

**SPAULDING HIGH SCHOOL  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Spaulding High School – Library  
February 2, 2017 - 6:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Carlotta Simonds-Perantoni - Chair  
Joe Blakely – Clerk – arrived at 6:22 p.m., departed at 6:48 p.m., re-joined the meeting at 7:14 p.m.  
Anthony Folland  
Lucas Herring  
J. Guy Isabelle  
Ed Rousse

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

David LaCroix - Vice Chair

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

John Pandolfo, Superintendent  
Brenda Waterhouse, Principal  
Luke Aither, Assistant Principal  
Jim Ferland, Assistant Principal  
Penny Chamberlin, Director Central Vermont Career Center  
Richard McCraw, M.Ed., Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment  
David Nicholson, School Counseling and Guidance Director

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Video Vision Tech	Julia Arguin	Anna Beach	Bonnie Benoit	Steven Benoit
Monique Billings	Erin Carter	Tyler Chaffee	Shannon Lessley	Brad Miller
Pam Morin	John Mudgett	Courtney Pletzer	Gary Pletzer	Sonya Spaulding
William Toborg	Sean Toohey	Miranda Tremblay	Jacquelyn Winkler	

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair, Mrs. Perantoni, called the Thursday, February 2, 2017, Regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library.

**2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda**

Change the order of discussion such that Agenda Item 10.2 (Student Matter) is discussed after Agenda Item 4.1 “Remove” Agenda Item 10.3 (Personnel Matter) – No discussion will be held this evening.

**3. Visitors and Communication**

None.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**4.1 Approval of Minutes – January 5, 2017 Regular Meeting**

On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Rousse, the Board voted 3 to 0 to approve the Minutes of the January 5, 2017 Regular Meeting. Mr. Isabelle abstained.

The Board agreed to hold Executive Session early for Agenda Item 10.2. A Student Matter was presented for discussion in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the item proposed for discussion would clearly place Spaulding High School at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Rousse, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session with The Superintendent -Mr. Pandolfo, Sean Toohey (Legal Counsel), Mr. Aither, Mrs. Waterhouse, ‘Student A’, and the ‘Parents of Student A’ at 6:05 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 6:20 p.m.

## 5. New Business

### 5.1 AP US Government Student Presentation on Inauguration

Mr. Miller addressed the Board, providing information regarding a recent trip (with AP Government students) to Washington, DC, to attend the Presidential Inauguration. Mr. Miller provided a verbal overview while presenting a slide show. SHS students toured with students from Missisquoi via 'Go Educational Tours'. It was noted that security was tight and that there was a very visible military presence. In addition to attending the inauguration, students visited the Air and Space Museum, toured some of the monuments. Students; Anna Beach, Tyler Chaffee, and Jacquelyn Winkler addressed the Board reporting on their favorite portions of the trip and advised that they felt the experience was enriching and made them more engaged in government studies.

### 5.2 Audit Presentation

A copy of the Audit was distributed. John Mudgett of Mudgett Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, P.C. introduced himself to the Board and provided an overview of the recent audit. Mr. Mudgett advised that the audit was smooth, the Financial Statements were 'clean' and there were no findings and no deficit fund balances. In general, Mr. Mudgett advised that it was a smooth audit. It was noted that as the Business Manager is in her second year with the SU, she was better able to prepare the necessary information for the audit. Mr. Mudgett noted that this was the second year recording participation in the pension funds. The numbers grew substantially, but this is not a liability. Mr. Mudgett provided a brief overview of the audit of Internal Controls and of the supplemental schedule for Federal Funds (the major program tested was the Child Nutrition Cluster). Mr. Mudgett answered questions posed by the Board, and advised that his firm is available year-round to answer questions or provide additional information.

**On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Herring, the Board unanimously voted to accept the FY16 Audit as presented.**

### 5.3 First Reading Class Size Policy (G14)

A copy of the policy was distributed. **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the Class Size Policy (G14).**

### 5.4 First Reading Federal Child Nutrition Act Wellness Policy (F28)

A copy of the policy was distributed. **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the Federal Child Nutrition Act Wellness Policy (F28).**

### 5.5 Rescind Scholarship Funds Investment Policy (DFA)

A copy of the policy was distributed. It was noted that this policy should be rescinded because oversight of the Scholarship Funds is no longer under the oversight of the SHS Board. **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Folland, the Board unanimously voted to rescind the Scholarship Funds Investment Policy (DFA).**

### 5.6 Resignation

A letter of resignation from Carrie L. Caouette-De Lallo was distributed. Ms. Caouette-De Lallo intends to retire at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. Brief discussion was held. **On a motion by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Herring, the Board unanimously voted to accept, with regrets and thanks, the resignation of Ms. Caouette-De Lallo.** It was noted that Mr. McMahon is currently looking into how to move forward with the hiring process and the possible implementation of a new model.

