



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

DATE: Tuesday, September 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

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 Mr. Houle at 5:00 p.m.

The Following were present:

School Committee:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey Houle, Southwick
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George LeBlanc, Southwick
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theodore Locke, Tolland
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pamela Petschke, Granville (arrived at 5:01 p.m.)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chelsea Berry, Southwick
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Boldyga, Southwick
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Stack, Southwick
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
Student Representatives:	<input type="checkbox"/>
News Media:	<input type="checkbox"/> Southwick News; Westfield Evening News
Observers:	<u>11</u>

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:00 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, Amy Stack and Jessica Boldyga being present and all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

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

- ☐ 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 Contracts and Addendum for review: Principal.

At 5:39 p.m. the meeting was interrupted by the fire alarm.

At 6:13 p.m. the meeting reconvened and 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, Amy Stack and Jessica Boldyga being present and all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

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

III. ROUTINE

B. Opening Ceremony

None

C. Secretary's Report

8/16/2018 Meeting Minutes: Accepted with the edit of Ms. Berry's place of employment as being Longmeadow, not East Longmeadow.

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

D. Warrants – circulated

E. Correspondence

None

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – excluding personnel issues

Karin Coutsouridis, Westfield, MA – Ms. Coutsouridis is a Westfield parent who home schools her children. Their family has always participated in sports programs through the Southwick Recreation Center and consider Southwick to be their community. Ms. Coutsouridis would very much like her daughter to continue to play soccer with the same group of girls that she's grown up playing with at the Southwick Recreation Center. Unfortunately those girls now attend and are trying out to play for the Southwick Regional School team and her daughter is unable to do so as a homeschooler, and a Westfield resident. Ms. Coutsouridis is requesting that the Committee reconsider their position on home school student participation in District extracurricular activities. She stated that there is a loss to the entire community and the families that live there.

V. STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT

None

Mr. Turmel reported that the students came to the meeting at the scheduled time, but due to the fire drill were not able to provide their report and they needed to go to cross country practice.

VI. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

- A. Opening Week Professional Development – Jenny Sullivan, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Sullivan reported that Opening Day was successful and the District was pleased to be joined by members of the Southwick Police and Fire Departments as they learned about Go Bags.
Day 2 provided professional development in UDL, removing barriers from the curriculum and Woodland and Powder Mill School teachers received Math training given by guests from Mt. Holyoke.
Day 3 had continued math training as well as social emotional training, including PBIS and trauma informed schools. Encore and specials teachers received specialized online training from Westfield State and nurses received training in their SNAP program.

B. Opening Week:

Principal Kimberley Saso, Woodland School

Ms. Saso said that Woodland School welcomes 42 preK, 103 Kindergarten, 93 first graders and 105 second graders. Everyone transitioned very well at the school. In the first days they are executing some procedural changes during dismissal, preparing for upcoming safety drills and kicking off the Woodland CARES program.

Ms. Boldyga stated that the school does such a good job with transition activities for preK and Kindergarten and asked if there is any way to ease transition anxiety for 1st and 2nd graders. Ms. Saso said that she will review with staff and also school council.

Principal Erin Fahey Carrier, Powder Mill School

Ms. Fahey Carrier stated that Powder Mill School welcomes 109 third graders, 119 fourth graders, 115 fifth graders and 116 sixth graders. She reported that she is learning so much about Powder Mill School and the systems that are in place. She is also working to identify areas of improvement.

Principal Joseph Turmel, Southwick Regional School

Mr. Turmel reported that the buildings are in fantastic shape and recognized Mr. Wicander, the custodial and the buildings and grounds crew for all of their hard work. He stated that the beginning of the year professional development was well planned and executed by Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Shorter. He also recognized the Guidance department for their work and the minimal student scheduling changes. Athletics began on August 27 and all sports are fielding both varsity and junior teams. He stated that everyone had been very supportive. He also reported that combining the regional school offices to a single office had been very successful.

