



OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION Legislative Policy Committee

Saturday, January 25, 2025, 1:00 PM

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

Meeting Minutes

OSBA board members in attendance at meeting start: Chair Dawn Watson; Tracy Adevai (Zoom); Sami Al-Abdrabbuh; Kraig Albright; Mitzi Bauer (Zoom); Sara Crawford (Zoom); Chris Cronin; Jackie Crook; Jason Curtis; José Gamero-Georgeson; Sondra Gomez (Zoom); Karina Guzmán Ortiz; Linda Hamilton; Kris Howatt; Tristan Irvin; Bruce Kevan (Zoom); Greg Kintz; Kristy Kottkey; Steve Lowell; Alonso Oliveros; Melissa Potter; Justice Rajee; Chrissy Reitz; Nichole Schott; Randy Shaw; Emily Smith; Nancy Thomas; Abbie Warmbier; Luhui Whitebear; Jill Zurschmeide; Sami Al-Abdrabbuh (ex-officio); Austin Folnagy (ex-officio)

OSBA staff in attendance at meeting start: Executive Director Emielle Nischik; Chief Legal Officer and Interim Deputy Executive Director Haley Percell; Director of Government Relations and Communication Services Stacy Michaelson; Communications and News Specialist Jake Arnold; Information Technology Analyst Henry van Vuuren; Event Specialist Charissa Geib; Executive Assistant La'Nell Trissel

OSBA board members not in attendance at meeting start: Kirsten Aird; Jessica Arzate; Tom Chanez; Jeffrey Crapper; Laurie Danzuka; Katrina Doughty; Doug Furr; Maria Hinojos Pressey; David Jaimes; David Linn; Judy Richardson; Brenda Rivas; Courtney Snead; Becky Tymchuk; Glenn Wachter

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

I. Welcome and introduction

I.A. Welcome

Vice President Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

I.B. Roll call and warm up activity

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

I.C. Approve agenda

Vice President Watson asked that agenda item V. Legislative reception update be moved to item III.

Emily Smith moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Nancy Thomas.

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

Tracy Adevai: Yea	Sondra Gomez: Yea	Justice Rajee: Yea
Kirsten Aird: Absent	Karina Guzmán Ortiz: Yea	Chrissy Reitz: Yea
Kraig Albright: Yea	Linda Hamilton: Yea	Judy Richardson: Absent
Jessica Arzate: Absent	Maria Hinojos Pressey: Absent	Brenda Rivas: Absent
Mitzi Bauer: Yea	Kris Howatt: Yea	Nichole Schott: Yea
Tom Chanez: Absent	Tristan Irvin: Yea	Randy Shaw: Yea
Jeffrey Crapper: Absent	David Jaimes: Absent	Emily Smith: Yea
Sara Crawford: Yea	Bruce Kevan: Yea	Courtney Snead: Absent
Chris Cronin: Yea	Greg Kintz: Yea	Nancy Thomas: Yea
Jackie Crook: Yea	Kristy Kottkey: Yea	Becky Tymchuk: Absent
Jason Curtis: Yea	David Linn: Absent	Glenn Wachter: Absent
Laurie Danzuka: Absent	Steve Lowell: Yea	Abbie Warmbier: Yea
Katrina Doughty: Absent	Judy Newman: Absent	Dawn Watson: Yea
Doug Furr: Absent	Alonso Oliveros: Yea	Luhui Whitebear: Yea
José Gamero-Georgeson: Yea	Melissa Potter: Yea	Jill Zurschmeide: Yea

I.D. Approve minutes

Kris Howatt moved to approve the minutes as presented. Emily Smith Seconded.

