



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

DATE: Monday, December 5, 2016

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Superintendent's Conference Room

Note Date

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.) – arrive at 6:43 pm
Kelly Clendenin
Pamela Petschke (Granville Rep.)
Maria Seddon
Jean McGivney-Burelle

Administration: Jennifer Willard, Superintendent
Stephen Presnal, Business Manager
Amy McLaughlin, Recording Secretary

Student Representatives: Margaret Drohen

News Media: Southwick News

B. Opening Ceremony – Pledge of Allegiance

Observers: 10

C. Secretary's Report

11/15/2016 Meeting Minutes: Accepted as written

Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Petschke 5/0/1

D. Warrants

Circulated

E. Correspondence

Superintendent Willard received a letter from the Town of Southwick informing her that the town, through its designated personnel, is ready to undertake the periodic review and tour of school facilities. Included was an email from retired Superintendent Barry indicating that Jeff Houle and Eric Morgan were suggested as District representatives on this adhoc group. Mr. Houle will contact Mr. Morgan and identify a couple of dates to conduct the tours.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

III. STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT

Margaret Drohen reported that the NHS toy drive had collected over 200 toys for needy families; the Health careers class went to UMASS for an Opioid information summit; Quarter 2 progress reports are being distributed on Friday; AP Environmental Science was partnering with Powder Mill school to

recycle; Athletics are starting for the winter season; the Winter Concert for the Regional School on Friday December 16.

IV. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Mr. Gene Theroux from the Town of Southwick's Dickinson School Trust Grant presented the 2016-2017 awards to Southwick Regional School teachers Elizabeth McCarthy and Laura Fitzgerald. Mr. Theroux stated that the trustees appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with the school District in receiving and evaluating the applications. Ms. McCarthy was presented the grant to be used toward a 40 week subscription to Alex and Ms. Fitzgerald for computer coding curriculum developed by MIT, called SCRATCH. Mr. Theroux stated that he is pleased that the teachers are able to use the money to leverage technology in the classroom. Superintendent Willard congratulated both teachers on their grants and presented certificates of recognition on behalf of the District.

V. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Move to approve the FY17 Line Item Transfers as outlined on the attached document.

Mr. Presnal stated that the current line items transfers are primarily related to salary reserve for the newly ratified teacher contract and long term to short term debt service bond note.

A motion was made to approve:

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

VI. REPORTS

- A. Superintendent

Student Awards:

Superintendent Willard recognized Ryan LeClair as having been selected as the recipient of the Henry O. Holley Award. This award is presented to the division 3 Boys Soccer MVP for the season and is chosen by the Pioneer Valley Soccer Officials Association.

Superintendent Willard recognized Lydia Kinsman as having been selected, for the second year in a row, as the recipient of the Robert C. Smith Award. This award is presented to the division 3 Girls Soccer MVP for the season and is chosen by the Pioneer Valley Soccer Officials Association.

- B. School Business Manager

Mr. Presnal reported that he is currently working a year to date summary of expenditures.

- C. Sub Committees and Liaisons

- *Negotiations*: Transportation Negotiations the 11/25/2016 meeting was cancelled by the bargaining unit, next meeting scheduled for 12/14/2016.
- *Finance*: L.P.V.E.C Bd. Gov and Bd. Dir: no report
- *Policy*: no report
- *School Building Committee*: no report
- *Technology*: no report
- *Curriculum and Instruction*: no report
- *Legislative Liaison*: no report
- *SPED Liaison*: no report
- *Southwick Capital Committee*: no report

D. Policies – No new business

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VIII. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

A. Old Business

Best Use of Facilities Study

Mr. Houle stated that per the Regional Agreement, any decision that takes place in relation to the Best Use of Facilities Study lies exclusively with the School Committee. One of the local newspapers incorrectly reported that Town votes would make the decision. Mr. Houle reviewed the Regional Agreement and highlighted Section I-B which outlines the guidelines for voting among the School Committee members. Mr. Houle stated that when voting takes place, it will be a role call vote.

