



OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION Executive Committee

Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 12:00 PM

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

OSBA committee members in attendance at meeting start: President Chris Cronin; President-elect Emily Smith, Vice President Dawn Watson; Secretary-treasurer Chrissy Reitz; Past-president Sami Al-Abdrabbuh

OSBA staff in attendance at meeting start: Executive Director Emielle Nischik; Executive Assistant La'Nell Trissel

President Cronin called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

I. Welcome and roll call

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

President Cronin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Approve agenda

Sami Al-Abdrabbuh moved approval of the agenda as presented. Seconded by Dawn Watson.

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

Sami Al-Abdrabbuh: Yea

Chrissy Reitz: Yea

Dawn Watson: Yea

Chris Cronin: Yea

Emily Smith: Yea

III. Governance structure review consideration

President Cronin introduced the agenda item and updated the Committee on the receipt of a letter from the Hermiston School District requesting the association reconsider its caucus model approach and to explore ways for special interest groups to participate in and to influence the OSBA.

Additional discussion took place about the Committee's previous discussion regarding the Policy established timeline requiring the Governance Committee to review the associations governance structure in 2026 and, for many reasons, the decision to continue the established review timeline; acknowledgement of the number of conversations around the state on the topic; the status of the legal review of the OSBA caucuses' bylaws and advisory group guidelines; concern about waiting until 2026 and other pros and cons for the timing of a review; that sufficient time allotted for a robust discussion when the information is presented to the Board; that the region's board representative be notified when a concern is submitted to the Board or Executive Committee; potential caucus leadership involvement; a reminder of the process for caucus creation and elimination; and the difference between sharing the letter with the Governance Committee and referring the letter to the Governance Committee as part of an agenda setting process.

The Committee reached consensus that the Board President would acknowledge receipt of the letter with the school district and to share the letter with the Governance Committee to use during their upcoming governance structure review in 2026.

IV. Potential OSBA Board Coffee at Summer Board Conference

President Cronin introduced the potential to provide opportunity for the OSBA Board members to explore becoming an officer at the Summer Board Conference.

Further discussion took place to expand the conversation to allow the membership to chat with current Board members about potentially becoming a member of the Board, offering a Hot Topic Table at the Summer Board Conference to allow for both of these topics, and other logistics for the Summer Board Conference.

V. Board mentorship update

President Cronin opened the conversation to provide feedback on the Executive Committee's new board member mentorship program.

Feedback was generally positive, noting that at a minimum it is beneficial for new members to have a person they can contact with inquiries.

VI. For the good of the order and requests for future Executive Committee agenda topics

A request for reviewing the election timeline to a future agenda item.

A reminder to write summaries of the NSBA Annual Conference for inclusion in the June Board materials.

VII. Meeting adjourns

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 p.m.