



Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School District School Committee

Regular Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, November 5, 2019

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.
Agenda times are estimates.

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"/> Pamela Petschke, Granville (arrived at 5:02 p.m.)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theodore Locke, Tolland
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Boldyga, Southwick (exited at 6:34 p.m.)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chelsea Berry, Southwick
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Schantz, Southwick
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kyle Boyer, Southwick, 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amelia Coviello (Regular Session at 5:30 p.m.)
News Media:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Observers:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Approximately 2</u>

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:01 p.m. a motion was made to go into Executive session and reconvene in open session.

With the members Jeffrey Houle, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Jessica Boldyga, Kyle Boyer and Jonathan Schantz being present and all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

Motion by Berry, seconded by Boyer 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.

At 5:02 p.m. Ms. Petschke was excused in advance of the discussion of Unit A Negotiations.

Unit A Negotiations

At 5:28 p.m. Ms. Petschke returned

At 5:38 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn Executive session and return to open session.

With the members Jeffrey Houle, Jessica Boldyga, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, Pamela Petschke, Theodore Locke and Kyle Boyer being present and all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

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

III. ROUTINE (5:30 p.m.)

B. Opening Ceremony

C. Secretary's Report

10/15/2019 Meeting Minutes Accepted

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

D. Warrants - circulated

E. Correspondence –

Southwick 350th request for transportation – Superintendent Willard reported that the District received an email from the Town of Southwick regarding the Southwick 250th. The Town was requesting use of the District school buses for some scheduled 250th events. Mr. Presnal informed the Town that the District is investigating the possibility of outsourcing transportation to LPVEC and if that takes place, the Town may need to reach out to LPVEC. Mr. Presnal did give the Town a cost estimate based on previous usage by the Town of Granville for the Harvest Fair.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – excluding personnel issues

None

V. STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT

Amelia Coviello reported:

- Eight Families attended the Global Glimpse presentation. Mr. Turmel and Mrs. Downie were present along with a representative from Global Glimpse and students from Westfield High to lead the discussion. Mr. Turmel addressed the audience first to share the news of this opportunity, but also highlighted that this is not a school sponsored event.
- The first lock-down of the year was held was held on 10/28/2019. The drill went very well.
- Unity Day was held on 10/30/2019. Students and staff wore orange, to promote anti-bullying and inclusion.
- The 1st quarter ended on 11/1/2019. SRS Report cards will be distributed on 11/7/2019.
- National Honor Society induction ceremony is scheduled for 11/13/2019.
- 11th graders met with Mr. Turmel on the opportunity for MCAS retakes. On the ELA test, there was an essay question about the Underground Railroad which students in other districts expressed as insensitive and thus had a negative impact on their focus to finish the test. The Commissioner invalidated that question from all student's test and allowed students to submit a request take the test again if they felt they were impacted. DESE would review the request and grant permission for the retest.
- In sports: Boys Soccer had a playoff game at Whalley Monday – Southwick won 5-4; Girls Volleyball won their opening round match and move on to quarterfinals at Lenox Monday night; In Golf - Matt Garrity was the

Western Mass champion and the team came in second place and qualified for the states. Prior to heading out to their practice round, SRS students lined halls to send them off.

- Yearbooks are currently for sale.

- November 1st marked the first college application deadline.

VI. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. Ice Hockey Co-Op and Unified Basketball Team Proposal– David Sanschagrín, Athletic Director, Southwick Regional School

Ice-Hockey Co-Op

Mr. Sanschagrín spoke of the SRS Ice Hockey program and stated that in his early days as Athletic Director, the Committee asked him to investigate a co-op for the Ice Hockey program. Mr. Sanschagrín reported that during the MIAA review and approval of the co-op he highlighted to them that the physical size of the 7th-9th grade players on the current SRS team contribute to the need for a co-op. He stated that the co-op would be with Westfield Tech and Gateway Regional School District. He estimated there would be six total players from those two schools combined. Mr. Sanschagrín explained that all MIAA co-op agreements are two-year agreements. From the financial side, Mr. Sanschagrín explained that the District will bill schools on a per player basis at the end of the season. Each District handles it differently. Gateway families will be billed directly but Westfield Technical Academy will be billed. For game transportation, co-op students can either go directly to the rink, or they can go to SRS and travel with the team to the game. The first practice/try-outs starts December 2.

