



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

DATE: October 18, 2016

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Superintendent's Conference Room, Powder Mill School

## MINUTES

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law

### I. ROUTINE

#### A. Attendance

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson of the School Committee, Mr. Houle at 6:00 pm

The Following were present:

School Committee:	Jeffrey Houle, Chairperson
	George LeBlanc, Vice Chair
	Theodore Locke, Secretary (Tolland Rep.)
	Maria Seddon
Administration:	Jennifer Willard, Superintendent
	Stephen Presnal, Business Manager
	Amy McLaughlin, Recording Secretary
Student Representatives:	Carlos Pereira
News Media:	Southwick News

#### B. Opening Ceremony – Pledge of Allegiance

Observers: 10

#### C. Secretary's Report

10/4/2016 Meeting Minutes: Accepted as written

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 4/0/0

#### D. Warrants

Circulated

#### E. Correspondence

Superintendent Willard reported that she just received notice of a June Legal Alert from the Massachusetts Association of School Committees. The alert states that each school district shall file its substance use prevention and abuse education policies with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education by October 28, 2016. Because of the late realization of this, the District will miss the deadline, but the Policy Subcommittee should convene as soon as possible so the policy can be adopted at the next School Committee meeting and reported to the state.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### III. STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT

Carlos Pereira Drohen reported: that Margaret Drohen is unable to attend this evening's School Committee meeting because she is participating in senior night at Cross Country. He also reported that passcodes for Rediker have been distributed and students now have access to their grades and that is going well; student council is participating in two fundraisers for cancer patients: heavenly hats and staff dress-down Friday will raise approximately \$240.

#### IV. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

##### A. Kevin Courtney, Superintendent Willard's Mentor

Kevin Courtney introduced himself as Superintendent Willard's Mentor. Mr. Courtney is a retired Superintendent from Pioneer Valley Regional School District in Northfield, MA and is a Coach in the New Superintendents Induction Program (NISP) and has been since its inception in 2008. Mr. Courtney described NISP as a program that arose out of the need to recognize the difficulty faced by new Superintendents. Mr. Courtney stated that almost all new Superintendent's in the State of Massachusetts participate in the program which pairs new Superintendent's with an experienced Coach. NISP is a three year program that ultimately focuses on teaching and learning and improving student achievement by aiding new Superintendent's in developing an Entry Plan focused on building effective relationships and assessing current district conditions. As part of the entry plan, during the first year, the Superintendent spends considerable time gathering feedback and data which is reported in Entry Findings. Entry Findings are applied to develop District Strategy at the beginning of year two. During years two and three, action plans implementing the strategy enable the entire District to progress toward a District Vision.

##### B. Maryanne Margiotta, SRS Career Facilitator

Maryanne Margiotta, Career Facilitator at the Southwick Regional School, presented the Diversified Learning Experience (DLE) program at the Southwick Regional School. Ms. Margiotta stated that the DLE program is not available to students in all Districts and the DLE program at SRS is considered a model program in the State. Ms. Margiotta described the Advisory Board of the program which consists of local business members who meet to discuss bridging the gap between students and business.

Ms. Margiotta identified some of the student experiences through the program:

- A student will go into mentor worksite ½ day, each day, for a full semester.
- Students receive real world experiences including performance evaluations
- 9<sup>th</sup> grade students previously participated in a mock interview project which Ms. Margiotta would like to add back in.
- Career Cruising enables students to identify their abilities and possible career matches
- Field trips, college fairs, job shadows
- Career exploration placements have included education, law enforcement, child care and animal care.

Mr. Houle asked how many students participate. Ms. Margiotta answered that there are approximately 22 currently.

Mr. LeBlanc commented that he is happy to see the program to continue and appreciates Ms. Margiotta's enthusiasm.

##### C. Chief David Ricardi, Southwick Police Department, Police Notification Software

Southwick Police Chief David Ricardi introduced Mike Selecki from CopSync. Chief Ricardi stated that CopSync is a program that the Southwick Police Department believes in strongly and that they have already presented it to the Southwick Board of Selectmen who have approved the monies for the Police Department's cost.

Mike Selecki from CopSync introduced himself as a retired Police Chief from New Hampshire who now works for CopSync. Mr. Selecki presented CopSync as:

- A software program that is installed on every classroom computer that runs dormant in the background. The program is also installed at the local police department and in local police vehicles. The icon for CopSync sits in the taskbar of the desktop computer. If an emergency presents itself, the classroom teacher activates the CopSync program by clicking it in the taskbar. Once the program is activated, it can be cancelled during a 15 second countdown. If not cancelled, the program immediately broadcasts the emergency, along with exact location of the computer from which it was activated, to all linked computers. Messaging within the program allows participants to know what is happening, and where.
- In some school districts, 911 calls can take up to 2 minutes to initiate. CopSync reduces this time to 4 seconds.
- CopSync can be customized to include floor plans and photos of buildings to aide emergency personnel in making decisions about responding.
- CopSync can link with other communities for mutual aid.
- A mobile version of CopSync can be installed on cell phones and linked with the desktop versions.

