



OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Governance Committee

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 2:00 PM

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

OSBA committee members at meeting start: President Dawn Watson, President-elect José Gamero-Georgeson, Past President Chris Cronin, Kraig Albright, Katrina Doughty

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

Guests in attendance at meeting start: Sara Lechner and Jen Gray-O'Connor, Coraggio Group, LLC

OSBA committee members not in attendance at meeting start: Tristan Irvin, Chrissy Reitz, Luhui Whitebear

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

I. Welcome and roll call

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

Sara Lechner reviewed the agenda and provided space for everyone to introduce themselves. Lechner then provided a brief introduction for the Coraggio team that were not in attendance at the meeting.

II. Approve agenda

Motion: Katrina Doughty moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Chris Cronin.

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

Kraig Albright: Yea

José Gamero-Georgeson: Yea

Dawn Watson: Yea

Chris Cronin: Yea

Tristan Irvin: Absent

Luhui Whitebear: Absent

Katrina Doughty: Yea

Chrissy Reitz: Absent

III. Project scope and timeline

Jen Gray-O'Connor provided a high-level overview of the framework for the project, roles and responsibilities for each participation group, and started the process for securing key dates and target timelines.

Additional discussion including key milestones relative to timeline, general scheduling, in-person vs. virtual platforms, potential locations, the importance of scheduling in advance, and broad communication plan considerations.

IV. Readiness and roadblocks

Lechner then facilitated a discussion to further define the committee's view of success, clarify authority and decision-making processes, and identify key components of an effective communication strategy.

Discussion included equitable representation across the state, size of board, the effectiveness of the caucus model, the variations in the governance review process from year to year, the necessary levels of transparency between all the relevant groups, the value of a good communication plan, staff time and resources, potential membership education, and what constitutes a successful resolution (if or when one becomes applicable).

The discussion resulted in center the primary review factor for the project being to ensuring adequate representation while maintaining efficiency and effectiveness.

Chrissy Reitz joined the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

V. Engagement and outcomes

Grey-O'Connor facilitated a discussion to identify whom to engage, on which topics, and through which channels.

Additional discussion topics included how to define what representation and efficiency/effectiveness means, how to engage everyone, and what membership education might be needed throughout the project.

Kraig Albright left the meeting at 3:29 p.m.

VI. Q/A and next steps

Grey-O'Connor summarized next steps as finalizing data requests, developing ongoing project management and final project plan, and scheduling the Committee's project work retreat; noting that the next meeting for the project will be on March 31 to discuss current state mapping.

VII. Meeting adjourns

The meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.