



**Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School District School Committee
Regular Meeting**

DATE: Tuesday, December 4, 2018

TIME: 5:00 P.M. Executive Session

5:30 P.M. Regular Session

LOCATION: Superintendent's Conference Room

Powder Mill School, 86 Powder Mill Road, Southwick, MA 01077

MINUTES

I. ROUTINE

A. Attendance

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Houle at 5:03 p.m.

The Following were present:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| School Committee: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey Houle, Chairperson, Southwick |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George LeBlanc, Vice Chairperson, Southwick |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theodore Locke, Secretary, Tolland |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pamela Petschke, Granville |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chelsea Berry, Southwick |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Boldyga, Southwick |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Stack, Southwick remote participation via telephone conference; exit at 7:00 p.m. |
| Administration: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Willard, Superintendent |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephen Presnal, Director of Finance and Operations |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy McLaughlin, Recording Secretary; exit at 7:55 p.m. |
| Student Representatives: | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Drohen |
| News Media: | <input type="checkbox"/> Westfield Evening News |
| Observers: | <u>Approx. 2 beginning at 5:40 p.m.</u> |

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:02 p.m. a motion was made to go into Executive session and reconvene in open session.

With the members Jeffrey Houle, George LeBlanc, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Pamela Petschke, Jessica Boldyga being present, and Amy Stack participating remotely, and all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 7/0/0

- 1. Move to go into Executive Session to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health rather than the professional competence of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual. The individual to be discussed in such executive session shall be notified in writing by the public body at least 48 hours prior to the proposed executive session; provided, however, that notification may be waived upon written agreement of the parties; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 2. Move to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 3. Move to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public and the chair so declares; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 4. Move to go into Executive Session to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices or strategies with respect thereto; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 5. Move to go into Executive Session to investigate charges of criminal misconduct or to consider the filing of criminal complaints; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 6. Move to go into Executive Session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 7. Move to go into Executive Session to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements; and to reconvene in Open Session.

- 8. Move to go into Executive Session to consider or interview applicants for employment or appointment by a preliminary screening committee if the chair declares that an open meeting will have a detrimental effect in obtaining qualified applicants; provided, however, that this clause shall not apply to any meeting, including meetings of a preliminary screening committee, to consider and interview applicants who have passed a prior preliminary screening; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 9. Move to go into Executive Session to meet or confer with a mediator, as defined in section 23C of chapter 233, with respect to any litigation or decision on any public business within its jurisdiction involving another party, group or entity; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 10. Move to go into Executive Session to discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively-sensitive or other proprietary information; and to reconvene in Open Session.

Discussions of upcoming contract negotiations for singleton contracts and the Superintendent contract expiring in June 30, 2019.

At 5:40 p.m. Mr. Houle called for a motion to adjourn Executive Session and return to open session. With the members Jeffrey Houle, George LeBlanc, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Pamela Petschke, Jessica Boldyga being present, and Amy Stack participating remotely, and all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 7/0/0

III. ROUTINE

Mr. Houle called the open meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

B. Opening Ceremony - none

C. Secretary's Report

11/20/2018 Meeting Minutes: Accepted as written

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke Motion Passes 7/0/0

D. Warrants - circulated

E. Correspondence

Ms. Willard reported on the rural schools

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – excluding personnel issues

None

V. STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT

Mr. Turmel reported that the winter sports season is well underway and student participation is high enough to allow a Boys JV Basketball team. He also reported on the upcoming Ice Hockey season and that the Athletic Director recently applied for, and received, a waiver so that two female students, each of whom wish to play Ice Hockey but one for the boys team and the other for a local girls co-op, could both play. Mr. Turmel also reported that the SRS Guidance recently held an instant decision day where over 26 students were accepted to schools and over \$240,000 in scholarships were awarded; the winter concert is scheduled for December 11; Bye Bye Birdie has been announced as the spring musical; and Mr. Turmel met with Troy Henke upon the completion of the Veterans Foyer Installations and the plan to work together to document the steps involved should another plaque be needed.

VI. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. Southwick Regional School, Joseph Turmel, Principal

MCAS Results; Site Strategic Plan for 2018/2019; AP Test Results; SAT Test Results; School Profile

Mr. Turmel presented to the Committee the Southwick Regional School MCAS data from the Sprint 2018 testing. He spoke with the Committee at great length about the 7th and 8th Grade Math, ELA and Science scores at SRS and how they compare to state scores as well as how the grade had progressed from the previous year. He also presented the data for science and grade 10. He reminded the Committee that 7th and 8th grades had taken the new MCAS 2.0 and that spring 2018 was the last year for the 10th graders to take the legacy MCAS.

Mr. Turmel then presented information on the new Accountability system that the state has rolled out in conjunction with the MCAS 2.0. He explained how the accountability system has strengths and challenges for a district our size and answered several data specific questions. Ms. Willard stated that at the recent conference she attended, the State was soliciting feedback on the accountability system to resolve some of the challenges for smaller Districts like ours.

Following the accountability, Mr. Turmel reviewed with the Committee the Scores by Grade as well as trends associated with the Advanced Placement testing. He explained to the Committee that more students are choosing AP classes and everyone is required to take the tests, at the District's expense.

Throughout his presentations, Mr. Turmel highlighted District and site initiatives that are currently in place to evaluate all of the data and make changes to improve student performance. These items were summarized on the School Improvement Plan slide of his presentation. Mr. Turmel and the Committee agreed that with the size of SRS, a small number of students could make a significant impact on various scores.

The Committee thanked Mr. Turmel for all of the work he and his staff are doing and Ms. Willard recognized with work of the teachers and the challenges they have risen to and met.

