

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
251 STONEHAVEN ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA
ROOM 251 RESTAURANT
MARCH 10, 2022

The regular meeting of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Paul Jennings, with the following persons in attendance: Rajiv Nehra of Fall River, Joan Menard of Fall River, Fr. Jay Mello of Fall River, and Donald DiBiasio of Somerset. Jeffrey Begin of Swansea was absent.

Also, in attendance were: Elvio Ferreira, Superintendent Director, Andrew Rebello, Assistant Superintendent/Principal, Paul Kitchen, Director of Finance, and Gregory Brilhante, Legal Counsel

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. Decio Matos will be recording.

Mr. Jennings led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Budget public hearing was opened at 5:32 p.m.

Dr. Ferreira deferred to Mr. Kitchen to report on the proposed FY23 Budget

Mr. Kitchen provided an overview of the proposed FY23 Budget

The floor was open to the public for questions regarding the proposed FY23 Budget

Mr. DiBiasio asked for clarification on a line item in the budget

Mr. Decio Matos asked if the transportation vendor has the ability to assess the district a fuel surcharge.

Mr. Kitchen reported that the current transportation contract does not have a fuel de-escalation clause.

As there were no further questions on the proposed FY23 Budget, the budget public hearing was closed.

The School Choice public hearing was opened

Dr. Ferreira does not recommend school choice for the 2022-2023 school year due to the fact that the District is not able to accept every student that applies. The District has received 725 applications to fill the 375 seats allotted to the 2022-2023 freshman class.

As there were no further questions on the School Choice, the school choice public hearing was closed.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously, with Fr. Jay abstaining, to dispense with the reading of the February 10, 2022 minutes and approve them, as submitted.

There was no Student report

There was no Citizen Input

Dr. Ferreira reported that he has received four FY21 End of Cycle Summative Evaluations and one FY22 Mid-Cycle Formative Evaluation. Dr. Ferreira is available to answer any questions and requested that once members complete the evaluations to return them to Mrs. Neves.

Mr. DiBiasio deferred to Gregory Brilhante, Legal Counsel to report on the Grievance Sub-Committee

Mr. Brilhante reported that the Grievance Sub-Committee was presented with the documentation on the findings and after review took a vote of 2-0 to settle the Grievance SY2022-1 upon terms and conditions agreed upon between DTA and Greater Fall River Regional School District. A stipend will be paid as a one-time settlement payment. The settlement will not set precedent nor will any back claims come forward. However, the Union holds its right for any future issues.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to approve the settlement agreement.

Dr. Ferreira requested the Committee's approval of the FY23 Budget as submitted by Mr. Kitchen.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to approve the FY23 Budget as submitted.

Dr. Ferreira recommended the District not offer school choice for the 2022-2023 school year because of its inability to accept all students wanting to enroll from the four district communities.

Fr. Jay asked for clarification on School Choice

Dr. Ferreira provided clarification on School Choice In and School Choice Out.

School Choice In: *is when a student who lives in a community other than the city or town within the District's four sending communities can apply to Diman, if school choice is offered.*

School Choice Out: *is when a student who lives in one of the four sending communities applies to Diman and is not accepted, the student can apply to other vocational schools and if accepted, Diman would be responsible to cost share the cost of tuition with the sending community.*

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously that the Greater Fall River Vocational School District, Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School, not offer school choice for the 2022-2023 school year because of its inability to accept all students wanting to enroll from the four district communities.

Dr. Ferreira reported on Personnel changes as follows:

1. Appointments:

Meredith Rose – Sophomore Class Advisor
Priscilla Wicks - Sophomore Class Advisor
Steven Camara – Girls Tennis Coach
Michael Valerio – Boys Tennis Coach

2. Advisory Committee Appointments:

Haylee Cooper – Graphic Communications

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Fr. Jay and voted unanimously to appoint Haylee Cooper as an Advisory Board member of the Graphic Communications Program.