Introduction of Southwick Regional School Assistant Principal Michael Pescitelli – Mr. Turmel introduced Mr. Pescitelli and highlighted his strong curriculum background and his ability to connect and relate to the communities in our District.

Mr. Pescitelli then showed the Committee a video produced by SRS staff during the first day of professional development. Each department was challenged to come up with Our Three Words that learning and education mean to them.

I. POLICIES

None

VII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Home Education for 2018/2019 School Year

Move to approve Home Education Plans HS-1819-01 through HS-1819-27 for the 2018/2019 School Year.

Ms. Petschke asked if there is a deadline for Home Education applications. Ms. Willard responded that August 15 prior to the start of the year is the deadline, but applications are taken at any time.

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

B. Approve School Choice Seat for 2018/2019 School Year

Move to approve one Grade 5 School Choice Seat for the 2018/2019 School Year.

- Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke Motion Passes: 7/0/0
- C. Approve Fundraisers for SRS for the 2018/2019 School Year
Move to approve 2018/2019 fundraisers for Southwick Regional School.
Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke Motion Passes: 7/0/0
- D. Approve Out-of-State Field Trips for SRS for the 2018/2019 School Year
Move to approve 2018/2019 out-of-state field trips for Southwick Regional School.
Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke Motion Passes: 7/0/0
- E. Approve Leave of Absence for Paraprofessional for 2018/2019 School Year
Move to grant a one-year unpaid leave of absence to Tonya Stannard, Southwick Regional School Paraprofessional, for the 2018/2019 School Year.
Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Locke Motion Passes: 7/0/0

II. REPORTS

A. Superintendent

Meeting with Chief Bishop

Ms. Willard reported that she had met with new Southwick Police Chief Bishop and they discussed the continued partnership between the department and the District.

Safety Funding

Ms. Willard reported that State Representative Nicholas Boldyga notified her that he has been able to secure \$50,000.00 in funds towards school safety.

Sewer Project

Ms. Willard reported that the Powder Mill School experienced an issue with the sewer system the first day but it was resolved by the contractor within 24 hours. Mr. Presnal reported that the next step would be to issue notice to the MASS DEP of sewer installation and have the consent order lifted.

B. Director of Finance and Operations

Audit of Student Activity Accounts

Mr. Presnal reported that, over the summer, the auditor came in and conducted a review of accounts at Southwick Regional School. Some of the recommendations he will work on during the upcoming year, including one to change the current practice of limits for funds from student activity accounts.

Granville Harvest Fair Bus Request

Mr. Presnal reported that he had received a request from the Granville Harvest Fair Committee to use the District Transportation for the annual fair on October 6, 2018. Mr. Presnal reported that, compared to last year, the fleet is in better shape and he is comfortable providing the service. The Committee will vote at the next meeting.

Energy Efficiency with Eversource

Mr. Presnal reported that the District has been approved for a project with Eversource that will replace all old style light fixture with LED lights. The total value of the project is approximately \$435,000 with the District's share at approximately \$88,000 and is expected to be completed within 24 months.

Transportation at School Start

Mr. Presnal reported that Mrs. Wzorek and her entire staff did an excellent job preparing for the year and they had a great start. He also reported that they are short staffed and need drivers. He also reported that new buses had been ordered for FY19.

Paving

Mr. Presnal reported that paving was completed at Woodland School and the bus garage and they hope to schedule more for 2020.

Wireless Expansion

Mr. Presnal reported that the wireless expansion project that was executed as a result of the Digital Connections Partnership Grant was nearly completed. They are still waiting on some items and fiberwork.

AED Fundraising

Mr. Presnal reported that with all three towns contributing and the other fundraising, the Health and Careers Club had met their goal.

III. SUB COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

No Reports. Mr. Houle reminded the committees that they should set a leader at their first meeting and that individual would report back to the group.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – excluding personnel issues

Diane Houle, Southwick, MA. Ms. Houle recognized Mr. Turmel for all of the work he had done as Athletic Director. She stated that the transition was seamless and communication was excellent and the safety of the kids was always at the forefront.

V. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

A. Old Business

Home Education Participation in Athletics

Ms. Petschke asked about the Policy for Home Education students in athletics. Mr. Houle stated that the policy states that they are unable to participate. Mr. LeBlanc and Ms. Stack confirmed that the Policy Subcommittee reviewed that policy last fall and the decision was made not to change it. Some of the considerations are that attendance and GPA requirements that students who attend school in the District must meet to participate in athletics would be difficult to enforce for students educated at home.

Whalley Park Games

Two athletic games have been scheduled at Whalley Park. The boys and girls soccer teams will both play their senior night games, under the lights, at Whalley Park. Those games are scheduled for October 25 and October 26.

Granville Harvest Fair Use of School Buses

Mr. Houle asked the Committee members to think about this request and how it could impact future requests. Ms. Petschke stated that providing the service would help build relationships with the Town of Granville.

Building Temperatures on Hot Days

Ms. Berry asked Ms. Willard what is being done in the District during excessively hot days.

Ms. Willard stated that she is in close contact with the Director of Finance and Operations and the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds to monitor temperatures. She also stated that the second floor of Powder Mill School is

watched carefully and alternative learning spaces are always made available. She also stated that Mr. Turmel had been in close contact with other Districts regarding athletics and she has been checking in with school nurses to see how students and staff are doing.

B. New Business

A. Public Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

Ms. Petschke stated that she had a conflict of interest to disclose. She stated that her husband, Robert Petschke, is a teacher at Powder Mill School and she will excuse herself from all discussions that conflict.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

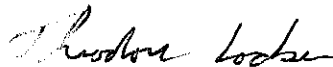
At 7:24 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Theodore Locke, Secretary

VII. STAFFING

Appointments

Lafleur, Latoya	Food Service Assistant Manager SRS	8/27/2018
Pescitelli, Michael	Assistant Principal SRS	7/30/2018
Peirce, Kirsten	Teacher WS Music	8/27/2018
Barrett, Paul	Teacher PMS Music	8/27/2018
Williams, Gloria	School Adjustment Counselor PMS	8/27/2018
Winkler, Jillian	Paraprofessional PMS	8/27/2018
Parker, Margaret	Paraprofessional WS	8/27/2018
Savard, Traci	School Adjustment Counselor PMS	9/10/2018
LaFlamme, Teresa	Paraprofessional PMS	9/4/2018
Guil, Vincent	Internal Suspension Monitor SRS	8/30/2018
Gargano, Micki	Paraprofessional PMS	

Resignations

Wadleigh, Nichole	Teacher WS Music	6/30/2018
Fitzsimmons, Melinda	Paraprofessional WS/PMS	8/1/2018
DeCaro, Donna	School Adjustment Counselor PMS	6/30/2018
Pittenger, Amanda	Paraprofessional PMS	7/5/2018
Dinapoli-Lumb, Erica	Teacher ELL (0.8)	8/6/2018
Berube, Stephanie	Paraprofessional WS	8/16/2018
Motsko, Shelley	Paraprofessional WS	8/5/2018
Kolasinski, Erin	School Adjustment Counselor PMS	7/30/2018
Becklo, Jonathan	Internal Suspension Monitor SRS	8/23/2018
Riley, Sean	Paraprofessional PMS	8/24/2018
Estrada, Alexandra	Paraprofessional WS	9/4/2018

Retirements

Savva, Luanne	Paraprofessional SRS	9/10/2018
Demello, Peter	Teacher SRS	10/6/2018

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

- Agenda for the September 4, 2018 meeting
- Minutes for August 16, 2018 meeting
- 2018/2019 Home Education Proposals
- School Choice Request form
- SRS Fundraisers for 2018/2019
- SRS Out-of-State Field Trips for 2018/2019
- Letter of Request for Leave of Absence
- Paraprofessional Unit/School Committee Contract 2017-2020 page 10
- Granville Harvest Fair Committee Request
- Eversource Energy Efficiency Customer Report
- Eversource Retrofit Program Customer Pre-Approval

