

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF LPN SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
251 STONEHAVEN ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA
DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

In attendance: Jeffrey Begin, Joan Menard, Fr. Jay Mello, Brian Bentley, Interim Superintendent-Director, Andrew Rebello, Assistant Superintendent-Principal, Gregory Brilhante, Legal Counsel and Helena Neves, Executive Secretary

The meeting began with a roll call at 1:02 p.m.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Fr. Jay and voted unanimously to dispense with the reading of the July 15, 2022 minutes and approve them as recorded.

Mr. Begin began the discussion on the LPN Director position. Mr. Begin stated that the position was posted and a handful of applications were received. Mr. Begin further stated that most of the applicants did not have all the qualifications for the position. Mr. Begin stated the Ms. Lori Gehan, an internal applicant, had originally applied for the position and possesses the qualifications needed. Mr. Begin further stated that due to misinterpretations regarding past decisions by the Sub-Committee and the School Committee as a whole, led to Ms. Gehan's withdrawal of her application.

Mr. Begin stated that he met with Ms. Gehan, Mr. Bentley and Mr. Jennings to discuss the withdrawal of the application. Mr. Begin further stated that there was good dialogue regarding the goals of the program. Mr. Begin feels that Ms. Gehan has the qualifications and the passion to move forward with the program.

Mr. Begin stated that a recommendation to enter into contract negotiations with Ms. Gehan would be appropriate based on her qualifications.

Attorney Brilhante asked for clarification on the length of the contract – one year with performance termination language vs a three year standard contract.

Mr. Begin stated that the concern with a one year contract, is the Ms. Gehan will be leaving the union.

Ms. Menard stated that the person appointed to the position will be evaluated yearly and if there are performance concerns, they should be addressed. Ms. Menard further stated that a three year contract is appropriate.

Ms. Gehan requested to speak. Ms. Gehan stated that leaving the union is not a big concern. Ms. Gehan feels that because of the stability of the program, a three year contract will allow her time to improve the program. Ms. Gehan is confident she has the qualifications and drive to move the program in the right direction.

Fr. Jay asked how long Ms. Gehan has been part of the program.

Ms. Gehan stated that she has been in the program for seven years and has been the unofficial acting director since the former director received notification of nonrenewal.

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Ms. Gehan further stated that she recruited students for the program and was able to increase the total of accepted students from eighteen to thirty two.

Mr. Begin thanked Ms. Gehan for her leadership and her patience.

Mr. Begin stated that he would like to make the recommendation to the School Committee to enter into negotiations with Ms. Gehan.

It was moved by Fr. Jay, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to adjourn the LPN Sub-Committee meeting at 1:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helena Neves

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