



OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION Legislative Policy Committee

Saturday, January 24, 2026

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

Meeting Minutes

OSBA committee members in attendance at meeting start: Vice Nancy Thomas; Kraig Albright; Jose Aparicio; Jena Benologa; Will Cahill; Jay Chick; Heather Coleman-Cox; Jackie Crook; Jason Curtis (Zoom); Katrina Doughty; Althea Ender; Mel Fuller; Sean Gallagher (Zoom); José Gamero-Georgeson; Karina Guzmán Ortiz; Lisa Harnisch; Janet Holland (Zoom); Bruce Kevan (Zoom); Kris Lachenmeier; Steve Lowell; Maureen Miltenberger; Clinton Nelson; Judy Newman (Zoom); Alonso Oliveros; Melissa Potter; Justice Rajee; Heather Ray; Chrissy Reitz; Brenda Rivas; Clyde Rood; Nathan Seable (Zoom); Mike Selvaggio; Randy Shaw; Christy Splitt; Becky Tymchuk; Dawn Watson; Crystal Weston; Luhui Whitebear

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; PACE Administrator Dave Harvey; Communications and News Specialist Jake Arnold; Information Technology Analyst Henry van Vuuren; Event Specialist Charissa Geib; Executive Assistant La'Nell Trissel

OSBA committee members not in attendance at meeting start: Tracy Adevai; Lu Ann Anderson; Chris Cronin; Laurie Danzuka; Sondra Gomez; Tristan Irvin; Greg Kintz; Nichole Schott

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

I. Welcome and roll call

Vice President Thomas welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided opening comments.

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

II. Approve agenda

Katrina Doughty moved to approve of the agenda as presented. Seconded by José Gamero-Georgeson.

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

Tracy Adevai: Absent	José Gamero-Georgeson: Yea	Heather Ray: Yea
Kraig Albright: Yea	Sondra Gomez: Absent	Chrissy Reitz: Yea
Lu Ann Anderson: Absent	Karina Guzmán Ortiz: Yea	Brenda Rivas: Yea
Jose Aparicio: Yea	Lisa Harnisch: Yea	Clyde Rood: Yea
Jena Benologa: Yea	Janet Holland: Yea	Nichole Schott: Absent
Will Cahill: Yea	Tristan Irvin: Absent	Nathan Seable: Yea
Jay Chick: Yea	Bruce Kevan: Yea	Michael Selvaggio: Yea
Heather Coleman-Cox: Yea	Greg Kintz: Absent	Randy Shaw: Yea
Chris Cronin: Absent	Kris Lachenmeier: Yea	Christy Splitt: Yea
Jackie Crook: Yea	Steve Lowell: Yea	Nancy Thomas: Yea
Jason Curtis: Yea	Maureen Miltenberger: Yea	Becky Tymchuk: Yea
Laurie Danzuka: Absent	Clinton Nelson: Yea	Dawn Watson: Yea
Katrina Doughty: Yea	Judy Newman: Yea	Crystal Weston: Yea
Althea Ender: Yea	Alonso Oliveros: Yea	Luhui Whitebear: Yea
Mel Fuller: Yea	Dr. Melissa Potter: Yea	
Sean Gallagher: Yea	Justice Rajee: Yea	

III. Approve minutes

Kraig Albright moved to accept the November 6, 2025, OSBA Legislative Policy Committee meetings minutes as presented. Seconded by Justice Rajee.

Tracy Adevai: Absent	José Gamero-Georgeson: Yea	Heather Ray: Yea
Kraig Albright: Yea	Sondra Gomez: Absent	Chrissy Reitz: Yea
Lu Ann Anderson: Absent	Karina Guzmán Ortiz: Yea	Brenda Rivas: Yea
Jose Aparicio: Yea	Lisa Harnisch: Yea	Clyde Rood: Yea
Jena Benologa: Yea	Janet Holland: Yea	Nichole Schott: Absent
Will Cahill: Yea	Tristan Irvin: Absent	Nathan Seable: Yea
Jay Chick: Yea	Bruce Kevan: Yea	Michael Selvaggio: Yea
Heather Coleman-Cox: Yea	Greg Kintz: Absent	Randy Shaw: Yea
Chris Cronin: Absent	Kris Lachenmeier: Yea	Christy Splitt: Yea
Jackie Crook: Yea	Steve Lowell: Yea	Nancy Thomas: Yea
Jason Curtis: Yea	Maureen Miltenberger: Yea	Becky Tymchuk: Yea
Laurie Danzuka: Absent	Clinton Nelson: Yea	Dawn Watson: Yea
Katrina Doughty: Yea	Judy Newman: Yea	Crystal Weston: Yea
Althea Ender: Yea	Alonso Oliveros: Yea	Luhui Whitebear: Yea
Mel Fuller: Yea	Dr. Melissa Potter: Yea	
Sean Gallagher: Yea	Justice Rajee: Yea	

IV. Legislative landscape overview

*** Chris Cronin joined the meeting at 1:41 p.m. via Zoom ***

Director of Government Relations and Communications Stacy Michaelson noted that Government Relations Counsel Adrienne Anderson was unable to attend the meeting due to her commitment to coaching the Grant High School Constitution Team at their district competition. Michaelson then reviewed the day's agenda and updated the committee on the legislative landscape and timelines, budget processes and timelines, the purpose of legislative days, the process and timeline for requesting bills, election cycles and impacts, and the process and timelines for moving bills through the legislature.

V. LPC roles and expectations

Vice President Thomas provided remarks, building on the information presented in the previous agenda and applying that context to the Committee's work.

Thomas thanked the Committee and emphasized how important the work of the Committee was for Oregon's public education system.

Michaelson then presented the Committee with an overview of its roles and responsibilities, then provided basic building blocks for developing relationships with regional legislators and general advocacy best practice.

VI. Examples from LPC members

Vice President Thomas engaged with committee members to emphasize the importance of learning from one another, seeking out the experience within the group to support growth, and working collaboratively to increase effectiveness and efficiency in regional advocacy. Thomas then led a discussion that engaged experienced committee members in providing testimonials and question-and-answer periods, focusing on advocacy best practices that develop regional relationships with the legislators and OSBA member boards.

Michaelson then introduced the provided Legislative Policy Committee Handbook, noting some of the resources specific to developing these relationships.

VII. 2026 Legislative topics

Michaelson then highlighted the focus areas of the 2026 legislative session, including budget considerations, class size, immigration, codifying McKinney-Vento language at the state level, attendance reporting, Education Choice for Children Act implementation, public meetings, and elections.

Michaelson then connected that work to its potential impact on districts and explained how these issues relate to individual advocacy efforts.

*** Clinton Nelson left the meeting at 2:40 p.m. ***

*** Crystal Weston left the meeting at 2:40 p.m. ***

The meeting recessed at 2:52 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 3:00 p.m.

VIII. Roundtables

The Committee then broke into regional groups to take photos for the website, use the tools provided in the LPC handbook to develop a regional advocacy plan that includes both region legislators and OSBA membership within the region, learn how to access the Email My Region tool, and engage in a question and answer session with Stacy.

The meeting recessed at 3:28 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 3:38 p.m.

IX. Next steps

Michaelson reminded the committee about key aspects of the session's communication plan, the upcoming May and August Legislative Policy Committee meetings, and thanked everyone their time and work.

X. Meeting adjourns

The meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.