3. Resignations:

Vincent Karppinen - Plumbing
Michael Young – Auto Collision
Kimberly Westgate – Business Office

Dr. Ferreira reported on a donation of oral surgery instruments made by Dr. Anita Jones

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to accept the donation of oral surgery instruments by Dr. Anita Jones.

Mr. Kitchen reported on the request to transfer available funds to the various accounts. Mr. Kitchen further explained that the Math Department completed a review of the current math series and have selected a new math series to use in the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. Matos, Math Department Head, and the Math Department staff applied for an Accelerated Math grant and a portion of the grant funds will be used to purchase the new

Math textbooks. The remainder of the requested transfer of funds will be used to purchase textbooks, electronic books and vocational code books for the 2022-2023 school year.

Account	Description	To:	From:
100.2410.4.551.609	Textbooks - English	12,333	
100.2410.4.552.609	Textbooks - Math	148,421	
100.2410.4.501.609	Textbooks - Auto Collision	1,766	
100.2410.4.503.609	Textbooks - Building Technology	3,264	
100.2410.4.505.609	Textbooks - Culinary Arts	3,484	
100.2410.4.506.609	Textbooks - Dental Assisting	2,801	
100.2410.4.508.609	Textbooks - Electrical	10,097	
100.2410.4.512.609	Textbooks - Health Assisting	5,722	
100.2410.4.513.609	Textbooks - HVAC	6,600	
100.2410.4.515.609	Textbooks - Metal Fab	3,864	
100.2410.4.516.609	Textbooks - Plumbing	4,776	
100.2410.4.519.609	Textbooks - Office Technology	1,650	
100.2410.4.527.609	Textbooks - Programming	2,560	
100.2410.4.528.609	Textbooks - Medical Assisting	9,677	
100.2420.4.528.610	Equipment - Medical Assisting	7,455	
100.2430.4.508.503	Supplies - Electrical	850	
100.2456.4.508.197	Professional Dev. - Electrical		850
100.2420.4.507.610	Equipment - Dental Assisting		7,455
100.5350.6.522.659	LPN- Davol Street Lease		37,794
100.5350.8.310.659	Central Office - Davol St Lease		39,375
100.1210.8.315.137	Superintendent Director - Curriculum		100,000
100.5200.8.000.627	Medical & Dental Insurance Expense		<u>39,846</u>
		\$ 225,320	\$ 225,320

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve the transfers from available funds.

Mr. Kitchen reported on the expenditures in excess of \$5,000.00.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Fr. Jay and voted unanimously to approve the following expenditures:

Vendor	DAC	Total Amt.
GRADUATE HOTEL	Senior Class	\$5,000.00
POWER SCHOOL GROUP LLC	Technology	\$5,071.00
THE MIRACLE PAINT REJUVENATOR CO.	Building Grounds	\$5,195.00
VIRCO INC	Medical Assisting	\$5,468.80
DILLON BOILER SERVICE	BUILDING GROUNDS	\$5,802.00

UNIVERSITY OF MASS DARTMOUTH	SPED GRANT	\$5,880.00
APPLIED EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS	VOCATIONAL	\$6,000.00
KILGORE INTERNATIONAL	Dental	\$6,516.60
W W GRAINGER	SPED GRANT	\$7,429.00
WHALLEY COMPUTER ASSOCIATES INC	Technology	\$7,449.00
VIRCO INC	Dental	\$7,454.72
ALLIED UNIVERSAL	Building Grounds	\$7,646.27
AMPLIFIED IT LLC	SPED GRANT	\$7,875.00
ARJO INC	Health Careers	\$7,929.74
KEYSTONE	Auto Body	\$9,360.90
VIRTUAL GRAFFITI	Technology	\$9,378.00
DAVES LAWNMOWER	Building Technology	\$9,382.00
ALLIED UNIVERSAL	BUILDING GROUNDS	\$9,497.00
CENTURY PAVING CONST CORP	Building Grounds	\$9,950.00
WHALLEY COMPUTER ASSOCIATES INC	Technology	\$10,000.00
WRIGHT TRAILER	HMC Housebuilding	\$11,630.00
PANORAMA EDUCATION INC	SPED GRANT	\$12,762.00
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CONCEPTS INC	Electronics	\$21,343.35
ADVANCED ED TECHNOLOGIES	Drafting CAD	\$35,923.00

Mr. Kitchen reported on the FY22 Budget Adjustment

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to adjust the FY22 Budget as submitted.

