

**Nyssa School Board Minutes
Nyssa, OR**

Date: February 28, 2022

Time: 6:30 PM - Work Session

Location: Boardroom of Administration Building

In accordance with House Bill 2560 (ORS 192.670) all Regular session and Work session meetings can be viewed on the District YouTube channel: Nyssa School District - Board Room.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqiPYR14VSsPQWF6wk00qNg/videos>

Board Members Present: Susan Ramos, Alesha Munk, Pat Morinaka, Marlon Wilson, Jeremy Peterson, Donnie Ballou, Megan Robbins.

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Superintendent Johnson, Megan Glenn, Anna Long, Jose DeLeon, Emily DeLeon, Noemi Melendez, Bobby DeLeon

Members of the Press Present: None

Community Members Present: Sharla Froerer

Call to Order

The Work Session Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Susan Ramos at 6:29pm.

Adoption of Agenda

Board Chair Susan Ramos called for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Board Chair Susan Ramos made a suggestion for an amendment to the agenda to discuss Classified Week. Pat Morinaka made a motion to amend the agenda. Amendments to include the addition of A) Classified Week.

- A) Classified Week
- B) OSEA Request for COVID leave
- C) 2022-23 Calendar
- D) Mask Requirements
- E) Policy Updates
 - 1. Updates from January 2022
 - 2. JEBC- Proposed language amendment
 - 3. Nutrition Policy Updates

F) Budget Committee Vacancy

Motion for amended agenda seconded by Jeremy Peterson; motion carried unanimously.

Business

A) Classified Week

Board Chair Susan Ramos wanted to remind the board that next week is Classified Appreciation Week. The board has purchased cups for all classified staff that will be delivered on Monday. The board will also be purchasing pizza and salads for lunch on Wednesday for classified staff. The Board Chair asked members of the board to come help deliver cups and pizza to show appreciation to the Classified Staff.

B) 2022-23 Calendar

OEA President, Bobby DeLeon sent out a survey to all certified staff regarding their opinions on the calendar. Those results were emailed to the board for review prior to tonight's meeting. The board took a few minutes to review these survey results. Many responses on the survey were discussing a 7 class period day, which Board Chair Susan Ramos made note that the topic of class periods was not a calendar issue. Superintendent Johnson stated that a scheduling decision would be between the administration and the teachers. Pat Morinaka commented on a research study that students with a 4 day school week had lower test scores. Alesha Munk wanted to make note that the research study also mentioned the difference in math scores was noticed more with non-rural schools. Jeremy Peterson mentioned that years ago the board discussed a calendar that allowed for some Fridays off and some tutorial Friday's and the administration and community came to an agreement on a calendar that reflects this. Tutorial Friday's seemed to be beneficial for staff and students. Tutorial Friday's were allowed for all students, not just those struggling. Superintendent Johnson's concern is providing less instruction to students especially coming out of COVID where learning was interrupted. Another concern is because of our demographics we have a higher percentage of students that need a safe place and access to food. A 4.5 day week will need further research to know if that is something that will be beneficial for the students of our district. The proposed calendar is a full 5 day week. The board would recommend every other Friday with tutorials, not a 4.5 day week. They feel the half day instruction was not beneficial. Megan Robbins and Marlon Wilson did a lot of reading regarding a 4 day week. The benefits of a 4 day school week were not beneficial. A mixed version of a 4 day week and 5 day week seems to be a good middle ground.

Bobby DeLeon spoke regarding past calendars with tutorials. He is experiencing in the high school a school overload for students due to COVID, there are increased attendance issues and social problems. He stated there needs to be “slack” somewhere.

Sharla Froerer spoke regarding previous calendars and the middle ground the board and community came to agree on, which was every other Friday off with tutorials. She voiced her frustration in losing sight of that.

Discussion followed.

The board has requested to see a draft with every other Friday off and will revisit at the next board meeting.

Survey provided by Bobby DeLeon from the OEA on file at the District Office.