## 6. Old Business

### 6.1 Approval of Warning for March 6, 2017 SUHS District Annual Meeting

A revised copy of the Warning for the March 6, 2017 Annual Meeting was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the amendment to the Warning (one auditor position, not two, as previously warned). **On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve the amended Warning.** The amended Warning was circulated for signatures.

### 6.2 Second and Final Reading Student Conduct and Discipline Policy (F1)

**On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Warnings of the policies referenced in Agenda Items 6.2 through 6.5 (F1, F7, F21, and F25), and agreed to ratify said policies.**

### 6.3 Second and Final Reading Student Alcohol and Drugs Policy (F7)

Approved under Agenda Item 6.2.

### 6.4 Second and Final Reading Firearms Policy (F21)

Approved under Agenda Item 6.2.

### 6.5 Second and Final Reading Student Attendance Policy (F25)

Approved under Agenda Item 6.2.

## **6.6 Proficiency Based Learning Follow-Up**

Two documents were distributed; 'Spaulding's Move to Proficiency-Based Learning', and 'Board Update on Proficiency' (dated 02/02/17). Mrs. Waterhouse provided an overview of the distributed information, including the highlights on the last page, which provided information pertaining to Athletic and Co-Curricular Eligibility, Academic Summary of Scores, and Academic Summary for the 'Number of Students Earning Ds, or Fs, or Developing, Beginning or No Evidence'. It was noted that there is no straight correlation from traditional A,B,C.... grading, to Proficiency Based Grading. An Academic Alert Notification form is being drafted. Mr. Merriam has advocated for a probationary period for those not eligible to participate in athletics or co-curricular activities. Mrs. Perantoni advised that Proficiency Based Learning is a requirement. Community members spoke before the Board. Mrs. Spaulding read from a prepared statement. A copy was provided to the Board. Mrs. Spaulding is concerned with a lack of consistency within and across departments, the standard for determining when a class must be repeated, the process for determining required standards for each class, and a lack of communication (between students and teachers and with parents), including conveyance of expectations and slow return of submitted work. Communication concerns encompass both academic and transferable skills. William Toborg requested a return to the traditional grading system and advised of his belief that proficiency based learning does not require a proficiency based grading system. Pam and Rod Morin addressed the Board advising that they felt parents should have been better informed prior to the implementation of proficiency based grading, and advised that as some courses do not receive a grade until the end of the year, they have encountered issues with college applications. Gary and Courtney Pletzer addressed the Board regarding the Transferable Skills portion of the grading system and advised that they believe that grades for transferable skills are not being assigned equitably. Parents would like to receive additional information regarding the progress of implementation of proficiency based grading, as well as input and updates regarding possible changes to the grading system. Parents were advised to e-mail their questions, and were also advised regarding upcoming parent/teacher conferences.

## **6.7 Act 46 Update**

A copy of the voting results from January 31, 2017 was distributed. The vote will be certified in 30 days, at which point the Act 46 Study Committee will cease to exist. Discussion of the identification of avenues to pursue will be discussed at the Supervisory Union Board Meeting on Thursday, February 16, 2017.

## **6.8 Labor Relations Agreements**

Four documents were distributed; updated Proposal Status Forms for Teachers and Para-educators, the Wage and Insurance Proposals for BSU Teachers and Paras (dated 01/30/17), and a revised version of the 'Analysis of Board's VEHI Proposal using 2015 Claims Data' document (dated 01/27/17). Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of items recently discussed and tentatively agreed to (TA'd), and advised of upcoming meetings (Negotiation Committee- 02/03/17, Meeting with para-educators -02/6/17, and meeting with teachers - 02/07/17). Mr. Pandolfo advised that government is pushing for level funding of school budgets. If this occurs, there will be a major impact to the recently Board approved budgets.

## **6.9 Board Positions for March**

A copy of an e-mail from Carol Dawes to Deb Gibson (dated 01/30/17) was distributed. With regards to the SHS Union Board, Mr. Blakely is running for the 3 year term and Tim Boltin is running for the 1 year term.