VII. POLICIES

1st Reading – JF Student Activity Accounts

The Committee asked that in addition to updating the amounts of the student activity accounts, that the school names be updated and a few other edits made before the 2nd Reading.

Ms. Boldyga asked whether the addition of two signatures would be made to the policy or the procedure. Mr. Presnal stated that he would update the procedure.

1st Reading – EFC Free and Reduced Price Food Services

No comments from the Committee.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve 2018-2020 Woodland School Site Strategic Plan

Move to approve the 2018-2019 Woodland School Site Strategic Plan

Ms. Boldyga asked about the timing of the approval of the plan. Ms. Willard clarified that this is the correct timing and that, at the other schools, the MCAS test results are needed to address a good portion of the Site Strategic Plans.

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke Motion Passes 6/0/0

B. Approve the PARS/OPEB Investment Initiative – See attached language

Mr. Houle moved to make a motion to waive the reading of the action item in its entirety.

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke Motion Passes 6/0/0

Move to approve the PARS/OPED Investment Initiative per the attached.

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke Motion Passes 6/0/0

IX. REPORTS

A. Superintendent

Budget Roundtable

Superintendent Willard reported that the Budget Roundtable was held with attendance from all three towns. She mentioned that the Town of Southwick is asking the District to participate in Safe Routes to Schools Grant application. She reported that the grant involves considerable time and resource investment for the District and is not sure, based on previous experience with the grant application process at another district, if monies would be awarded.

X. SUB COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

A. Negotiations – The Subcommittee has a date set to continue its review of contracts

B. Finance – Ms. Boldyga reported on the need to invest money for the OPEB and that, under new laws, the GASB will appear as a liability on the District balance sheet beginning in FY18.

C. LPVEC – no report.

D. Policy – no report.

- E. Buildings & Grounds – no report.
- F. Transportation – no report.
- G. ILT – Ms. Petschke reported that the ILT recently reviewed the outdated PE requirement and the next step is to make a recommendation to the Policy subcommittee.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT – excluding personnel issues

None

XII. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

A. Old Business

B. New Business

Mr. Presnal reported that the Transportation Department has an old bus that is out of service and that there would be an action item at the next meeting to scrap that out of service bu.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

To follow regular session only if needed.

None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:09 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

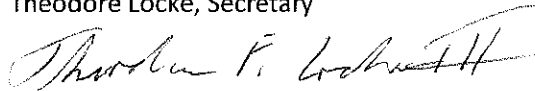
With the members Jeffrey Houle, George LeBlanc, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Pamela Petschke and Jessica Boldyga all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 6/0/0

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theodore Locke, Secretary



XV. STAFFING

Appointments
Resignations
Retirements

XVI. LIST OF DOCUMENTS VIEWED OR DISCUSSED DURING THIS MEETING:

- Agenda for the December 4, 2018 meeting
- Minutes for November 20, 2018 meeting
- SRS MCAS Data Presentation with AP Score Trends and Site Strategic Initiatives
- SRS School Profile 20182019
- Draft Policy JJF Student Activity Accounts
- Draft Policy EFC Free and Reduced Price Food Services
- Woodland School Site Strategic Plan for 2018/2019

A VOTE OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE SOUTHWICK TOLLAND GRANVILLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE
PUBLIC AGENCIES POST RETIREMENT HEALTH CARE PLAN AND TRUST (OPEB FUND)

WHEREAS the Southwick Tolland Granville Regional School District (the "District") has accepted the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended; and

WHEREAS it is determined to be in the best interest of the District to participate in the PARS Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust (the "OPEB Fund") to fund post-employment benefits for its employees as specified in the District's policies and/or applicable collective bargaining agreements; and

WHEREAS the OPEB Fund is a tax-exempt trust and plan performing an essential governmental function within the meaning of Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and the Regulations issued there under, and is a tax-exempt trust under the relevant statutory provisions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS the assets of the OPEB Fund shall be invested in accordance with the prudent investor rule under the provisions of Chapter 203C of the Massachusetts General Laws; and

WHEREAS the District's adoption and operation of the OPEB Fund has no effect on any current or former employee's entitlement to post-employment benefits; and

WHEREAS the terms and conditions of post-employment benefit entitlement, if any, are separate from and independent of the OPEB Fund; and

WHEREAS the District's funding of the OPEB Fund does not, and is not intended to, create any new vested right to any benefit nor strengthen any existing vested right; and

WHEREAS the District reserves the right to make contributions, if any, to the OPEB Fund.

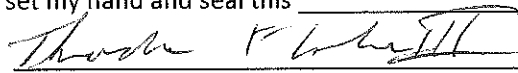
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The School Committee of the Southwick Tolland Granville Regional School District (the "Committee") hereby adopts the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust, including the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan, effective December 4, 2018; and
2. The Committee hereby appoints the Treasurer, or his/her successor or his/her designee as the District's Plan Administrator for the OPEB Fund, and further authorizes the investment of the OPEB Fund under the prudent investor rule established under Chapter 203C of the Massachusetts General Laws; and
3. The District's Plan Administrator is hereby authorized to execute the PARS legal and administrative documents on behalf of the District and to take whatever additional actions are necessary to maintain the District's participation in the OPEB Fund and to maintain compliance of any relevant regulation issued or as may be issued; therefore, authorizing him/her to take whatever additional actions are required to administer the District's OPEB Fund.

SOUTHWICK TOLLAND GRANVILLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

I, Theodore F. Locke, the Secretary of the School Committee of the Southwick Tolland Granville Regional School District hereby certifies that the above foregoing vote was duly and regularly adopted by said District at a regular meeting thereof held on the 4th of December, 2018, and passed by a _____ vote of said Committee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal this _____, 2018.



School Committee Secretary