Ms. Petschke asked if the voting could be done by secret ballot. Mr. Houle answered that the votes must be outloud so that there is full transparency to the public.

Mr. Houle asked the School Committee members to review Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 70 to become familiar with the concept of “net school spending”. This concept explains how state and local contributions are determined for the District. Mr. Houle highlighted specifically Sections 3, 3A, 6, 6A. Superintendent Willard stated that she has recently become very familiar with the information and would assist anyone who may have questions or need clarification. This information clarifies why money would not go back to the towns if one of the buildings closed. Ms. Petschke asked where will the money go? Superintendent Willard responded that the District presentation to the School Committee on January 10, 2017 will identify how monies would be reallocated.

It was confirmed that the Final Presentation of the Best Use of Facilities Study to the School Committee would take place on December 20, 2016 at the Southwick Regional School Auditorium.

The January meeting dates of the School Committee will be rescheduled. The January 3, 2017 meeting will now be held on January 10, 2017 and the January 17, 2017 meeting will now be held on January 24, 2017. In the new year, School Committee meeting times will remain at 6:00 p.m. The January 10, 2017 meeting will feature a presentation by Superintendent Willard on the implications of each of the Options presented in the study. The January 24, 2017 meeting will allow the School Committee time for necessary discussion and the School Committee vote on the Best Use of Facilities Study is tentatively scheduled for February 7, 2017.

Superintendent Willard stated that the District presentation on January 10, 2017 will present what the school District will look like under options 1 and 2.

Superintendent Willard stated that the District is working on a Question and Answer sheet to be published to the District website will information to some of the most commonly asked questions relating to class sizes, duration of transportation, and capital improvements.

Ms. Petschke asked if the District would assist the town in deciding what to do with the building if the school closes. The members of the committee responded No, the town owns the building and it will be their decision.

B. New Business

Mr. Presnal reported that the Budget Roundtable took place with representatives from all three towns and was a productive meeting. Superintendent Willard made a presentation to the participants on net school spending, which she would share with the School Committee if requested.

Mr. Presnal reported that the sewer project is currently in the design phase.

Mr. Presnal reported that Mr. Labrie would present the Transportation Study results at the December 20, 2016 or the January 24, 2017 School Committee meeting.

Superintendent Willard reported that the District is looking to hire a consultant to assist with the athletics program. The consultant would work with the Athletic Director, parents and students to help foster an environment of positive thinking in athletics.

Ms. Petschke asked that all scheduling information for upcoming School Committee meetings and presentations be published to the district website.

Mr. Presnal reported that the Districts is currently undergoing their annual financial audit and an enrollment audit of the group health plan will be conducted by insurance carrier MIIA.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

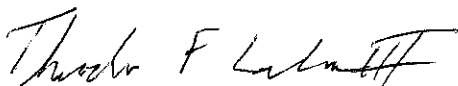
None

At 7:16 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. With the members Jeffrey Houle, George LeBlanc, Theodore Locke, Maria Seddon, Jean McGivney-Burrelle, Pamela Petschke, and Kelly Clendenin being present and voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Theodore Locke, Secretary

Personnel:

Appointments

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Michael Gill | Girls Varsity Basketball Coach |
| 2. | Emilie Methot | Girls JV Basketball Coach |
| 3. | Dylan Dubuc | Boys Varsity Basketball Coach |
| 4. | Peter Fiorentino | Boys JV Basketball Coach |
| 5. | Wesley Dittrich | Alpine Ski Coach |
| 6. | Katelyn Nowicki | Cheerleading Coach |
| 7. | Eduardo Martinez | Varsity Wrestling Coach |
| 8. | Dave Whalley | Varsity Wrestling Coach-assistant |
| 9. | Christopher D'Angelo | JV Ice Hockey Coach |
| 10. | Robert Blackburn | Boys Indoor Track Coach |

Resignations

Retirements

Reassignments