Unified Sports

Mr. Sanschagrín presented the Unified Sports program to the Committee. He explained that through this program, the District partners with Special Olympics to provide athletic opportunities for students with mental and physical challenges. Unified sports teams have students with disabilities playing together and alongside students without disabilities. Mr. Sanschagrín sees opportunity for Unified Sports at SRS in track and basketball and would like to begin with a spring 2020 track team and a 20/21 basketball team. He estimates that a minimum 8 players are needed, with 10-15 ideally, and that SRS has students at all ability levels to field the teams. Teams typically have two practices and on game per week. Initial informal surveys of students and staff have been overwhelmingly positive and Ms. Bean is already working with Mr. Sanschagrín to figure out how to make the programs work.

Mr. Sanschagrín informed the Committee that the Unified teams would be in addition to the regular track and basketball programs. From a financial perspective, he has cost information and feels that the current budget supports the track team in the spring and he would budget for both teams in the 20/21 budget. He states that there are also funding opportunities from Special Olympics grants and an SRS Class of 2019 monetary gift to Ms. Bean's program. Mr. Sanschagrín stated that there are some issues that need clarification such as an Appendix B coaching stipend, uniform purchases and transportation, especially with students with severe special needs.

Mr. Sanschagrín stated that he is asking the Committee to consider both the Ice Hockey Co-Op and the Unified Sports teams and act on approval for them at the upcoming School Committee Meeting on 11/19/2019.

Other Athletic Department News

Mr. Sanschagrín reminded the Committee of his partnership with Longmeadow Public Schools on the Positive Coaching Alliance. He said the informational sessions are for families and he is putting into place a requirement for Coaches to attend a 50 minute session for communicating with parents/students conflict resolution and identifying what positive coaching looks like.

Mr. Sanschagrín reported that SRS is sending a couple of students ambassadors to MIAA leadership workshop in Western Mass and finally, Whalley Computer has invited SRS Student athletes to attend a presentation by David Ross, on December 6, 2019 during the school day.

VII. POLICIES

None

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Fundraisers

Move to approve the 19/20 school year Southwick Regional School fundraisers: GSA Hat Day for National Human Rights Day; Annual NHS Volleyball tournament to benefit NHS holiday toy drives; Wreaths Across America local business donation requests; Wreaths Across America coin collections; and Wreaths Across America dodgeball tournament.

PP/CB 7/0/0 Motion by Petschke, seconded by Berry 7/0/0

Move to approve the 19/20 school year Powder Mill School fundraisers: Wreaths Across America Penny wars.

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

Move to approve the 19/20 school year PAWS PTO fundraiser: Tastebooks and Ultimate Shopping Bingo.

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

B. Approve Superintendent's Goals for 2019/2020 school year

Move to approve the Superintendent's Goals for the 2019/2020 school year.

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

C. Accept donation of computers from Comark Communications

Move to accept the generous donation of personal computers and monitors from Comark Communications, Hitachi Kokusai Electric Comark LLC valued at approximately \$500.00.

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

Mr. Presnal reported that Comark Communications had computers, to donate and reached out to the District. The District IT Department reviewed the machines to make sure they would be usable and compatible with our existing configuration. IT determined that these computers would provide a short-term bridge with existing computers and recommend accepting the donation.

IX. REPORTS

A. Superintendent

Superintendent Willard reported that the District's first participation in Massachusetts STEM Week was a success. She recognized the hard work of District STEM Instructional Coach Beth Grady for the success of the investigations, which took place at Woodland and Powder Mill Schools. Ms. Grady was on Westfield State committee and brought STEM Week to life at STGRSD. Ms. Grady worked closely with PMS and WS teachers and made sure they were ready to immerse themselves in STEM Week.

Ms. Willard also reported that SRS Adjustment Counselor Stephanie Lecrenski had been named as the Western Massachusetts Counselor of the year; the Southwick Food Pantry will be providing food to SRS for students to take home with them; Lockdown Drills took place at all three schools and were, again, very successful. The next step in the drill sequence is to practice the lockdown to evacuation, mini reunification.