C) OSEA Request for COVID leave

Superintendent Johnson recognized that many staff members needed to quarantine multiple times due to COVID. Our district nurse was relaying this information to staff based on the Health Departments requirements. The district was doing its best to follow guidelines without repercussion from the State for not following required guidelines. Language of the Classified contract handed out to board members for review at the previous board meeting, the board mentioned that the clause regarding donating sick leave could possibly be interpreted differently to include COVID.

Emily DeLeon, a classified staff member, spoke to the board about her frustration with missing work due to COVID and losing all her sick leave.

Anna Long, a certified staff member, also spoke to the board wanting them to realize that classified staff members have a higher risk of quarantining more often because of the nature of their work and schedule.

Discussion followed.

The board asked for Superintendent Johnson to speak with Crystal Rideau the business manager and find out what the financials would look like to grant COVID leave, they would also like to see a drafted COVID leave proposal for review before they come to a decision.

D) Mask Requirements

Superintendent Johnson let the board know that masking requirements as of March 12th will no longer be required indoors. This allows local control for school boards and school districts to decide if they would like to require masks or allow masks to be optional. Superintendent Johnson shared with the board a letter (both in English and Spanish) that was sent out to the community letting them know of the change in requirements. Superintendent Johnson wants the board to know that the district will do its best to prevent “mask shaming” whether staff/students decide to wear masks or not after March 12th. The board will vote at the next regularly scheduled board meeting if they would like masks optional.

Discussion followed.

Letter from Superintendent Johnson on file at the District Office.

E) Policy Updates

1) Updates from January 2022

- a) IGDJ- Interscholastic Activities-Optional (Currently do not have this policy)-Missed policy update from November 2021.**
- b) ACB- Every Student Belongs (Currently All Students Belong), Required**
- c) ACB-AR- Bias Incident Complaint Procedure, Required**
- d) DH- Loss Coverage, Highly Recommended**
- e) EEAB - School Bus Scheduling and Routing, DELETE**
- f) EEA-AR- School Bus Scheduling and Routing, Optional**
- g) GBA-AR- Veterans’ Preference, Highly Recommended**
- h) GBL- Personnel Records, Required**
- i) GBLA- Disclosure of Information, (Previously highly recommended) DELETE**
- j) GCBDA/GDBDA-AR (1)- Family Leave*, Highly Recommended**
- k) IGBAF-AR- Special Education- Individualized Education Program, Required**
- l) IGBAG-AR- Special Education- Procedural Safeguards, Required**
- m) IGBB- Talented and Gifted Program, Required**

Pat Morinaka reviewed policy updates with the board and asked that each board member read through and at the next regularly scheduled board meeting the board can revisit. Pat Morinaka reminded the board that in these policy updates there are two policies OSBA is asking the board to delete. Policy EEAB is recommended to be deleted and replaced with policy EEA-AR. Pat Morinaka suggested that Ryan Hawkins and Phil Torres please review those policies and give their input prior to the next board meeting. Pat also wanted the board to recognize policy IGDJ is a policy the board currently does not have so it will need to be reviewed carefully.

2) JEBC- Proposed language amendment

Superintendent Johnson provided the board with a proposed language change to policy JECB for their review. The board will review and will revisit at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

3) Nutrition Policy Updates

Child Nutrition Director, Gina Freel did not provide any nutrition policies that are needed to be updated at this time.

F) Budget Committee Vacancy

Due to a vacancy on the budget committee, the board will ask for those interested to apply. Applications will be available at the district office and the board has asked for the application deadline to be March 28th by 5pm.

Adjournment

Board Chair Susan Ramos recessed the work session meeting at 8:10 p.m. to meet in executive session per **ORS 192.660 (2) (i)** *To review and evaluate the employment related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.*

The board came out of Executive Session and adjourned at 9:46 p.m.



Chair/Vice Chair



Superintendent/Clerk

Board Minutes by Megan Glenn, District Administrative Secretary