Mr. Kitchen reported on the monthly financial report.

Mr. Brilhante reported on the Approval of Contracts

- DTA

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to approve the DTA Contract as submitted.

Mr. DiBiasio deferred to Mrs. Torres for the Housebuilding/Facilities Sub-Committee report

Mrs. Torres reported that the community projects are going well. The Somerset Water Department project is almost completed. The garage being built in Swansea is moving along nicely and soon the work on the roof will begin. The Luther's Museum has placed a request for signage.

Mrs. Torres reported on a collaboration with the City of Fall River and MassDOT to work on the "Welcome to Fall River" Route 24 sign.

Mr. DiBiasio reported on the new application for house construction and pamphlet to be used for the Housebuilding Project.

It was moved by Fr. Jay, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to approve the new application for house construction and pamphlet.

Dr. Ferreira reported on the 2022-2023 School Calendar

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

Mr. DiBiasio deferred to Dr. Ferreira to provide the MSBA update.

Dr. Ferreira reported that at the present time the District is in a holding pattern. The District currently does not have any disapproval votes from any of the four sending communities. All signed documents have been submitted to MSBA for review.

Dr. Ferreira provided the Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Ferreira expressed his gratitude to Mr. Matos and the Math Department for their hard work in applying for a grant to help with the purchase of new math textbooks.

Dr. Ferreira reported on school updates, initiatives and upcoming events provided by Mr. Rebello.

Dr. Nehra inquired if the District would consider looking into bringing in a Diversity Coordinator.

Dr. Ferreira reported that a Diversity Coordinator is a position that could possibly qualify for ESSER funds. Dr. Ferreira will research further and will provide more information to the Committee at the next meeting.

Fr. Jay requested further clarification on enrollment decline

Dr. Ferreira reported that there was a decline in the sophomore and junior enrollment due to varying circumstances (i.e. COVID, remote learning, and transfers). Dr. Ferreira further reported that the Committee could look at accepting more sophomores, although it would be more challenging for those students due to exploratory not being available in the 10th grade.

Mr. DiBiasio inquired if it would be possible to add additional seats to the 2022-2023 freshman class.

Dr. Ferreira reported that it could be a possibility. Dr. Ferreira will do further research and report back to the Committee.

Dr. Ferreira requested permission to forward the projects submitted by the Electronics Technology Department to the Bengal Education Foundation.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Fr. Jay and voted unanimously to approve the projects submitted by the Electronics Technology Department

Dr. Ferreira reported on the calendar of events.

Dr. Ferreira requested the approval of the Committee to reschedule the April meeting from April 14, 2022 to April 21, 2022, which would allow Administration to attend the OVS Banquet.

Other items not reasonable anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting

The next School Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2022.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 6:44 p.m. to enter into Executive Session for the following: 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 - Paraprofessionals, Part-time School Adjustment Counselor, Junior IT Technician, LPN Administrative Support Staff, LPN/ Practical Nursing Program Director, Athletic Director, Division of Continuing Education Bookkeeper, Director of Continuing Education Program, Storekeeper, Cooperative Employment Coordinator, Transition Coordinator, Human Resources Coordinator, Parent Liaison, ESP/Medical Assistant, District Data Specialist, Evening Security Officer*

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra and voted unanimously on a roll call at 6:53 p.m. to rise into Open Session.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena S. Neves

Helena S. Neves

Materials Included:

- FY23 Proposed Budget
- February 10, 2022 Minutes
- Request for Transfer of Funds
- FY22 Budget Adjustment Memorandum
- Monthly Financial Report
- 2022-2023 Proposed School Calendar
- Superintendent's Report
- Correspondence