B. Director of Finance and Operations

Mr. Presnal reported that the end of year financial report had been filed with DESE. He highlighted that the District met Net school spending requirements. Mr. Presnal reported that the next filing with DESE is the Excess and Deficiency Certification, which is anticipated to be completed in the upcoming weeks.

X. SUB COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

Subcommittee Assignments

Negotiations: Locke, Berry, Schantz – The teachers did not settle and next steps are to go to mediation;

Transportation is close to a 1-year agreement

Finance: Boldyga, Locke, Houle – At the last meeting discussions included: OPEB liability, retiree eligibility of health insurance and student opportunity act. The school lunch policy is on agenda for next meeting

L.P.V.E.C. Bd. Governors: Boyer – no report

L.P.V.E.C. Bd. Directors: Houle – no report

Policy: Schantz, Boyer, Berry – next meeting is scheduled for before November 19 – schedule needs to be looked at because Ms. Berry cannot attend.

Buildings and Grounds: Houle – The subcommittee met and reviewed current issues as well as parking lots, parking lot assessment by Tighe and bond for \$23,000; Powder Mill playground is schedule to have surfacing installing next; SRS data closet solution regarding air handling, gym divider at SRS will be installed the first week in March because of athletic conflicts. Things to look at include: heritage boilers at WS and SRS; LED lighting rollout at SRS to use incentive funds through utility then energy savings.

Transportation: Locke, Boyer, Boldyga – Mr. Locke reported that he attended the most recent meeting with the District and LPVEC to discuss transfer of the transportation department. There are some issues surrounding Town ownership of the property which includes an underground oil storage tank. This raises questions about the location of the garage and the fleet going forward. Mr. Presnal reported that he had a conference call with Jay Sullivan at DESE and Anna Bishop from LPVEC to see what the potential risks would be financially. After the preliminary call, another call is scheduled for two weeks to allow Mr. Sullivan time to review.

Liaison Assignments

(ILT): Petschke, Boldyga, Berry

Wellness Liaison: Locke –

SPED Liaison: Petschke

Technology: Petschke, Schantz

Southwick 250th: Berry – Ms. Berry reported that the banner walk on and Banner Way Day is scheduled for 11/17/2019.

Southwick Capital Committee: Berry

Legislative Liaison:

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT – excluding personnel issues

None

XII. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

A. Old Business

B. New Business

Mr. Schantz followed up on previous technology communication discussions and recommends the HootSuite app. He also asked if the Committee could begin to use Office 365 at their meetings to view documents, take notes, etc.

Mr. Schantz asked if the Woodland School Principal might send out a reminder email for Woodland families that pick up/drop off parking is in the Rec. Center parking lot. With the colder weather more parents are diving up to the school and he is worried about student safety.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

To follow regular session only if needed.

None

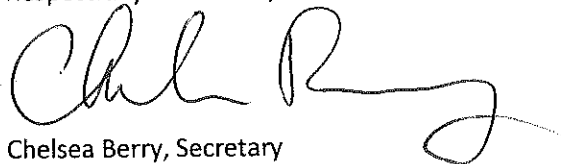
At 7:01 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

With the members Jeff Houle, Pamela Petschke, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, and Kyle Boyer all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chelsea Berry, Secretary

XIV.

Appointments

Conchieri, Briana

Powder Mill School Paraprofessional

10/15/2019

Resignations

Baker, Frederick	Woodland School Teacher	10/4/2019
Daugherty, Erin	Southwick Regional School Teacher	10/18/2019
Follet, Peter	Southwick Regional School Teacher	10/18/2019
Tereshchuk, Vera	Powder Mill School Paraprofessional	11/1/2019

Retirements

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

- Agenda for the November 5, 2019 meeting
- Minutes for October 15, 2019 meeting
- Email from Stephen Presnal dated 10/30/2019 regarding Request for use of school buses
- Ice-Hockey Co-Op Timeline
- Unified Sports Information Packet
- Superintendent's Goals
- SRS Fundraiser Requests