

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 16, 2017

The regular meeting of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chairman Paul Jennings of Westport, with the following persons in attendance: Donald DiBiasio of Somerset, Rajiv Nehra, Joan Menard and Renee Howayeck of Fall River, and Jeffrey Begin of Swansea. Also in attendance were Thomas F. Aubin, Superintendent-Director, Elvio Ferreira, Assistant Superintendent/Principal, Deborah Kenney, Business Manager and Atty. Gregory Brilhante, Legal Counsel.

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. The meeting is recorded.

The roll call was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to dispense with the reading of the October 12, 2017 minutes and approve them as recorded.

Student Representative, Elijah Fullerton, provided the student report, which included college applications, shop projects, sports, student government, and homecoming.

The superintendent evaluation will be carried to the next meeting.

Mr. Aubin made the following personnel announcement:

Ms. Tara Lucier, school psychologist has submitted her letter of resignation, effective October 27, 2017.

Mr. Aubin explained that the District will postpone hiring a new school psychologist to the 2018-19 school year. The District has contracted with an outside agency. Ms. Menard asked whether the outside agency is full-time, Mr. Aubin explained that the services are provided on a per diem basis. Mr. Ferreira further explained that Dr. Marla Schreffler will provide the testing. Mr. Aubin further explained that when the position was posted, only one candidate applied and they were not certified.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to appoint Richard Sousa as a student member of the Machine Tool Technology program for a term of one year.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to appoint Victor Sousa as an industry/community member of the Automotive Technology program for a term of three years.

The assistant principal position will be discussed after executive session.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to accept the donation from the Bengal Education Foundation and Ralco Electric for the purchase of a threading machine for the Electricity program in memory of Emmanuel Gaspar.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to accept the donation from the Bengal Education Foundation and AA Precision for the purchase a 3D printer for the Machine Tool Technology program in memory of Brian Levesque.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to accept the donation from George Flanagan of miscellaneous supplies to the Plumbing program.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to accept the donation from the Greater Fall River Development Corporation Education Fund of \$25,233 for the purchase of 21 computer systems for the Programming and Web Development program.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to accept the donation from the Southeastern District Dental Society of \$850 to help provide transportation of the Dental Assisting students to this year's Yankee Dental Congress.

Mr. Jennings thanked all those who donated to the school.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Howayeck, and voted unanimously to approve the use of facilities request from the Miss Fall River Outstanding Teen Pageant for the use of the auditorium and gymnasium on January 20, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Diman students will be participating in this pageant. The use of facilities fee for this use will be waived.

Mr. Jennings explained that the district will be advertising for 2018-19 housebuilding project. If there are no applications, the district will move onto projects in the communities. Mr. Jennings confirmed that the track project will be carried to the next meeting.

The net metering project will be carried to the next meeting. A representative from Kearsarge Energy was present at the meeting and explained that there is "time pressure to go either way" on the project. Mr. Jennings explained that there are questions and concerns that need to be addressed.

Mr. Aubin explained that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education approved the Programming and Web Development Program in October. The instructor was transferred from the Math department. The furniture purchase came out of the Perkins Grant.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Howayeck, and voted unanimously to accept the Programming and Web Development Program.

Mr. Aubin reviewed the non-duplicative letter from Bristol County Agricultural High School with the Committee. Bristol County Agricultural High School intends to apply for a new Chapter 74 program – Marine Service Technology. Mr. Aubin explained that this program is for boating engine repair.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to allow for Bristol County Agricultural High School to pursue and a Marine Service Technology program.

Mrs. Donna Theodore, LPN Director, explained that proposed changes in the LPN admissions criteria/TEAS testing. The test was changed in August of 2016, making the test more difficult. After review of schools in the area, Diman is requiring the highest scores in the area. This made it difficult to accept more students in the program. Mrs. Theodore is requesting that the scores be more in line with area schools.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the new LPN guidelines as written.

Dr. Warren provided a report on the Title I needs assessment. There are some changes in the Saturday programs. In working with the outside consultant, there have been improvements.

