caucus, Nichole Schott. Schott then updated the Committee on the structure of the Caucus, the set-up

work Caucus has engaged in, and invited members to join by completing the form that is linked on the Caucus webpage located on the OSBA website.

The meeting recessed at 11:30 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

*** Sarah Finger McDonald joined the meeting at 1:30 p.m. ***

V. Funding and VI. Accountability

Lori Sattenspiel and Efren Zamudio provided a detailed framing through data, research, and insight on how discussions are held at the capital to lead the committee through a series of small group discussions on funding and accountability, for each of the following questions.

- Why do you think legislators have reduced spending on education as a portion of General Fund revenues?
- How would you respond to a legislator who asks you why they should contribute more General Fund dollars to SSF - if higher education and early learning are also competing for General Fund dollars?
- Are you having a discussion in your district around minimum teacher salaries and for rural/frontier districts, and does the State School Fund put unique pressures on teacher salaries?
- What are some fixed costs lawmakers forget about when discussing education funding, and how do you make the case for these funding needs when the legislators talk about districts being accountable for outcomes and spending?
- What do districts typically do if budgets for staffing cannot be met?

Committee members briefly reported out on the discussions for each question and were asked to include notes on the notepads provided.

*** Katrina Doughty left the meeting at 2:45 p.m. ***

VI. Reflections

Sami Al-Abdrabbuh provided reflections on legislator engagement.

VII. Closing

Emily Smith announced Lori Sattenspiel's upcoming retirement and thanked her for her 17 years of service to the LPC.

Emily Smith closed the meeting by thanking staff for their hard work.

VIII. Meeting adjourns

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.