## **7. Other Business**

Mr. Pandolfo recognized Board members who are not running for re-election; Mr. Herring, and Mrs. Perantoni, who has served for 6 years, including 2 as Board Chair. Mr. Herring and Mrs. Perantoni were thanked for their service. It was announced that Jesse Scott scored his 100<sup>th</sup> goal. Mr. Herring thanked Mr. Pandolfo and Mrs. Perreault for going 'above and beyond' in their roles as Superintendent and Business Manager.

## **8. Reports to the Board**

### **8.1 Superintendent**

A copy of the Superintendent's Report dated January 25, 2017 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; Act 46, Act 166 (including the Superintendent's testimony before the House Education Committee), Negotiations, the Legislative Breakfast (held on 01/30/17), and the retirement of Deb Gibson on January 31, 2017. A copy of a memorandum from the Secretary of Education (dated 01/23/17) regarding the Flexible Pathways Initiative was also distributed. Mr. Pandolfo highlighted the resignation of Deb Gibson. Mrs. Gibson was given special recognition for 33 years of service, and was thanked for her wisdom, experience, and positive outlook. Tina Gilbert will be filling the position of Assistant to the Superintendent. Mrs. Gilbert has 17 years of experience working within the BSU. Mr. Pandolfo advised that he was back at the Statehouse today to provide additional testimony regarding Act 166, which legislators hope to make more effective and efficient.

### **8.2 Principal**

The Principal's Report, dated February 2, 2017 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; Athletics, (including fund raisers for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and cancer research), Indoor Track Meets, course selection for next year, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Parent Forums (relating to Proficiency Based Learning), and information pertaining to eligibility of students for participation in athletics. An addendum titled 'Academic Probation DATA for Athletes' was also distributed.

Mrs. Waterhouse provided an overview of the highlights, including the Think Pink Cancer Awareness project that raised over \$2500, Parent Forums (which are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month), the Winooski Valley Jazz Festival, and the Drama/Chorus trip to New York City from 01/27/17 through 01/29/17. Mrs. Waterhouse read a letter that advised that the JROTC Unit received Honor with Distinction. Don Singer and Sean Driscoll were congratulated for their success with the JROTC Program.

### **8.3 CVCC Director**

The CVCC Board Report (dated February 2017) was distributed. The report contained information pertaining to; recruitment, a presentation at the ACTE Region I Leadership Conference, a collaborative professional development day (held on 01/16/17), upcoming professional development (03/31/17), February 3, 2017 staff visits to other technical centers, planning for the Summer Tech Camp, the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS), 'College 101', and Digital Media Arts. Ms. Chamberlin advised that she recently met with 175 potential students, and that there are 140 students signed up to visit CVCC on Wednesday, February 8, 2017. Clifton Long and Emmanuel Ajanma have been invited to present at the ACTE Region I Leadership Conference in New York City. The National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) annual event will take place on April 6, 2017, and on February 1, 2017, Ms. Chamberlin attended a forum by the Down Street Housing Authority.

### **8.4 Committee Reports**

Policy Committee – The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, 2017.

Curriculum Committee – The Committee met on January 9, 2017 for discussion of Transferable Skills. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 13, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 110.

Facilities Committee – The Committee met recently and received an update on the uni-ventilators. The LED sign is in-house, but installation cannot take place until after zoning changes are implemented. Mr. LaCroix will be donating the granite sign posts. Discussion also included installation of new security cameras and the budgeting for Phase 2 of the CVCC entrance project. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the SHS Library.

### **8.5 Financials**

The SHS and CVCC Expense Budget Status Reports and the BSU FY17 Budget Report were distributed. No discussion was held.

### **8.6 Student Representatives**

Ms. Arguin advised that rehearsals for the spring musical were proceeding well. The spring musical will be performed 03/30/17 – 04/01/17. Turn out for the Crystal Ball was not as large as anticipated. The talent show will be held in the near future.

## **9. Future Agenda Items and Upcoming Committee Meetings**

Board Members were asked to send agenda items to Tina Gilbert or John Pandolfo.

Curriculum Committee – Monday, February 13, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 110.

Policy Committee – Monday, February 13, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Facilities Committee – Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the SHS Library

SU Board Meeting – Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the BSU Conference Room

Annual Meeting for the SHS Unified Board – Monday, March 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library.

SHS Board Meeting – Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library.

Finance Committee – To be announced.

## **10. Executive Session as Needed**

**10.1 Labor Relations Agreements** – No discussion will be held this evening.

**10.2 Student Matter** – Discussed in Executive Session after Agenda Item 4.1.

**10.3 Personnel** – No discussion will be held this evening.

## **11. Adjournment**

**On a motion by Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Blakely, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:48 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Andrea Poulin*