

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
251 STONEHAVEN ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA
SUPERINTENDENT'S CONFERENCE ROOM
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

The regular meeting of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Paul Jennings, with the following persons in attendance: Joan Menard and Fr. Jay Mello of Fall River, and Donald DiBiasio of Somerset. Also, in attendance were Elvio Ferreira, Interim Superintendent-Director/Principal, Deborah Kenney, Business Manager and Atty. Gregory Brillhante, Legal Counsel. Absent was Jeffrey Begin of Swansea. Rajiv Nehra entered at 5:50 p.m.

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. Jennings led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to dispense with the reading of the August 15, 2019 minutes and approve them, as recorded.

There was no citizen input.

Dr. Ferreira introduced Ms. Ruth Gilbert. Ms. Gilbert is Dr. Ferreira's coach for the New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP), which is a three-year program for new superintendents. Ms. Gilbert provided an overview of the program.

Dr. Ferreira introduced the student representative for the school year, Alyza Poli.

Dr. Ferreira explained that, due to a conflict in Fr. Jay's schedule, a voting delegate will be needed for the MASC Conference Business Meeting. Mr. DiBiasio was named the voting delegate and Mr. Jennings was named the alternate voting delegate.

Dr. Ferreira reported that he will meet with Dr. Malone on September 23rd regarding the At-Risk Program. He has received notice from the Rotary Club that they are no longer interested in pursuing the endeavor and it may be a future project.

Mrs. Kenney provided an overview of pricing of new vs. used buses. The funds will come from the E&D account annually. Mrs. Kenney further reported that as of June 30, 2018, the E&D balance is \$680,039. The new bus will cost five annual payments of \$19,093. The vehicle will be used for maintenance.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Fr. Jay, and voted unanimously to purchase the new bus at \$88,079, contingent upon it being a diesel bus.

Dr. Ferreira reviewed the list of options for passenger vehicles with the Committee.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to purchase a passenger vehicle, not to exceed \$35,000.

Dr. Ferreira reported on the following personnel changes:

Ms. Andrea Holmes has been appointed as a School Adjustment Counselor for 14 hours per week for the 2019-20 school year at a rate of \$45.13 per hour.

Mr. Michael O'Brien has been appointed as Director of Extracurricular Athletics and Social Media for the 2019-20 school year at a rate of \$15,000 (\$9,185 for athletic program responsibilities and \$5,815 for social media responsibilities).

Ms. Stephanie Schoenherr has been appointed as Administrative Support Staff for the 2019-20 school year at step 3 (\$20.49/hour).

Ms. Patricia Tolan has been appointed as a Special Education Paraprofessional for the 2019-20 school year at \$21.93/hour.

Ms. Vanessa Vasconcellos has been appointed as a Medical Assisting Instructor for the 2019-20 school year at step 4 (\$55,341).

Ms. Liss O'Connell, science instructor, has submitted her letter of resignation effective July 17, 2019.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to appoint Richard Sousa as a business/industry advisory board member of the Machine Tool Technology Program for a term of three years.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the following donation from the Allied Group to the Graphic Communications Program of miscellaneous paper, envelopes and booklets. The estimated value is \$2,000.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the 1994 Chrysler LeBaron from Mr. Stephen Dickinson to the Automotive Collision Program.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the donation of \$3,000 to the Dental Assisting Program from the Southeastern District Dental Assistants Society.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the request from the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators (MAVA) for use of one classroom on October 5, 2019, October 26, 2019, November 2, 2019, and November 9, 2019 and to waive the use fee.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the request of the Rotary Club of Fall River for the use of the Room 251 Restaurant on Sunday, March 29, 2020 from 6:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for a pancake breakfast fundraiser and to waive the use fee.

Dr. Ferreira provided an overview of the expenditure approvals.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the following expenditures: Community Connections, Inc. - Encumbering funds for FY20 school year – support employment services - \$30,000; Grogan Marciano Sporting Goods-Soccer uniforms for boys and girls - \$5,760; FMC ICE Sports - Ice rink rental fee - \$17,880; Keystone - Polyvance Nitrocell Welder - \$5,027; Lindenmeyr Munroe - Supplies for the Graphic Communications Program - \$6,322; Margaret Reed - Encumbering funds FY20 consultant for Special Education Department - \$5,000; McKesson Medical Surgical - ECG Monitor, May Stand, Microscope and Electrocardiograph roll stand – Medical Assisting - \$6,623; McKesson Medical Surgical - Exam tables, cart, stand, microscope binocular achromatic, oximeter, pulse handheld - \$8,231; NFPA Fulfillment Center - Textbooks for Electrical Code Class - \$5,177; South Coast Educational Collaborative - Encumbering funds for vision services FY20 - \$6,000; Sprague Energy Corp. - Oil Heating 2019-20 - \$180,000; Tremblay's Bus Company - After school bus transportation - \$16,788.

