

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
1082 DAVOL STREET, 2nd FLOOR, ROOM NO. 237, FALL RIVER, MA
DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
MAY 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Chairman Paul Jennings, with the following persons in attendance: Joan Menard, Rajiv Nehra and Fr. Jay Mello of Fall River, Jeffrey Begin of Swansea, and Donald DiBiasio of Somerset. Also, in attendance were Elvio Ferreira, Andrew Rebello, Assistant Superintendent/Principal and Atty. Gregory Brilhante, Legal Counsel.

Mr. Jennings called for the roll call.

Mr. Jennings made the following announcement: In accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30A, Section 20(f), any member of the public may make an audio or video recording of this public meeting. A member of the public who wishes to record a meeting must first notify the chair and must comply with reasonable requirements regarding audio or video equipment established by the chair so as not to interfere with the meeting. Mr. Decio Matos was recording.

Mr. Jennings led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to approve the April 15, 2021 minutes, as submitted.

It was moved by Fr. Jay, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to re-elect Paul Jennings as Chairperson of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to re-elect Donald DiBiasio as Vice Chairperson of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to re-elect Jill Brilhante as Treasurer of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to re-elect Jeffrey Begin as Assistant Treasurer of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to re-elect Lucy Thompsen as Secretary of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee.

Mr. Jennings reported that the sub-committees will remain as is.

There was no citizen input.

Mrs. Thompsen reported that she is waiting on three superintendent mid-cycle evaluations.

Dr. Ferreira reported the following personnel changes:

Mr. Steven Alves has been appointed as a Health Assisting Instructor for the 2021-22 school year at step 13 (\$84,729) plus Doctorate (\$9,657) for a total salary of \$94,386 of the 2018-21 DTA salary schedule. There was a question about employees who have left the District and returned – the benefits granted to employee when they return. Attorney Brillhante will check with the Business Office.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to appoint Robert Bradbury as a parent advisory board member of the Medical Assisting Program for a term of one year.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to appoint Victoria Bradbury as a student advisory board member of the Medical Assisting Program for a term of one year.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to approve the rollover request from Dr. Ferreira of his remaining FY21 vacation days to convert to FY22 sick days.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Mr. DiBiasio, and voted 2-4 to offer Mr. David Flynn the Director of Finance and Operations position. Mr. Begin and Mr. DiBiasio expressed the reasons why they felt that Mr. Flynn would be an asset to the District. There was a discussion about a newspaper article the District received about Mr. Flynn in his current position. Mr. Begin and Mr. DiBiasio voting “yes”; Ms. Menard, Fr. Jay, Mr. Jennings, and Dr. Nehra voting “no”.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Fr. Jay, and voted 5-1 to offer Mr. Paul Kitchen the Director of Finance and Operations position. Ms. Menard, Mr. DiBiasio, Fr. Jay, Mr. Jennings, and Dr. Nehra voting “yes”. Mr. Begin voting “no”.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the request from the Backstage Dance Academy for use of the auditorium and classroom on August 5, 6, 7 & 8, 2021 for dance rehearsals and performances, as follows:

- August 5, 2021 - Rehearsal (4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.)
- August 6, 2021 - Rehearsal (4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.)
- August 7, 2021 - Recital (\$750 auditorium) (10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
- August 8, 2021 – Recital (\$750 auditorium) (10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
 - (Custodial fee - \$675)
 - (Security fee - \$948.60)

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to approve the fee adjustment for the Breaking Pointe Dance Studio for use of the auditorium and classroom on June 25 (rehearsal – 4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.) and June 26, 2021 for three performances (11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.) as follows: June 25, 2021 – Rehearsal; June 26, 2021 - Recital (\$750 auditorium); (Custodial fee - \$337.50); (Security fee - \$474.30). Fr. Jay abstained.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to approve the request from the Gotta Dance Studio for use of the auditorium and classroom on June 18 and 19, 2021 for dance rehearsal and performance, as follows: June 18, 2021 - Rehearsal (4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.); June 19, 2021 - Recital (\$750 auditorium) (11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.); (Custodial fee - \$337.50); (Security fee - \$474.30).

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to accept the donation of tools from Ms. Cynthia Rodzen to the Carpentry Program.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the donation of various fenders (\$4,000 value) from LKQ to the Automotive Collision Program

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the donation of ten desks and two file cabinets for the Mathematics Dept. from Morgan Advanced Materials.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the donation of an SKI Diagnostic Astra 100 Multifunction Spirometer from PrimaCare to the Medical Assisting Program.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the request to the Bengal Education Foundation to purchase a commercial steamer for the cafeteria.

