



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

DATE: Tuesday, December 1, 2020

TIME: 5:30 P.M. Executive Session

6:00 P.M. Regular Session

**LOCATION: ZOOM Webinar**

**When: Dec 1, 2020 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Topic: 12/1/2020 School Committee Meeting**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86420009123?pwd=SVVGR2ZGNGh0YWtsNVlSYmZEk2VCQT09>

Passcode: bgz5QE

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +13126266799,,86420009123#,,,,,0#,,810082# or +19292056099,,86420009123#,,,,,0#,,810082#

Or Telephone:

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Webinar ID: 864 2000 9123

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**\*NOTE WEBINAR\***

**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. EXECUTIVE SESSION (5:30 p.m.)**

At 5:35 p.m. a motion was made to go into Executive session and reconvene in open session.

With the members Jeffrey Houle, Chelsea Berry, Theodore Locke, Jonathan Schantz and Ryan Korobkov present and all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

Motion by Schantz, seconded by Berry 5/0/0

5:40 p.m. Ms. Petschke joined

5:42 p.m. Ms. Seddon joined

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Move to go into Executive Session to discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively-sensitive or other proprietary information; and to reconvene in Open Session.

Paraprofessional Negotiations, Unit A MOAs

At 6:02 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn Executive session and return to open session.

With the members Jeffrey Houle, Pamela Petschke, Chelsea Berry, Maria Seddon, Jonathan Schantz, Theodore Locke, Ryan Korobkov and Jonathan Schantz voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

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

**II. ROUTINE (6:00 p.m.) – BEGIN ZOOM WEBINAR ABOVE**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Houle at 6:07 p.m.

A. Attendance

The following were in attendance.

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| School Committee (Participants): | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey Houle, Southwick<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pamela Petschke, Granville<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theodore Locke, Tolland, exited at 7:19 p.m.<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Korobkov, Southwick<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chelsea Berry, Southwick<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Schantz, Southwick<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maria Seddon, Southwick, exited at approx. 7:30 p.m. |
| Administration (Participants):   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Willard, Superintendent<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephen Presnal, Director of Finance and Operations<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy McLaughlin, Recording Secretary  |
| Student Representatives:         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annette St. Jacques, Timothy Gerrish  |
| News Media:                      | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown  |
| Observers (Attendees):           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Approximately 34</u>   |

B. Opening Ceremony

Mr. Houle reminded the Committee and audience members that the meeting was being recorded. Mr. Houle reminded the Committee and audience members of the Public Comment procedures for the virtual meeting format. Mr. Houle explained that the agenda would be taken out of order during this meeting, the Action Items would follow the Student Advisory Report

C. Secretary's Report

11/24/2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Houle noted that the date of the top of the minutes was incorrect. Ms. McLaughlin clarified that they were the minutes for the 11/24/2020 meeting.

Mr. Houle asked for a motion to accept the minutes with the revised date.

With the members Jeff Houle, Pamela Petschke, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, Maria Seddon, and Ryan Korobkov all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

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

D. Warrants

Mr. Houle reminded the Committee that warrants had been emailed and asked everyone to please review and sign.

E. Correspondence

Ms. Willard reported on an email received on November 23, 2020 from Russell Johnston, Senior Associate Commissioner at DESE regarding Significant Disproportionality in Special Education. The email summarized DESE's responsibility to analyze District data and identify and report any significant disproportionality and they have not identified significant disproportionality in STGRSD data.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT – excluding personnel issues**

In order that all citizens who wish to be heard before the committee have a chance and to insure the ability of the committee to conduct the district's business in an orderly manner, members of the public viewing online may make comments by sending their comment, along with their name and address, in an email, in advance of, or during, the meeting to [superintendent@stgrsd.org](mailto:superintendent@stgrsd.org). Comments will be read aloud at the meeting during Public Comment. Any comments received after the first comment period will be read in the second Public Comment period.

Improper conduct and remarks will not be allowed. Comments may offer such objective criticisms of the school operations and programs as concern them, but in public session, the committee will not hear personal complaints of school personnel nor against any member of the school community. Under most circumstances, administrative channels are the proper means for disposition of legitimate complaints involving staff members.

No Public Comment

**IV. STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT**

Annette St. Jacques and Timothy Gerrish reported that students are concerned about winter sports but understand there is no update yet and they are anxious to go back to school.

**V. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Approve Appendix B Subcommittee Revisions to Agreement with Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional Education Association

Move to accept the revisions to the Appendix B section of the agreement between the Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School District and the Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional Education Association Unit A contract dated August 25, 2019 to August 24, 2022 with the revisions to positions and pay effective August 25, 2020.

There were no questions or comments.

With the members Jeff Houle, Pamela Petschke, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, Maria Seddon, and Ryan Korobkov all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

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

B. Approve Home Education

Move to approve Home Education Proposal HS-2021-83.

There were no questions or comments.

With the members Jeff Houle, Pamela Petschke, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, Maria Seddon, and Ryan Korobkov all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

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

C. School Choice

Move to approve one school choice seat for 12th grade for the 20/21 school year for an existing student.

