



OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

OSBA committee members in attendance at meeting start: President Dawn Watson; President elect José Gamero-Georgeson; Secretary-treasurer Chrissy Reitz; Past President Chris Cronin

OSBA staff in attendance at meeting start: Executive Director Emielle Nischik; Chief Legal Officer and Deputy Executive Director Haley Percell; Executive Assistant La’Nell Trissel

OSBA committee members not in attendance at meeting start: Nancy Thomas

President Watson called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

I. Welcome and roll call

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

President Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Approve agenda

Motion: Chris Cronin moved approval of the agenda as presented. Seconded by Chrissy Reitz.

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

Chris Cronin: Yea

Chrissy Reitz: Yea

Dawn Watson: Yea

José Gamero-Georgeson: Yea

Nancy Thomas: Absent

III. Executive Director update

Executive Director Nischick provided an update on the annual transition, the legislative team work to prepare for the short session, and the Southern and Washington region legislative receptions.

Additional discussion took place about legislative receptions.

IV. Board mentorship program

The Committee reviewed last year’s experience with the Board Mentorship Program, and staff will develop options to offer opt-in opportunities for this year.

V. Review the draft January Board of Directors meeting agenda

The Committee reviewed the draft agenda for the January Board of Directors meeting. Executive Director Nischik highlighted the changes to the annual Board orientation, review of the Board Operating Agreements, and the upcoming Board self-assessment.

The Committee expressed appreciation for the adjustment that was made to the orientation portion of the meeting to address some of the feedback that was provided at the September

retreat and requested that a brief informational piece be provided in the Executive Director update about those traveling to and the purpose for attending the NSBA Advocacy and Equity Institute.

VI. Advocacy and Equity Institute/Leadership Seminar planning

The Committee discussed logistics for attending the upcoming NSBA Leadership Seminar and NSBA Advocacy and Equity Institute.

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

Executive Director Nischik asked if anyone would like to present at the upcoming Bonds, Ballots and Buildings Conference. Director Gamero-Georgeson expressed interest, and Nischik will connect him with the Communications Department to finalize the script.

Appreciation was expressed to Gamero-Georgeson for volunteering, noting that this is a valuable opportunity to begin gaining experience with public speaking and presenting.

VIII. Meeting adjourns

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.