Dr. Ferreira provided an overview of the expenditures.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the following expenditures:

Advanced Ed Technologies	Stratasys F120 3D Printer – 1 year education package; start up it	\$27,999
Collins Sports Medicine	Athletic Supplies	\$5,026
Cozy Caterers	Catering and furniture for senior formal	\$17,298
Elsevier	Dental Assisting text books	\$8,550
Frontline Education	2021-22 Absence Management Program	\$7,819
GlowForge	Glowforge Pro & Air Filter	\$6,990
Henry Schein, Inc.	Dental patient chair, assistant touch pad, dental light, doctor’s stool, assistant’s stool (replacing old equipment)	\$18,485
Highland Restaurant Supply	1 smoker oven cookshack	\$6,658
MSC Industrial Supply Co.	Modular storage cabinets – Drafting	\$11,664
Reality Works	Blood pressure simulator and ECG simulator – MA	\$6,397
Retrofit Technologies	7 HP ProBook Notebooks and docking stations (FY21 CARES Act)	\$8,073

WB Mason	48 chairs – Business Technology – includes delivery and set-up	\$12,000
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It was approved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to approve the sale of equipment - Hunter Table Top Tire Changer with Tire Lift (Model: TCX575; Serial# IIM741508) and Rockwell 3JR Test#9114 Hardness Tester with Table.

Dr. Ferreira provided an overview of the class accounts.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to give each class \$2,000 from the \$15,064 amount from “Class of 2020 and Prior” to the classes of 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. The remaining \$7,000 will stay in the account.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra and voted unanimously to approve the Fall River Commission on Disability Scholarship.

Mr. Rebello reported on the Sports Spring Spectator Practice agenda item – sporting events will allow unlimited guests for home and away games. There was a discussion about the district policies versus the CDC guidelines. Mr. Rebello stated that the District follows the Dept. of Education guidance.

Mr. Rebello provided a brief overview of the 2021-22 student handbook – there are no practice changes, more grammatical and formatting changes.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to accept the 2021-22 Student Handbook, as presented.

Dr. Ferreira provided the MSBA update. The School Building Committee is discussing which construction method will be preferred – CM-at-Risk or General Contractor. The Committee will be making a decision soon. Mr. DiBiasio explained the differences between CM-at-Risk versus General Contractor. The Outreach Committee has been consulting with sponsors regarding their mission.

Mr. DiBiasio and Dr. Ferreira provided the Housebuilding/Facilities Sub-Committee report. Mr. DiBiasio provided an overview of the proposed District office space options in the current LPN building. The recommendation is for the District Office to move back to campus. Mr. DiBiasio suggested the District Office design what best fits their needs.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra and voted unanimously to move the District Offices to the current LPN building.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to not renew the District Office lease for a third year and to send the necessary notice.

Attorney Brilhante explained that the work that the Individual Contract Sub-Committee has been working on has been transferred to the Policy Sub-Committee.

Mr. DiBiasio provided an overview of the MASC updated policy revisions/additions. The policies will be tabled for the next meeting.

Attorney Brilhante provided an overview of the newly proposed Non-Union Employee Contracts policy.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to approve the Non-Union Employee Contracts policy.

Dr. Ferreira provided the budget update – when the FY21 budget was approved, it did not include debt for the Feasibility Study. The interest payment is due on Jun 18, 2021. The amount due is \$9,375. As recommended by the financial advisor, Chapter 70 funds cannot be used to pay for the debt. This is for the \$750,000 that was borrowed on the \$1.5 million for the Feasibility Study.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to use E&D funds to pay the interest amount due for the Feasibility Study debt.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the transfer from the Health Assisting Repair Account to the Health Assisting Supply Account in the amount of \$420.

Dr. Ferreira provided the monthly financial report.

Dr. Ferreira provided the superintendent's report.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 6:36 p.m. to enter into Executive Session for the following: Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a), paragraph 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares: AFSCME Vacation Rollover Request; Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a), paragraph 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares: AFSCME, DTA, & DAA; Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a), paragraph 2, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel: Individual Contracts – District Data Analyst; Cooperative Education Coordinator, IT Coordinator, Assistant IT Coordinator, Administrative Assistant to Principal, Logistics Coordinator, Accountant, Treasurer, Human Resources Coordinator, Security Officer, Parent Liaison, Team Chair – SPED, Evening School Director, LPN Director, Evening School Bookkeeper, Financial Aid Coordinator, Paraprofessionals and Athletic Director; Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a), paragraph 2, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel: Director of Finance and Operations.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 7:11 p.m. to rise into Open Session. Mr. Jennings, Fr. Jay, Ms. Menard, Mr. Begin, Dr. Nehra and Mr. DiBiasio voting yes.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Thompson

Lucy Thompson

Materials Included: School Committee Officers/Sub-Committees
April 15, 2021 minutes
Fall River Commission on Disability
Sports Spectator Protocol
2021-22 Student Handbook
Transfers
Memo
Monthly Financial Report
Superintendent's Report