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

Tracy Adevai: Yea	Sondra Gomez: Yea	Justice Rajee: Yea
Kirsten Aird: Absent	Karina Guzmán Ortiz: Yea	Chrissy Reitz: Yea
Kraig Albright: Yea	Linda Hamilton: Yea	Judy Richardson: Absent
Jessica Arzate: Absent	Maria Hinojos Pressey: Absent	Brenda Rivas: Absent
Mitzi Bauer: Yea	Kris Howatt: Yea	Nichole Schott: Yea
Tom Chanez: Absent	Tristan Irvin: Yea	Randy Shaw: Yea
Jeffrey Crapper: Absent	David Jaimes: Absent	Emily Smith: Yea
Sara Crawford: Yea	Bruce Kevan: Yea	Courtney Snead: Absent
Chris Cronin: Yea	Greg Kintz: Yea	Nancy Thomas: Yea
Jackie Crook: Yea	Kristy Kottkey: Yea	Becky Tymchuk: Absent
Jason Curtis: Yea	David Linn: Absent	Glenn Wachter: Absent
Laurie Danzuka: Absent	Steve Lowell: Yea	Abbie Warmbier: Yea
Katrina Doughty: Absent	Judy Newman: Absent	Dawn Watson: Yea
Doug Furr: Absent	Alonso Oliveros: Yea	Luhui Whitebear: Yea
José Gamero-Georgeson: Yea	Melissa Potter: Yea	Jill Zurschmeide: Yea

**** Judy Newman joined the meeting at 1:13 p.m. ****

II. Meeting introductions and overview

Executive Director Emielle Nischik reviewed the agenda and introduced the new Director of Government Relations and Communication Services, Stacy Michaelson. Director Michaelson provided further introduction, giving a brief history of her work as a lobbyist.

III. Legislative reception update

Vice President Watson introduced the panelists Jackie Crook, Douglas/S. Coast Region; Chris Cronin, Eastern Region; Kristy Kottkey, Washington Region; and Chrissy Reitz, Clackamas Region; and led a discussion to include a basic description of each event, the engagement with each region's membership and legislators, each region's approach to talking points and student involvement, the level of assistance from each region's ESD and/or school districts, what each region might change next year, and how each event was funded.

IV. Legislative Policy Committee overview

Executive Director Emielle Nischik walked through the 2025 Legislative Policy Committee Handbook while providing a review of the work the Committee accomplished over the last year, calling attention to the purpose of the Legislative Priorities and Principles document as the foundational document that guides the advocacy work of both the legislative team and Committee members, and highlighting the Committee's transfer of work from re-creating the Legislative Priorities and Principles document every other year to growing the Committee's on-the-ground advocacy work. Nischik then provided an overview of the anticipated work of the legislative team and the Committee for the 2025 legislative session.

*** Chrissy Reitz left the meeting at 1:55 p.m. ***

*** Jackie Crook left the meeting at 1:56 p.m. ***

V. Legislative advocacy for the 2025 session

Director Michaelson highlighted the importance of the advocacy work of the Committee, reviewed the current legislative leadership and legislative calendar, provided an outline of the framework for advocacy work in the 2025 session, and led a discussion around high-level issues and priorities. Executive Director Nischik provided an update on the accountability discussion.

*** Karina Guzmán Ortiz left the meeting at 3:00 p.m. ***

*** Linda Hamilton left the meeting at 3:00 p.m. ***

VI. Session bill and legislative priorities update

Director Michaelson provided an overview of this session's bill tracking process and the anticipated top six bills for the session. Executive Director Nischik updated the Committee on the legislative team's work at the federal level. Chief Legal Officer Percell introduced herself as this year's Chair of the Counsel of School Attorneys and an ex-officio on the NSBA Board, then provided an update on the work in response to the recent Executive Order, the recent guidance OSBA released jointly with ODE on immigration, and COSA's ongoing review of federal court cases that potentially impact Oregon schools.

VII. Regional communication strategize

Due to time constraints, interested regions were invited to move to separate, small group discussions during the "session bill and legislative priorities update" agenda item to discuss their individual regional communication plans.

VIII. Closing

Executive Director Nischik provided closing comments.

IX. Meeting adjourns

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.