



OSBMCC General Meeting (Virtual)  
November 5, 2021 (Fri), 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM

**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**  
**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

President  
**Sami Al-Abdrabbuh**  
Corvallis SD

Vice President  
**Neelam Gupta**  
Lake Oswego SD

Secretary  
**Helen Ying**  
Multnomah ESD

Treasurer  
**Sonja Mckenzie**  
Parkrose SD

**REGIONAL MEMBERS**

**Erika Lopez**  
Hillsboro SD

**Lori Theros**  
Klamath Falls City Schools

**Michelle DePass**  
Portland PS

**Luhui Whitebear**  
Corvallis SD

**Kathy Wai**  
North Clackamas SD

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

**Jessica Arzate**  
Multnomah ESD

**Narce Rodriguez**  
Forest Grove SD

Agenda:

(5:00) Call to Order/Welcome - Sami Al-Abdrabbuh

Meeting called to order at 5:00

(5:03) State of the Caucus - Sami Al-Abdrabbuh

Sami delivered some remarks about the state of the caucus, which included the following:

- The state of this Caucus is a state of strength, resilience, state of growth, a state of heavy emotional labor as we serve our communities during these difficult times. We are in a state of transformation and outstanding membership growth.
- Achievements:
  - Policy and legislative wins including the successfully advocating for HB 2001 which "Requires school district that is making reductions in educator staff positions to retain teacher with less seniority if teacher has more merit and if retention of teacher is necessary to maintain school district's diversity ratio." and successfully advocating for HB 3294 which "Requires every public education provider to provide certain feminine hygiene products at no cost to students".
  - Stronger relationships with LPC & reps and senators
  - In preparation for the short session ahead, encouraged caucus membership to continue reaching out with legislative goals and objectives.
  - We were advocating for students, which included working with Parkrose students and OSAA in support of students' voices. Our students were empowered to share their voices and change the language for OSAA rules on athletics women of color.
- Advocating for BIPOC leaders and communities via resolutions and letters that reflect the values and goals of the caucus
- Professional Development
  - We organized a session for the membership to outline goals on community engagement. (*considerations the caucus membership shared from the June session is included with the minutes in a separate file*)
  - We continue to offer opportunities and platforms for us to share our experiences and common concerns.

- Peer mentoring opportunities for caucus members
- We are investing in opportunities to empower and celebrate student voices. Vice President Neelam Gupta will be sharing about a this project later this meeting
- Acknowledged that the safety of our membership, their families, and BIPOC administrators, teachers, students, and their families are front and center and a high priority for this caucus. He stated that caucus leadership will continue its advocacy on this issue and invites members to continue reaching out with any concerns they are facing, or they hear about in their districts.

(5:10) District Reports and announcements

o District1:Erika Lopez (Hillsboro) - 2 min

Erika Lopez shared updates

o District2:Lori Theros (Klamath Falls) - 2 min

No update?

o District3:Michelle DePass (Portland Public) -2 min

Sami shared info on board development from Michelle Depass (School board mentors)

Gary Hollands gave an update on PPS.

o District4:Luhui Whitebear (Corvallis) - 2 min

Luhui shared updates

Shared thoughts reporting incidents for caucus members- we need a better process

o District5:Kathy Wai (North Clackamas) -2 min

Kathy shared update (Ethelyn Tumulad was Oregon's Teacher of the Year and from North Clackamas )

o At-Large1:Jessica Arzate (Multnomah ESD) -2 min

No update?

o At-Large2:NarceRodriguez (Forest Grove) -2 min

No Update?

(5:25) Proposed Caucus Annual Calendar - [Sonja McKenzie](#)

Sonja Shared the calendar (4 caucus meetings/3 leadership council meetings a year)First Meeting of the year is tentatively scheduled on MLK holiday weekend. Calendar will be reviewed an updated as needed once OSBA calendar for 2022 is published. Sonja called for a motion to approve :Vote to approve letter: 1<sup>st</sup> Marvin Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Graupp- Unanimous vote to approve Calendar by membership in attendance.

(5:35) Announcements:

- Workshops and webinars and scholarship opportunities
  - Sonja shared information about the Equity Symposium and Advocacy Institute- an opportunity to travel with the Oregon delegation, listen to nationally known speakers on equity in schools and get training and resources to use when you meet with your legislators on Capitol Hill. Explained application process- Scholarship applications due Nov. 12th
  - OSBA Webinar on regional equity teams -Sonja McKenzie
  - [Equity Symposium](#) - January 22, 2022 Washington DC
  - [Advocacy Institute](#) - January 23-25, 2022 Washington DC
    - 4 scholarships for Symposium & Advocacy in DC are available (\$3000)
      - Received 2 applications for Advocacy Institute (Miriam Cummings and Dr. Karen Perez)
    - Scholarship application document available in the meeting packet. Scholarship deadline: Nov 12, 2021
  - NSBA Annual convention April 2-4,2022 San Diego, California
  - CUBE 2022 – TBD Bill Graupp shared his reflections and his experiences attending the CUBE conference in the past
  - Proposal for other opportunities proposed by the membership
  - Request for proposals for workshops and presentations at NSBA Annual Convention or another conference
- Virtual Morning Meet-up with OSSBMCC Leadership
  - Sonja shared the dates and purpose of the scheduled virtual meet up sessions for 2022. Leadership council members will select a date and facilitate the sessions. LC members will confirm their selected date with Sami so he can send them the Zoom link.
- Partnership with OSBA - “what we are thankful for” Creating content around the value of public education and how we can all support students. Sami asked for membership to send in responses to “what we are thankful for “

(6:00) Dinner and Keynote speech

The Caucus will recess for 20 minutes for members to prepare for their dinner. The keynote speech will start at 6:20 pm.

(6:20) Keynote speech: 2021 Oregon Board member of the year Laurie Danzuka.

7:00) Issuing a letter in support of Anissa Hartman from Gladstone City Council (Land acknowledgment resolution) **Action requested** - Sonja McKenzie and Kathy Wai

Sonja Shared background regarding Councilor Hartman's work to bring a land acknowledgement to the Council.

If approved email will be sent to Gladstone City Council on Nov 8<sup>th</sup> before the next council meeting. Sonja asked for a motion to approve an email with the signatures of caucus members present. Kathy Wai -1<sup>st</sup> Osvaldo Avila 2<sup>nd</sup> Unanimous vote to approve by members in attendance

(7:15) Supporting BIPOC Student Voice Project - Neelam Gupta

Neelam provided an update on a new caucus project under development that will provide tools and resources to BIPOC students to strengthen advocacy capacity and infrastructure in Newberg and statewide. An Oregon Student Voice representative and Newberg school board members Brandy Penner and Ines Pena attended the October caucus leadership meeting to share information about how students are doing. Neelam has been connected to a Newberg school counselor who reported students are experiencing the trauma of recent racist incidents. Neelam and Kathy will meet with Engage to Change about designing and delivering trainings in early 2022.

Other comments from members:

Bill Graupp -League of Cities Color Caucus is also growing

Luhui- We need to get ahead of crisis with kids around the state.

Laurie- many inequities have surfaced during the pandemic that need to be addressed. **Meaningful** communication to our communities is so important to reach our community members. (above and beyond the norm)

Maya- Asked about mentorship opportunities for new caucus members.

Several members share their appreciation for the safe space to meet virtually.

(7:30) Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 7:27