There were no questions or comments.

With the members Jeff Houle, Pamela Petschke, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, Maria Seddon, and Ryan Korobkov all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

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

D. Approve Fundraisers

Move to approve the 20/21 school year fundraisers: Southwick Regional School class of 2024 apparel sale with school logo and class of 2024 candy gram sales.

There were no questions or comments.

With the members Jeff Houle, Pamela Petschke, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, Maria Seddon, and Ryan Korobkov all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

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

E. Approve MOA with Director of Student Services

Move to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School Committee and Robin Gunn, Director of Student Services which amends the terms of the July 1, 2020 employment contract including work year and Attachment "A".

There were no questions or comments.

With the members Jeff Houle, Pamela Petschke, Theodore Locke, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, Maria Seddon, and Ryan Korobkov all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes

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

**VI. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION**

Woodland School Site Strategic Plan, Kimberley Saso, Principal, Woodland School

Ms. Saso reviewed the 2020/2021 Woodland School Site Strategic plan explaining each of the impact areas and the work that will take place. She highlighted added behavioral interventions for social emotional supports and teacher coaching under Engaged Learning ; new teacher leadership committees with "remote" options and adapting initiatives during the social distancing under Shared Educational Leadership; student devices and technology support especially during remote learning under Instructional Technology. She explained that some initiatives are currently on hold while teachers acclimate to the current, full-remote learning model.

Ms. Berry commented that she is impressed that Woodland School is willing to take on tier 1 and is proud that they are tackling that right now.

Powder Mill School Site Strategic Plan, Erin-Fahey Carrier, Principal, Powder Mill School

Ms. Fahey Carrier reviewed the 2020/2021 Powder Mill Site Strategic plan explaining that many initiatives of the previous year have been accomplished and many new ones are COVID related. She explained ongoing objectives include pivoting from in-person to remote and accommodating the COVID protocols of social distancing. She highlighted that students who were required to undergo quarantine were able to be shifted quickly from in-person to remote in a day or so for minimal school loss.

There were no questions or comments.

Winter Athletics at SRS, David Sanschagrín, Athletic Director

Mr. Sanschagrín took the Committee through his presentation on Winter Athletics. His presentation included information about the fall athletics season, current COVID numbers, status of winter season preparation, EEA/MIAA guidance for all winter sports as well as sport specific guidance, the SRS Athletics Plan, stakeholder feedback and proposals. He explained that for the winter season, the MIAA had already determined that Wrestling and Cheerleading would move to the spring season and Indoor Track to fall 2. For that reason, his presentation focuses on Basketball, Ice Hockey and Alpine Skiing. Mr. Sanschagrín also explained that the PVIAC, which SRS is a member, has postponed the winter season to start on January 4, 2021.

Mr. Sanschagrín explained the COVID-19 modifications that would be required by MIAA for each of the sports and also shared written plans that each of the SRS coaches had created for their sport during the COVID-19 pandemic. Those plans included adapted team rules as well as the team COVID-19 protocols. During the sports presentation Mr. Sanschagrín addressed the recent MA state shutdown and subsequent reopening of Ice Hockey and explained some of the findings of lessons learned from that shutdown. As part of protocols and modifications, Mr. Sanschagrín also reviewed transportation to/from winter athletic events, contact tracing, student-athletes not in compliance with protocols, and no spectator policy.

Mr. Sanschagrín then reviewed feedback he had received from stakeholders including survey results from parents, student-athletes and faculty as well as consultation he had made with the Southwick Public Health Nurse. He stated that stakeholders surveyed expressed confidence in the SRS Athletic Department's COVID-10 plan.

Mr. Houle thanked Mr. Sanschagrín for his presentation and then asked the Committee if they had any questions or comments.

Ms. Petschke asked Mr. Sanschagrín if he had examples of in-person student learning impacts at other Districts. Mr. Sanschagrín stated that Longmeadow had a group of students who had to quarantine as a result of an opponent that tested positive for COVID-19. He explained that contact tracing is a result of an abundance of caution. Mr. Turmel explained that if a similar situation happens with SRS winter athletics, it would be likely that an entire cohort would need to transition to remote learning.

Ms. Petschke asked about the plan for handling students who are non-compliant with the new protocols. Mr. Turmel stated that SRS has had a very high success rate of the students to follow the protocols and understanding expectations and any non-compliance would be handled very quickly and students who continue to resist protocols would be excluded from play.

Ms. Berry thanked Mr. Sanschagrín for the details in his presentation and also responded favorably to the condition that teams would not play communities designated as "red".

Mr. Houle asked if it had been considered to temperature check all athletes and coaches upon arrival. Mr. Sanschagrín responded that it could be done. Ms. Willard stated that early in the school year guidance indicated that temperature checks were deemed not a reliable source of data.

The Committee thanked Mr. Sanschagrín and Mr. Houle reminded the members that they would take action on winter athletics at the next meeting on December 15, 2020 will be on the next agenda for decision.