Mr. Aubin explained that he received that a call from Colleen Taylor at the City Council's office regarding the water department land on the south side of the building. Attorney Brillhante suggested that the board decide if an inquiry should be made.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to authorize Attorney Brillhante inquire about the land.

There was a discussion about the school colors. Mr. Aubin explained that new colors have not been proposed to the School Committee. It was agreed among members to only market black and orange.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to approve the following expenditures: Advanced Ed Technologies Objet260 printer; waterjet; host computer (covered by Capital Skills Grant) - \$172,551; Certified Rescue Courses-Reimbursement for adult, child, infant CPR – AED/first aid training on October 27, 2017- \$5,130; Coletta Contracting - Change orders (physics lab)- \$25,103; Fisher Bus Inc. - 8 buses for senior prom – June 1, 2018 – 20% deposit (\$1,440); 8 buses for senior prom – June 1, 2017 balance due (\$5,760). - \$7,200; Follett School Solutions, Inc. - Aspen hosted training/webinar- \$17,950; Gatehouse Media - Back to school advertising - \$9,738; Mass Teachers Retirement Board Return of funds – SPED; Title I and Perkins \$7,701; Sports Turf Specialties, Inc.- Football/soccer field renovation project- \$105,000; and, Taylor Publishing Co. - Yearbook printing - \$26,250.

Mr. DiBiasio asked if the science lab punch list is complete. Mr. Aubin explained that a Smartboard will be purchased. Mr. Begin asked whether the school received a return on the yearbook printing. Mrs. Kenney explained that the school does not receive a return.

Mrs. Kenney explained the following:

An adjustment to FY18 budget – it was based on Ch. 70 estimates – once the district received the final numbers, an additional \$17,854 was received.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to increase the FY18 budget by \$17,854, to be added to the Professional Development account.

Due to FY17 encumbrances carried forward to FY18, \$59,175 was not spent. This amount also needs to be added to the FY18 budget.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Howayeck, and voted unanimously to increase the FY18 budget by \$59,175 to be added to the Professional Development account.

Upon reviewing fiscal year end balances of the student activity accounts, it was determined that the Senior Dues – Fund Balance has not been charged for graduation expenses, diploma covers and cap and gown expenses for several years. A check was issued to the General Fund for \$19,686.31 to reimburse the District for expenses that were incorrectly charged to the General Fund.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the transfer of \$19,686.31 from the Student Activity Account to the General Fund.

Re-categorize Tara Mancini's salary from Guidance- Contracted Data Specialist to Other District –Wide Administration.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to transfer \$87,485 from Guidance- Contracted Data Specialist to Other District Wide Administration.

Mrs. Kenney provided the financial report. The only concern is the professional development account due to MAVA courses that were provided to faculty.

Mr. Aubin provided the superintendent's report. The District has moved from Level 2 to Level 1 with the DESE. This District has received a \$495,000 Skills Capital Grant – to be used for Machine Tool Technology, Electronics, and Drafting. Over 200 seniors are on co-op. The District has received approval for the 17<sup>th</sup> program – Programming and Web Development. The District will also be applying for a Medical Assisting Program and a night program for Metal Fabrication and Machine Tool Technology.

Mr. DiBiasio requested a cooperative education employer listing for the next meeting.

Mr. Ferreira reviewed the MCAS and Accountability data with the Committee.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 6:32 p.m. to rise to Executive Session for the following: 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 and 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; Diman Administrators' Association.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 7:03 p.m. to rise into Open Session.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the change from the Dean of students to Assistant Principal and accept the memorandum of agreement, as negotiated.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Mr. DiBiasio, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lucy Thompsen*

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Materials included:   October 12, 2017 Minutes  
                              Non Duplicative Letter from Bristol County Agricultural School District  
                              LPN Proposed Admission Criteria  
                              Transfer Request Memo from Mrs. Kenney  
                              Monthly Financial Report  
                              2017 District MCAS Report