Dr. Ferreira provided an overview of the MSBA schedule for the District. He also reported that the informational meeting and site walkthrough was held on September 11th. There was a question about whether Ms. Howayeck plans to stay on the School Building Committee. Mr. Jennings stated that Ms. Menard will be the vice chair of the Committee. Dr. Ferreira asked that the logistics coordinator be added as a non-voting member. Mr. DiBiasio will speak with Ms. Howayeck about whether she plans to stay on the Committee.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to name Ms. Menard as the vice chairman for the School Building Committee and add Mr. Myles Brillhante as a non-voting member.

Mr. Jennings suggested that if individuals did not attend after a few meetings, to send a notice to update the committee list.

Dr. Ferreira provided an overview of four scenarios for a campus redesign for the immediate needs of the school: 1) move the LPN campus and use the current building for District

offices; 2) purchase added real estate to move District offices; 3) add second floor to current LPN building (adjust building to fit LPN and District offices); and, 4) purchase/lease/rent portable structures for District offices. These options all include upgrading the high school building for administration offices and three new classrooms. Dr. Ferreira requested that the District explore the options for a redesign, which includes timeframe and cost. Mr. Jennings stated that the Housebuilding/Facilities Sub-Committee has approved this request. There was a discussion about the permanent changes. Fr. Jay asked if there was an order of preference – Dr. Ferreira stated that a second floor on the LPN building would make the most sense. Attorney Brilhante reported that he has spoken to the neighbor who lives on the corner of Stonehaven Road and Locust Street and will report if he hears anything.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to allow the administration to explore options for a campus redesign.

Mr. DiBiasio and Dr. Ferreira further reported on the Housebuilding/Facilities Sub-Committee meeting.

Dr. Ferreira reported on the need for custodial equipment. There was a discussion about the equipment currently in use and funds for the equipment. Dr. Ferreira explained that there are funds in the Evening School Account that can be used towards the purchase of the Ford 550. Mrs. Kenney further explained that the hallway/utility equipment will be self-funded. There was further discussion about purchasing of a mini backhoe and bat wing mower. The only funds coming from E&D will be for the passenger vehicle purchase.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the purchase of a Ford 550 (\$68,000) and three-year lease (option to buy) for hallway/utility equipment (\$40,000).

Dr. Ferreira provided an overview of the proposals for the Bengal Education Foundation. He is recommending the iPads for the Math Department.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Fr. Jay, and voted unanimously to approve the proposal from the Math Dept. for the purchase of 14 iPads.

Mrs. Kenney provided a report on the Monthly Financial Report.

Dr. Ferreira provided the superintendent's report. He asked the Committee for their opinion of a universal look for the Diman Bengal mascot. The Committee suggested that the Bengal be a little less "aggressive" looking. Dr. Ferreira will bring more images to the October meeting for approval.

Dr. Ferreira reported changes in the school calendar – the pep rally will be on November 27th. The Tier Focused Monitoring System (formerly CPR) will be visiting in 2021.

The next School Committee meeting will be on October 10th. The fall Advisory Committee meeting will be held on October 3rd. Mr. DiBiasio will attend the Advisory meeting. Dr. Ferreira suggested that the February 2020 and April 2020 School Committee meetings be rescheduled.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the following expenditures: EAI Education – 250 Texas Instruments Graphing calculators - \$30,210 and Grogan Marciano Sporting Goods – girls and boys soccer uniforms (away uniforms) - \$5,760.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 6:45 p.m. to enter into Executive Session for the following: 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: Lucy Thompsen, Executive Assistant to Superintendent/Recording Secretary to School Committee and Greg Brillhante, Legal Counsel; Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a), paragraph 3, to conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares: DTA Contract: Mr. Jennings, Fr. Jay, Mr. DiBiasio, Ms. Menard and Dr. Nehra voting yes.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 7:09 p.m. to rise into Open Session. Mr. Jennings, Mr. DiBiasio, Dr. Nehra and Ms. Menard voting yes.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to approve the contract for Mrs. Lucy Thompsen, as negotiated.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Mr. DiBiasio, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Thompsen

Lucy Thompsen

Materials Included: August 15, 2019 Minutes
Vehicle/Utility Equipment Pricing
Campus Redesign Options
Bengal Education Foundation Proposals
Superintendent's Report
Monthly Financial Report
Addendum