## **VII. POLICIES**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: BEDH Public Comment  
No questions or comments

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: IKF Graduation Requirements  
No questions or comments

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: GCG – Substitute Teachers  
No questions or comments

## **VIII. REPORTS**

### **A. Superintendent**

Superintendent Willard reported that DESE is offering Binex COVID-19 testing which is a rapid test that would be administered by the school nurses. Ms. Willard reported that she has been in contact with DESE and is hoping this is something that can be offered at STGRSD to decrease the potential exposure time.

Ms. Willard also reported that the State has air purifiers available for Districts and STGRSD is scheduled to receive approximately 45 of them for use at Powder Mill and Woodland Schools.

Ms. Willard reminded the committee that the STGRSD COVID summary data posting is available on the District website.

### **B. Director of Finance and Operations**

Mr. Presnal reported that the STGRSD Budget Roundtable held in late November had representatives from each of the three towns. He noted that the Tolland representative was Mr. Locke, our school committee member who also services on the finance committee for Tolland. He reminded the Committee that the roundtable meeting kicks off the FY22 budget planning, but the District is still working on FY21.

Mr. Houle asked Mr. Presnal to provide an update on the student device order. Mr. Presnal reported that there was no update on the original order but the District did acquire a additional devices that were placed on two additional orders. One order was 150 devices that were recently received and deployed to families and a second order of 75 devices has arrived at the vendor. Currently the need has been met with a combination of machines, new and old, but the original order is still in places and devices will be distributed, when they arrive.

## **IX. SUB COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS**

Negotiations: Locke, Berry, Schantz - No report

Finance: Schantz, Locke, Houle – No report

L.P.V.E.C. Bd. Directors: Petschke - No report

L.P.V.E.C. Bd. Governors: Houle - Mr No report

Policy: Berry, Seddon – no report

Buildings and Grounds: Houle– - no report

### **Liaison Assignments**

Athletics Liaison: Schantz – No report

(ILT): Petschke, Korobkov, Berry – No report

Wellness Liaison: Korobkov and Locke– No report

SPED Liaison: Korobkov– No report

Technology: Petschke, Schantz– No report

Southwick Capital Committee: Berry– No report

Southwick 250th : Berry– No report

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT – excluding personnel issues**

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Gary Whittier, Southwick, MA

I had written Chairman Houle and Superintendent Willard back in October with some facts regarding hockey and the current pandemic. I have also spoken with Dave Sandschagrin and provided him with additional facts and outlined the steps I will take to limit the risks of spreading Covid since my letter to you. I would like to share some additional information with you to help you make the right decision in allowing these student athletes to participate in sports this winter.

My two sons have been playing hockey since August. There had been no cases in western mass in any rinks until two weeks ago. My youngest son's team played against a player from another team who tested positive two days after the game. That team was forced to quarantine for two weeks and that ends this coming Friday and no additional players tested positive. Not one player on my son's team came down with Covid. Further demonstrating that with the safety protocols that have been put in place and the fact that players are not within a 6 foot radius of another player for more than 3 minutes, let alone 15, during a game hockey is as safe a sport to play. That town's Board of Health determined our team was not within a 6 foot radius for 15 minutes therefore per CDC guidelines we did not need to quarantine. Hockey is about creating time and space!

As Dave mentioned in his presentation the one school that had a hockey related incident it was due to kids and families congregating at hotels and in parking lots as they waited to play their next game in a tournament. We will not be playing in tournaments or congregating at any time.

The MIAA has posted the guidelines in order for these kids to play. Let's allow these kids to represent Southwick on the ice!

Thank you

**XI. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

A. Old Business  
None

B. New Business

Ms. Petschke asked if the PowerPoint on the Educational Presentation could be included on the website. Ms. McLaughlin responded that in addition to the Zoom recording of the meeting, she would also provide the documents viewed during the meeting.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:38 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

With the members Jeff Houle, Pamela Petschke, Chelsea Berry, Jonathan Schantz, and Ryan Korobkov all voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

Motion by Berry, seconded by Petschke 5/0/0

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chelsea Berry, Secretary

**XIII. STAFFING**

Appointments

Resignations

Retirements

Grannells, Cynthia

Paraprofessional

12/30/2020

**XIV. LIST OF DOCUMENTS VIEWED OR DISCUSSED DURING THIS MEETING:**

- Appendix B Comparison Chart
- Agenda for the December 1, 2020 meeting
- Minutes for the November 24, 2020 meeting
- Email from Russell Johnston dated November 23, 2020 RE: Significant Disproportionality in Special Education
- Policies: BEDH Public Comment; GCG Substitute Teacher; IKF Graduation Requirements
- Woodland School Site Strategic Plan for 2020/2021
- Powder Mill School Site Strategic Plan for 2020/2021
- Winter Athletics at SRS Presentation
- Home Education Proposal: HS-2021-83
- Fundraisers: SRS apparel sale and SRS candy gram sales
- Agreement between the Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School Committee and Robin Gunn for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021
- STGRSD COVID Data Reporting Summary