

**OSBMCC General Minutes Notes
January 19, 2019
Wilsonville High School**

Participants: (IN PERSON) **Anthony Medina** (Woodburn); **Loren Chavarria** (Corvallis); **Erika Lopez** (Hillsboro); **Jesse Lippold** (Salem-Keizer); **Ricardo Verastegui** (North Maron); **Chelsea King Martin** (West Linn-Wilsonville); **Linda Hamilton** (Land ESD); **Kathy Wai** (North Clackamas); **Betty Reynolds** (West Linn-Wilsonville); **Bill Graupp** (North Marion); **Donna Tyner** (Beaverton)

(BY PHONE): **Jessica Arzate** (Multnomah ESD); **Sonja McKenzie** (Parkrose); **Sami Al-Abdrabbuh** (Corvallis)

Meeting called to order at 9:07 am

Welcome

Bill welcomed participants.

Special thanks was extended to Superintendent Dr. Kathy Ludwig and her staff for their hospitality. We appreciated the use of the facilities and the delicious breakfast and lunch.

Agenda was reviewed and approved without changes. This is the model we plan to use for future meetings. The meeting schedule as proposed was also approved.

Jessica Arzate and Ana del Rocio were acknowledged for their leadership as past co-presidents. Their efforts led to the funding of the caucus and a voting seat on the OSBA board.

Board Activities Since November Election

OSBMCC's initial focus since the November 2018 election has been on developing policy, processes and procedures because the structure was needed before the caucus could begin its work. The OSBA required the caucus to have bylaws before they would consider OSBMCC's request to be a voting member on the OSBA board.

Linda Hamilton raised concerns about developing policy in a vacuum without proper vetting and understanding by the membership. A policy committee will be established to

develop, review and revise policies. Any recommendations will be presented to the membership for review and approval with discussion time allotted.

Loren Chavarria asked if this was a public meeting. Yes, we follow the public meetings law like any other school board. We posted the notice about the meeting on the OSBA website. Bill further explained that we have a quorum because there are 3 members of the executive committee present (Bill Graupp, Anthony Medina and Donna Tyner).

OSBMCC's Structure & Budget:

The Leadership Council is comprised of:

- 1) 4 Member Executive Board (President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer)
- 2) 1 member representing each of the 5 congressional districts
- 3) 2 members at large

Our budget year is the fiscal year (July 1st through June 30th). The money we receive from the OSBA is appropriated for a particular fiscal year. Any money we don't use goes back to OSBA. Since we didn't think that we would use all of our funds this fiscal year, we decided to send 6 instead of 4 school board members to national conferences. The idea is that we will benefit from the knowledge they gain and share with our members.

Next budget cycle we will be asking our members for suggestions on what other exceptional conferences they recommend be added to the scholarship list. The CUBE conference is on the list for consideration in 2020 because it has been at the forefront of helping urban districts strive for excellence.

President's Role

The caucus president is the voice of the collective. The president's perspective will always be state wide. The president strives to present balanced information to OSBA and its members that does not favor one district or region.

Clarification of OSBMCC's Role

Bill and Donna will meet with Jim Green on Thursday January 24th to discuss our role within the confines of the OSBA and what form our advocacy can take. It was suggested that we not accept the status quo but challenge what is presented because a new approach might be more effective.

Conference Scholarships

Conference scholarship winners were announced along with the criteria. The board decided to select on a first come first serve basis partially because of the short time frame for getting the winners names in to OSBA by their deadline. We discussed other ways to select winners such as giving preference to newly elected board members, having winners commit to remaining on their board for a certain time period after they return from the conference and, developing some kind of criteria. Pros and cons of each approach were discussed but ultimately, we decided to allow the scholarship selection committee to discuss and come to the membership with recommendations.

Conference scholarship winners must write an essay on what they learned for the benefit of the caucus. A presentation is optional.

It was decided that the board will:

- 1) Give priority to those applicants who have never attended a conference
- 2) Offer summer conference scholarships to members in districts that will not fund registration, accommodations and trip to Bend.
- 3) Add a question on the application on: When was the last time you received an OSMCC scholarship?
- 4) When we receive more applications than scholarships, we will ask the applicant if they would like be considered for a scholarship next fiscal year.

OSBA Staff and Members

One of our goals is to build a positive relationship with the OSBA community. Its' important to recognize that the bulk of OSBA membership is from the rural parts of the state. They may not have the same approach or see the need the same way we do. Consideration should be given to this reality when we are developing our plans and working with OSBA. OSBA has to balance urban and rural needs.

Future General Meeting Agendas

Attendees agreed that general meetings should be held at high schools around the state. We want to use our caucus as a platform to bring communities of color in the school. The general meetings should include a conversational session with local teachers, students and members of the community who wish to share with us their stories, concerns and suggestions. We plan to publish this information in our quarterly newsletter and use it to drive our work. Another idea was suggested that we tour the school.

Conference Caucus Meeting

It was agreed that we don't have enough time for our meetings during conferences, and more importantly the meeting conflicts with the hot topics session. Bill is going to see if we can have our meeting at the summer conference after the pre-conference session and at the general conference after the Thursday night networking event.

Speakers at OSBA Events

We want to determine the content of at least one session at the summer board meeting in Bend and two at state-wide conference in Portland. Bill already suggested Dr. Marvin Linn Dean of Education for Portland State as a speaker for the summer conference. His topic is on the importance of having teachers of color in the classroom. If he is not selected for Bend, he will be recommended for the fall conference in Portland.

Note: For the summer conference, we our suggestions are considered by OSBA conference staff. For the November conference we will follow the OSBA workshop proposal process.

Mentoring of New School Board Members

We discussed the challenges we have in running for office and just functioning as school board members. Some community members are not receptive when we appear on their doorstep during campaign season. Language barriers are challenging in speaking during school board meetings or in similar circumstances. We are not sure if we are getting our message across or being effective. We discussed explicit bias and how it impacts us. We are interested in developing tools and establishing a mentoring program. The goal is to help our members better navigate as a school board member and know what to expect when running for office, conduct in a public meeting, etc.

Does the Caucus Represent All Groups?

Intersectionality was discussed. We are more than people of color. We are women and Asian. We are LGBTQ and male as well. Is there a need for another caucus to represent the LGBTQ community for example? We believe that through our work intersectionality will be covered from a people of color perspective.

We talked about other affinity groups such as progressive/conservative caucus being a choice but particularly in regards to LGBTQ+ community we stated that intersectionality is an important topic we would like future training to unpack that and help our students of color who are also part of those communities.

Equity Policy Analysis

Bill is collecting and analyzing data on which school districts have an equity policy and the number of teachers of color they have in their schools. He will share this information soon at a future meeting.

Telecommunication

What can we do to improve telecommunication capabilities? What can be done to increase or social media foot print? We will look into the platforms provided by OSBA and other options available.

Suggested Topics for the April Meeting in Corvallis:

- 1) Review of public meetings law
- 2) Have OSBA explain the various opportunities there are to serve on the state board, committees, etc. What is the selection criteria and application process?
- 3) What conferences do we want to fund next fiscal year?

Your Feedback and Suggestions Are Requested:

- 1) On the travel policy.
- 2) Please send ideas any session or workshop ideas for the OSBA fall conference.
 - a. One idea was to have a session on why the color caucus is needed and our purpose.
 - b. Develop session for student speakers or panelist

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm