

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
251 STONEHAVEN ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA
DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chairman Paul Jennings, with the following persons in attendance: Fr. Jay Mello of Fall River, Donald DiBiasio of Somerset, Jeffrey Begin of Swansea and Joan Menard of Fall River. Rajiv Nehra of Fall River was absent.

Also in attendance were: Brian Bentley, Interim Superintendent/Director, Andrew Rebello, Assistant Superintendent/Principal, Paul Kitchen, Director of Finance, Gregory Brilhante, Legal Counsel and Helena Neves, Executive Secretary.

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. Matos provided notification of intent to record.

Mr. Jennings led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Fr. Jay and voted unanimously to dispense with the reading of the August 11, 2022 minutes and approved them, as recorded.

There was no Student Report.

There was no Citizen Input.

Mr. Jennings reminded the Members to complete and return the Superintendent's 2022 Mid-Cycle Formative Evaluation and the End of Cycle Summative Evaluation.

Mr. Rebello provided an overview of the 2022-2023 School Improvement Plan.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Fr. Jay and voted unanimously to approve the 2022-2023 School Improvement Plan as submitted.

Mr. Bentley reported on personnel. Mr. Bentley stated that the Simulation Lab/Clinical Rotation Support Staff position remains open.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to accept the request made by Diman Bengal Foundation to make a donation of \$18, 000 to the Career Access Pathways program.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to approve the request by the Diman Football Team to use the Cafeteria for their team dinners on Wednesdays

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and Thursdays (9/8, 9/15, 9/21, 9/28, 10/6, 10/13 & 10/26) from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm and to waive the use of facilities fee.

Mr. Bentley reported on the Extra-Curricular Positions. Mr. Bentley stated that due to language in the DTA contract there needs to be clarification on club student enrollment and when to appoint more than one advisor. Mr. Bentley stated that if more than one advisor is appointed, each advisor should be paid the stipend accordingly.

It was moved Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to appoint two yearbook advisors and pay each advisor the stipend according to the DTA's Extra-Curricular Salary Schedule.

Mr. Bentley reported on the Mentor Coordinator position. Mr. Bentley stated that two mentor coordinators were appointed to oversee the program. Mr. Bentley further stated that clarification is needed due to past practice of appointing two coordinators and paying each of them the full stipend when only one coordinator position is in the contract.

Attorney Brilhante stated that the contract needs to be followed and recommended that for future appointments if there is a need for two coordinators, it should be brought to the School Committee for approval.

It was moved Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to reaffirm the appointments of the two Mentor Coordinators and pay each Coordinator the stipend according to the DTA's Extra-Curricular Salary Schedule for the 2022-2023 school year.

Mr. Bentley reported on the Athletic Events positions. Mr. Bentley stated that staff members work the athletic events and are paid \$75 per event. Mr. Bentley further stated that there has been confusion on the rate of pay.

It was moved Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to appoint individuals to the athletic events positions and to continue to pay the current rate of \$75.00 per event for the remainder of the 22/23 school year.

Mr. Bentley reported that one of the elevators currently does not go to the second floor. Mr. Bentley stated that Glenn, the Supervisor of Building and Grounds is aware and has been working with vendors. Mr. Bentley further stated that due to the age of the elevators, the vendor is having a difficult time getting the parts needed to repair and a replacement may be needed.

Mr. Bentley reported on the notification received from NEASC regarding the ten year review. Mr. Bentley stated that he contacted NEASC to notify them that Diman is in the process of building a new school. Mr. Bentley further stated that NEASC has agreed to split the review into two parts. The first part will take place in the spring and the second part will take place in 2027 once the new building is completed.

Ms. Menard left the meeting at 5:58 pm and returned at 6:00 pm.

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Mr. Kitchen provided the monthly financial report.

Mr. Kitchen provided an overview on expenditures. Mr. Kitchen stated that he has received an updated request for the English software expenditure and the new cost is \$17,788.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve all expenditures as presented, including the revised English software expenditure.

Mr. Kitchen provided an overview of the transfers.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve all transfers as presented.

Mr. Kitchen reported on the Student Activity Agency Accounts audit report and account balances. Mr. Kitchen stated that the finding by the audit should be removed at the next audit, as the district has implemented the recommended guidelines.

Mr. Jennings provided an overview of the Admissions Policy.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve the Admissions Policy as submitted.

Mr. DiBiasio provided the Housebuilding/Facilities report. Mr. DiBiasio reported that the Community Projects list is a work in progress as the new school year just started. Mr. DiBiasio also reported that the Housebuilding contract should be fully executed soon.

Mr. DiBiasio provided the Policy Sub-Committee report. Mr. DiBiasio stated that the ADF - Wellness Policy was revised to include the exemption of Physical Education requirements for students that play a MIIA sports. Mr. DiBiasio further stated that an Athletic Study request form has been created to be used to request the PE exemption. Mr. DiBiasio also reported that policies AC & AC-R – Non-Discrimination Including Harassment and Retaliation, ACAB – Sexual Harassment, DA – Fiscal Management, DB-1 – Annual Budget, DB-1-R – Apportionment of Expenses, DBC – Budget Deadlines and Schedules, DBD – Budget Planning, DBG-1 – Budget Adoption Procedures, DBJ-1 – Budget Transfer Authority, DD – Grants, Proposals, and Special Projects, DEC - Federal Funds Supplement not Supplant Policy, DGA-1 – Authorized Signatures, DH-1 – Bonded Employees and Officers, DI – Fiscal Accounting and Reporting, DIE – Audits, DJ – Purchasing, DJA – Purchasing Authority, DJE – Procurement Requirements, DK-1 – Payment Procedures, DKC – Expense Reimbursements, JICK – Harassment of Students were revised to update language and to align with current legal citations.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the policy revisions as submitted.

Attorney Brillhante left the meeting at 6:14 pm. and returned at 6:15 pm.

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Mr. Begin left the meeting at 6:16 pm.

Mr. DiBiasio provided the MSBA report. Mr. DiBiasio reported that the MSBA School Building Committee has been reorganized and will be submitted to MSBA for approval.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to accept the revised MSBA School Building Committee list as submitted.

Mr. DiBiasio reported that the Selection Committee held their first meeting. Mr. DiBiasio stated that the Selection Committee will meet again on September 29, 2022 and October 28, 2022 to discuss proposals submitted for the Construction Manager at Risk. Mr. DiBiasio further stated that the Selection Committee will hold interviews on November 1, 2022 for qualified companies.

Mr. DiBiasio stated that the MBSB School Building Committee meetings will be held on the first Thursday of the month.

Mr. Bentley initiated the discussion to increase student enrollment for the class of 2027 for a total of 380 slots.

Mr. Jennings stated that the School Committee usually invokes the bypass list to add the additional ten slots.

Mr. DiBiasio asked if we were to increase student enrollment beyond the 375 slots, would the district have to go back to the sending communities for approval.

It was decided to not increase student enrollment for the class of 2027 at this time.

Mr. Rebello provided the Principal's report.

Mr. Bentley provided the Superintendent's report.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 13, 2022.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 6:71 p.m. to enter into Executive Session with Mr. Jennings, Fr. Jay, Mr. DiBiasio and Ms. Menard voting yes.

- a. Approve August 11, 2022 Minutes
- b. 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:
Individual Contracts – LPN Director, District Legal Counsel

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It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously on a roll call at 6:49 p.m. to rise into Open Session. Mr. Jennings, Fr. Jay, Mr. DiBiasio and Ms. Menard voting yes.

3.1.m

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to allow Attorney Brillhante and Mr. Bentley to enter into negotiations with Ms. Lori Gehan for the LPN Director position.

3.1.p

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Fr. Jay and voted unanimously to approve the Legal Counsel contract as negotiated.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Mr. DiBiasio and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Helena S. Neves
Helena S. Neves

Materials Included:

August 11, 2022 Minutes
Superintendent's 2022 End Cycle Summative Evaluation
22-23 School Improvement Plan
Monthly Financial Report
Expenditure Report
Transfers Report
Student Activity Agency Account Audit Report
Student Activity Agency Account Report
2022-2023 Admissions Policy
Community Projects List
Policies AC & AC-R – Non-Discrimination Including Harassment and Retaliation, ACAB – Sexual Harassment, ADF – Wellness Policy, DA – Fiscal Management, DB-1 – Annual Budget, DB-1-R – Apportionment of Expenses, DBC – Budget Deadlines and Schedules, DBD – Budget Planning, DBG-1 – Budget Adoption Procedures, DBJ-1 – Budget Transfer Authority, DD – Grants, Proposals, and Special Projects, DEC - Federal Funds Supplement not Supplant Policy, DGA-1 – Authorized Signatures, DH-1 – Bonded Employees and Officers, DI – Fiscal Accounting and Reporting, DIE – Audits, DJ – Purchasing, DJA – Purchasing Authority, DJE – Procurement Requirements, DK-1 – Payment Procedures, DKC – Expense Reimbursements, JICK – Harassment of Students
MSBA School Building Committee List
Principal's Report
Superintendent's Report