

**SOUTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 9, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

ASHLAND

Ed Burman
William Gainé

FRAMINGHAM

Larry Cooper
John Kahn
AJ Mulvey
Mike Rossi
Myra Bushell
James Cameau
John H. Evans

HOLLISTON

Sarah Commerford
Barry Sims

HOPKINTON

Ruth Knowles

NATICK

Tassos Filledes
Stephen Kane (Arrived 7:15 p.m.)

ALSO PRESENT:

Jonathan Evans, Superintendent-Director
Dolores Sharek, Director of Finance
Jack Keating, Treasurer
Richard DeAngelis, Legal Counsel
Karen Ward, Recording Secretary

Chairman Burman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2018

Chairman Burman asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 5, 2018.

MR. COOPER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. GAINES, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2018. ELEVEN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; MR. SIMS AND MR. EVANS ABSTAINED. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

GUESTS AND VISITORS

There were no guests or visitors

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Regional Agreement Sub-Committee Update

Mr. Rossi updated the full Committee on the status of the District's Regional Agreement. Mr. Rossi and members of the sub-committee were pleased with the draft document that was presented to them. This draft highlighted all the changes from the current regional agreement text. At the next meeting of the sub-committee, Superintendent Evans will provide the Regional Agreement document with all changes accepted, along with an Executive Summary of the changes that were made. Once voted on and approved by the sub-committee, it will then be presented to the full Committee for a 1st and 2nd Read. The Regional Agreement Sub-Committee will meet again before the May 14th meeting and expects to be able to present the completed document to the full Committee on the evening of May 14th. Superintendent Evans expects to present this document to the member municipalities at fall town meetings.

- Superintendent Contract Review Update

Mr. Burman reported that the members of the school committee that volunteered to review Superintendent Evans contract met earlier this evening. The group is continuing to gather information, and will be reporting back to the Superintendent in the near future.

PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL CHOICE

Superintendent Evans requested a motion to open the Public Hearing on School Choice. No members of the public were in attendance, and the hearing was closed.

MR. BURMAN MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MR. MULVEY TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL CHOICE. FOURTEEN MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS. NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE PRESENT. THERE WAS NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. MR. BURMAN MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. COOPER TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL CHOICE. FOURTEEN MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS. A VOTE ON THE SCHOOL CHOICE DECISION WILL BE TAKEN LATER IN THE MEETING.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was nothing to discuss in Executive Session.

SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Information Only

- NEASC Decennial Visit Update

Superintendent Evan thanked Committee members that attended the NEASC Welcoming Dinner in March. He reported the event was very successful and it was a good week for our school and staff, and that students were represented well. We will await the final report from the NEASC organization. Superintendent Evans reported that the NEASC Team gave a very positive vibe. The NEASC Team gave us the following statement to share with staff. ***“The NEASC Team would like you to know that their time here observing and learning about the Keefe community was better than any professional development day. Thank you for making us better educators.”***

- Outstanding Vocational Student (Appendix 2018-24)

Members received a profile on Melissa Calvo, the Keefe Regional Technical Student that is receiving the Outstanding Vocational Technical Student Award at Mechanics Hall in Worcester on April 12th. This is a very proud moment for Melissa and her family. Melissa, her family and Keefe Tech staff will attend this event and show how proud we are of her work.

- Future Farmers of America (Appendix 2018-25)

Superintendent Evans updated the Committee on our recent success at the Future Farmers of America (FFA) State Conference. Superintendent Evans reported that in the past we have been a part of this event, but this is the first time we have shown this level of success at the State level of competition. Superintendent Evans reported that students will follow the same guidelines as they do for SkillsUSA and BPA competitions. Students who receive gold or silver medals are supported to go to the National Conference. Superintendent Evans reported that three students received 1st place in Marketing Plan and will be recommended to attend the National Conference in October.

- Update of Municipal Meetings

Superintendent Evans reported that he and Mrs. Sharek have been presenting to municipal finance committees throughout the District. They have attended FinCom meetings in Ashland, Holliston and Natick, with favorable feedback from all. Superintendent Evans thanked Committee members Mr. Gaine, Mr. Burman, Mrs. Commerford and Mr. Filledes for their attendance and support at these meetings. As in the past, we have not been asked to present in Hopkinton, but Superintendent Evans Reported that he has been in touch with the town manager and expects to have favorable support. He also reported that they will be presenting to a sub-set of the City of Framingham's City Council on Wednesday, April 11th. Superintendent Evans reported that town meetings are starting early this year. He is scheduled to present to the Natick Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 10th.

Action Required

- Personnel Activity (Appendix 2018-26)

Superintendent Evans asked for a vote to approve an advisory board application for the Health Careers program. He informed the Committee that this applicant has attended a couple of our School Committee meetings recently and is a past graduate of Keefe Tech.

MR. GAINE MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. KNOWLES TO APPROVE THE ADVISORY BOARD APPLICANT. FOURTEEN MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Vote to Approve School Committee Dates in early FY19 (Appendix 2018-27)

Superintendent Evans provided three dates for the beginning of the FY19 School Committee Calendar; Monday, July 23, 2018, Monday, August 27, 2018 and Monday, September 24, 2018. Superintendent

Evans reported that normally we vote the School Calendar at the same time, but because we have yet to receive MCAS dates, he was hesitant to vote a calendar without those dates. He expects to have the 2018-2019 School Calendar ready to be presented at the May meeting.

MRS. KNOWLES MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. COMMERFORD TO APPROVE THE EARLY FY19 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES. FOURTEEN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Vote to Approve Out of State Field Trip – Business Professionals of America National Conference – Texas (Appendix 2018-28)

Superintendent Evans provided the Committee with an Out of State Field Trip Request for students to attend the Business Professionals of America National Conference in Texas on May 8, 2018.