Mr. Selecki stated that as with all other emergency response protocols, training and drills would be essential for success, including substitute teachers.

Mr. Presnal asked if there are a high percentage of false alarms at schools where CopSync is utilized. Mr. Selecki stated that in approximately 1000 schools there have been only 15 "false alarms".

Ms. Seddon inquired about the cost. Mr. Selecki stated that there is a per year, per school fee and a one time fee to install. Chief Ricardi stated that a quote had already been received for the District and he would resend that to Superintendent Willard.

Mr. Houle asked about the timeline for the Town's purchase. Chief Ricardi stated that the money had already been approved, it was just a matter of implementing. Mr. Selecki stated that if the District purchased the program it would be installed and tested at one school first then the other schools.

## V. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Move to Approve Resolution for opposing any lift to the cap on Charter Schools in the Commonwealth

– See attached Wording

A motion was made to approve:

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 4/0/0

### B. Move to approve the FY16 Year End Line Item Transfers as noted on the attached list. – Mr. Presnal stated that these items had been reviewed at the Finance Subcommittee Meeting.

A motion was made to approve:

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 4/0/0

### C. Move to approve the 2017 Graduation Date as June 3, 2017 and to update the STGRSD School Calendar accordingly. – Mr. Houle asked what the venue for the graduation would be. Ms. Willard stated that graduation would take place at the Southwick Regional School grounds as in 2016.

A motion was made to approve:

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 4/0/0

- D. Be it resolved, that the Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School Committee hereby extend their congratulations to Bonnie Whalley in recognition of twenty-seven years of teaching excellence, and we hereby convey our sincere appreciation for your valuable efforts, dedicated service, and assistance rendered, which has enhanced the image of the Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional Schools, and a record of these resolutions shall be permanently entered into the minutes of this School District.

A motion was made to approve:

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 4/0/0

## **VI. REPORTS**

### **A. Superintendent**

No report

### **B. School Business Manager**

No report.

### **C. Sub Committees and Liaisons**

- Negotiations: Transportation Negotiations took place on October 17, 2016.
- Finance: no report
- L.P.V.E.C Bd. Gov and Bd. Dir: no report
- Policy: A meeting is needed as soon as possible to address the policy issue Superintendent Willard presented in the Correspondence. Meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2016 at 2:00pm. Ms. McLaughlin will notify Ms. McGviney-Burrelle and Ms. Clendenin
- School Building Committee: Still waiting for MSBA
- Technology: no report
- Curriculum and Instruction: The first meeting of the Instructional Leadership Team took place on October 17, 2016 and was a productive meeting.
- Legislative Liasion: no report
- SPED Liasion: no report
- Southwick Capital Committee: no report

### **D. Policies – No new business**

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Diane Houle, 28 Sheep Pasture Rd, stated that the SRS Field Hockey Team held a bakesale which raised \$300-\$700 for the Libby Kulas Scholarship.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

### **A. Old Business**

Mr. Houle stated his concerns regarding the final hookups of the school buildings for the sewer project. Mr. Houle is concerned that hookups will take place incrementally, resulting in greater taxpayer expense. There is a question as to who will manage this portion of the project. Mr. Presnal stated that he is to meet with the Southwick DPW Director in the next few weeks, regarding this issue. It is likely that the District will need to hire an engineer to determine correct placement and implementation of the hookups. Mr. Houle stated that he would like to participate in the process .

### **B. New Business**

Mr. Houle stated that he had a positive impression of the CopSync software as did the other three members of the Committee. More information is needed regarding cost and availability of funding. If the District moves forward, a plan needs to be identified as to how to include the Granville Village

School and bring their Police Department on Board. Superintendent Willard stated that a meeting would be set up with the Police Chiefs of both towns to discuss.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Was not held.

At 7:31 pm, a motion was made to adjourn to the meeting. With members being present and voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke 4/0/0

Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Theodore Locke, Secretary

**Personnel:**

Appointments

Resignations

- |                  |                                      |            |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Ashley Harder | Board Certified Behavior Analyst     | 10/28/2016 |
| 2. Sarah Russell | Secretary, Southwick Regional School | 10/28/2016 |

Retirements

Reassignments