

*Approved by School Committee:  
August 30, 2021*

**SOUTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Via Zoom Conference  
July 26, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**ASHLAND**

Ed Burman

**FRAMINGHAM**

Linda Fobes  
James Comeau  
Michele Burns  
AJ Mulvey  
Rick Gallagher

**HOLLISTON**

Barry Sims  
Sarah Commerford

**HOPKINTON**

Ruth Knowles

**NATICK**

Elizabeth Smith-Freedman  
Ruth Mori

**ALSO PRESENT:**

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

*Chairman Burman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Chairman Burman stated per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, we will be conducting this School Committee meeting via Zoom Conference. The call information was included in our posting on July 21, 2021.*

*All votes this evening will be taken as a roll call vote.*

*After taking attendance, I will read the list of members present for every vote.*

*I also ask that you please identify yourself before making a motion, second or comment so the attendees will know who is speaking and so the minutes will be accurate.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2021**

Chairman Burman asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 21, 2021.

MRS. KNOWLES MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. FOBES, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2021. MRS. BURNS, MR. CAMEAU, MRS. COMMERFORD, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MRS. KNOWLES, MRS. MORI, MR. SIMS, MS SMITH-FREEDMAN AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; MR. MULVEY ABSTAINED. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

### **GUESTS AND VISITORS**

There were no guests or visitors who were introduced

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

There was no Chairman's Report

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no Executive Session.

### **SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- COVID-19 Update

Superintendent Evans gave the Committee a general update on where we are at this point and our plans moving forward toward the 2021-2022 school year. Superintendent Evans said during the summer we have followed all state guidelines and continued our mask policy as it was during the school year. He reported that Summer Discover Camp and Summer school programs also continued with these

guidelines. He said the students were very cooperative and that the Summer Discover Camp was very successful. Superintendent Evans reported that with the end of programs the building now has less of a population. After communicating with both the local board of health and our liaison with DESE, for a three week period masks are optional. He said people who are unvaccinated are strongly encouraged to wear a mask and we have been careful to communicate to staff that this is only a three week period and we are still awaiting guidance for the fall and school year. Superintendent Evans said he has also been careful to communicate that we will support staff members who wish to wear masks, whether they are vaccinated or unvaccinated. Superintendent Evans said as soon as we have guidance for the fall and the 2021-2022 school year he will communicate with members of the school community.

- Personnel Update (Appendix 2021-35)

Superintendent Evans provided the Committee with an update on the filling of vacancies for the 2021-2022 School Year. Superintendent Evans reported there is one teaching assistant position vacant which was created by promoting the person that was in that position. He also reported there is one position as secretary in the Continuing Education Department that needs to be filled. Superintendent Evans said he feels very positive about the staff we have selected and said we will be ready to go at the start of the school year.

- Admissions Update

Superintendent Evans said he is happy to report that we will have a very full building. He reported that the first time in his 26 years in this building that we will have over 200 students in each of the four classes. Superintendent Evans said with the large class sizes the facilities team and coordinators are working on configuring classrooms and class sizes. Although this causes some challenges, we will work to provide the maximum distancing possible. Superintendent Evans said he will have an update at the next meeting and will have numbers available for the October 1<sup>st</sup> report.

- MASC/MASS Voting Delegate (Appendix 2021-36)

Superintendent Evans reported it is required that the Committee vote on a voting delegate for the MASC/MASS Joint Conference.

MR. BURMAN NOMINATED MR. GAINES AS THE VOTING DELEGATE TO THE MASC/MASS JOINT CONFERENCE; MRS. COMMERFORD SECONDED THE NOMINATION. MRS. BURNS, MRS. CAMEAU, MRS. COMMERFORD, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MRS. KNOWLES, MRS. MORI,

MR. MULVEY, MR. SIMS, MS. SMITH-FREEDMAN, AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Future Meeting Status

Superintendent Evans reported that he and Chairman Burman's intentions are to have the August 30<sup>th</sup> School Committee Meeting in person. He said that is with the understanding there are no unexpected changes to our status. Superintendent Evans said at this meeting we invite new staff members to be introduced to the Committee. Superintendent Evans said we are looking at options within the building to have a lot of space, possibly the East Side Room or another area where we can spread out more than in the School Committee Meeting Room. He reported that he has also contacted the Culinary Department and expects with the help of students they will be able to prepare something for outside dining prior to the meeting where new staff will be able to join in as well. Superintendent Evans said he will be in communication prior to the meeting.

## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- Non-Salary Financial Expenditure Report (Appendix 2021-37)

Members received the Non-Salary Expenditure Report along with some highlights regarding our current status.

- Vote to Approve Budget Transfer (Appendix 2020-49)

Mrs. Sharek requested authorization to transfer funds from areas of surplus to allow the District to meet financial obligations.

MRS. KNOWLES MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MR. CAMEAU TO APPROVE A BUDGET TRANSFER TO FACILITATE THE DISTRICT MEETING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS. MRS. BURNS, MR. CAMEAU, MRS. COMMERFORD, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MRS. KNOWLES, MRS. MORI, MR. MULVEY, MR. SIMS, MS. SMITH-FREEDMAN AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

## **COMMUNICATION**

- Source Article Acceleration Academy Grant (Appendix 2021-39)

Superintendent Evans provided an article that was published in the Framingham Source regarding Acceleration Academy Grant Funding. Superintendent Evans said this grant funding is going to help students rising 10<sup>th</sup> graders get back into gear for the start of the new school year. He said the funding has certain parameters that need to be followed. He said the funding will help both students that are targeted as needing some assistance as well as students that voluntarily sign up for the programming. Superintendent Evans said this program is in addition to the summer MCAS Program that is held each year.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Burman asked for a motion to adjourn.

MR. GALLAGHER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. MULVEY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS MRS. BURNS, MR. CAMEAU, MRS. COMMERFORD, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MRS. KNOWLES, MRS. MORI, MR. MULVEY, MR. SIMS, MS. SMITH-FREEDMAN, AND MR. BURMAN. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

The next meeting is August 30<sup>th</sup>  
The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

SOUTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting – July 26, 2021

**ACTION SHEET**

- MRS. KNOWLES MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. FOBES, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2021. MRS. BURNS, MR. CAMEAU, MRS. COMMERFORD, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MRS. KNOWLES, MRS. MORI, MR. SIMS, MS SMITH-FREEDMAN AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; MR. MULVEY ABSTAINED. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.
- MR. BURMAN NOMINATED MR. GAINES AS THE VOTING DELEGATE TO THE MASC/MASS JOINT CONFERENCE; MRS. COMMERFORD SECONDED THE NOMINATION. MRS. BURNS, MRS. CAMEAU, MRS. COMMERFORD, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MRS. KNOWLES, MRS. MORI, MR. MULVEY, MR. SIMS, MS. SMITH-FREEDMAN, AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.
- MRS. KNOWLES MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MR. CAMEAU TO APPROVE A BUDGET TRANSFER TO FACILITATE THE DISTRICT MEETING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS. MRS. BURNS, MR. CAMEAU, MRS. COMMERFORD, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MRS. KNOWLES, MRS. MORI, MR. MULVEY, MR. SIMS, MS. SMITH-FREEDMAN AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.
- MR. GALLAGHER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. MULVEY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS MRS. BURNS, MR. CAMEAU, MRS. COMMERFORD, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MRS. KNOWLES, MRS. MORI, MR. MULVEY, MR. SIMS, MS. SMITH-FREEDMAN, AND MR. BURMAN. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.