MRS. KNOWLES MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. BURMAN TO APPROVE THE OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FOR STUDENTS TO ATTEND THE BPA NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN TEXAS. FOURTEEN MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Vote School Choice Decision (Appendix 2018-29)

Superintendent Evans provided a memo that was presented at the March 5, 2018 meeting. Superintendent Evans' recommendation is that the school not be a school choice district for the reasons stated in his memorandum to the full Committee. Mr. Kahn asked if there is anything to be said in favor of being a school choice district. Superintendent Evans said that one could say if we were a school choice school we could enroll more students. That being said, there would be an enormous disparity between the revenue generated for a student attending through school choice as opposed to those who attend within the District. At this point in time, no regional vocational school that he knows of participates. There is discussion around the state that if there could be an enhanced level of funding for career and technical school choice, it may alleviate the financial disincentive for out of district students. For the upcoming year Superintendent Evans' recommends not being a school choice district. Superintendent Evans said that this has to be looked at each year and if anything changes he will keep you informed.

MR. MULVEY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. BURMAN TO NOT BE A SCHOOL CHOICE DISTRICT. FOURTEEN MEMBERS VOTED TO APPROVE THE MOTION; THE VOTE TO APPROVE THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Vote to Approve language updates to existing policies based on the Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act (Appendix 2018-30)

Superintendent Evans reported the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act went in to effect as of April 1, 2018. In order to be compliant there are several existing policies that need to have language updated to include “pregnancy or pregnancy related conditions” to the protected groups listed. Superintendent Evans recommends a vote to approve updating these policies. Mr. Rossi asked if we will continue to pay MASC to inform us of policy changes, or is this part of the service of redoing our Policy Binder. Superintendent Evans said that we get informed of policy changes through our membership with MASC, this is not part of the contract we had with them to redo our Policy Binder.

MR. MULVEY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. CAMEAU TO APPROVE UPDATING THE LISTED POLICIES TO INCLUDE “PREGNANCY OR PREGNANCY RELATED CONDITIONS” IN THE PROTECTED GROUPS LISTED. FOURTEEN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE TO APPROVE THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Information Only

- Non-Salary Financial Expenditure Report (Appendix 2018-31)

Members received the Non-Salary Expenditure Report along with some highlights.

Action Required

- Revote FY19 Budget (Appendix 2018-32)

Mrs. Sharek reported that this is a procedural item that must be done once our excess and deficiency has been certified. Once excess and deficiency has been certified it can then be used as a funding source in the FY19 budget. Because the certification was not received in time for tonight’s meeting, we will be requesting this vote at the May 14th meeting.

- Vote Bus Contract (Appendix 2018-33)

Mrs. Sharek reported that we are in the final year of a three year contract and recommends that we exercise the one year extension option with Michael J. Connolly & Sons, Inc. for the Student Transportation Contract

before going out to bid in the fall for a very affordable increase of 1.1%. Mrs. Sharek recommends that we initiate a bid process in the fall for the following years.

MR. FILLEDES MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MRS. KNOWLES TO APPROVE THE ONE YEAR EXTENTION ON THE MICHAEL J. CONNOLLY & SONS, INC. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT. THIRTEEN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION, MR. BURMAN ABSTAINED. THE VOTE TO APPROVE THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Vote Budget Transfer (Appendix 2018-34)

Mrs. Sharek reviewed the details of requested transfer areas, and asked the Committee to approve transfers totaling \$11,119.00. The area of surplus was in our copier lease agreement, and the area of deficit was in professional development. Members of the Committee requested that in the future, it would be helpful for them to see the amount budgeted in areas of surplus and deficit so that they may evaluate the accuracy of our budget forecasting.

MR. MULVEY MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MR. ROSSI TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR A BUDGET TRANSFER. FOURTEEN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Vote Student Activities Transfer (Appendix 2018-35)

Mrs. Sharek asked the Committee to approve the transfer of \$677.70 from the Class of 2015 Student Activity Account to the Classes of 2019, 2020 and 2021. The reason for this request is that per School Committee Policy, the graduating class funds should be removed from the High School Student Activity fund no later than two years from the date of graduation. If the funds are not removed, the funds will be forfeited by the class and transferred into the General Sub-Fund portion of the Student Activity Agency Account. These funds will then be allocated by a vote of the School Committee.

MR. BURMAN MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. COMMERFORD TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$677.70 FROM THE CLASS OF 2015 STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TO STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2019, 2020, AND 2021. FOURTEEN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

COMMUNICATION

There was no communication

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kahn asked if the Mayor was coming to Keefe Tech to visit with the Toastmasters Club. Superintendent Evans explained that Mayor Spicer accepted an invitation to meet with our Toastmasters Club, and other members of our student leadership on May 3rd. Superintendent Evans said that he would be touring the Mayor through the building following her afterschool meeting. Superintendent Evans said that while the timing is not ideal, and while he would prefer to show her our programs in action, he appreciates the opportunity to showcase our school for the new Mayor. Mr. Kahn asked if Committee members could attend. Superintendent Evans said that Committee members are always welcome. However, this may be a meeting with a small number of students, as opposed to a large gathering of the school community. As such, Superintendent Evans is not sure if the presence of others would change the dynamic of the meeting. Superintendent Evans asked Committee members to make him aware if they plan to attend either the student meeting or tour of the campus.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Burman asked for a motion to adjourn.

MR. MULVEY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. COOPER, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. FOURTEEN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

The next meeting is May 14, 2018

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

SOUTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting – April 9, 2018

ACTION SHEET

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