

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

1082 DAVOL STREET, 2nd FLOOR, ROOM NO. 237, FALL RIVER, MA

DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM

OCTOBER 14, 2021

The regular meeting of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District Committee meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Chairman Paul Jennings, with the following persons in attendance: Joan Menard, Rajiv Nehra and Fr. Jay Mello of Fall River, Jeffrey Begin of Swansea, and Donald DiBiasio of Somerset. Also, in attendance were Paul Kitchen, Elvio Ferreira, Superintendent Director, Andrew Rebello, Assistant Superintendent/Principal and Atty. 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 after Executive Session.

Mr. Jennings led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Mr. Nehra, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously to approve the August 12, 2021 minutes, as submitted.

MSBA – Kaestle Boos Presentation by Craig Joynt, Project Architect. Discussed the wrapping up of the first phase of the MSBA process. Mr. DiBiasio reported that the relation with Diman and Kaestle Boos has been delightful and educational.

Outreach Committee Presentation- Mrs. Kenney provided an update on the Outreach Committee. Mrs. Kenney discussed the process of engaging and educating the public on why we need a new school. The committee is financial independent from the school district. Interviews took place at Diman with all administrators and a couple of shops were interviewed. By November 1, 2021, we will have a social media page and it will be handled by Sally. Students were involved with a competition to create bumper stickers, we had two winners. One design will be used on our homepage of the website. Both designs will be used in pamphlets. Mr. Hetzler reported his excitement to be part of the Outreach Committee process. Mr. Hetzler was happy to report that the \$50,000.00 has already been reached.

There was no citizen input.

Dr. Ferreira reported that the End of Cycle Summative Evaluation is still for the 2021 school year, feel free to complete it and ask questions. Dr. Ferreira evaluation report for the 2022 school year will be available in November 2021.

Mr. Paul Kitchen left meeting at 6:46 p.m. and returned at 6:47 p.m.

Dr. Ferreira reported on the Career and Technical Education Partnership Implementation Grant. This is a three-shop program (Business Technology, Medical Assisting and Automotive Technology). Durfee students will come to Diman from 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. three days a week – he is waiting to hear from Fall River Public Schools regarding approval of the costs associated with the grant. Program to start in November 2021 as long as the MOU is fully executed.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve the Career and Technical Education Partnership Implementation Grant.

Mr. DiBiasio provided report on the Grievance SY2022-1 all sides of the grievance were heard.

Greg Brilhante reported that the DTA met and evidence was taken. The grievance sub-committee met in executive session to deliberate this particular situation. The Grievance Sub-Committee voted unanimously to deny the grievance.

Dr. Nehra asked what the merits to what deemed the findings; Mr. DiBiasio reported out no violations were made. The process was done correctly.

Fr. Jay asked the details of the grievance, Greg Brilhante provided findings of the grievance, and no violations to the contract were made.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin to make a recommendation to deny the grievance. It was moved by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. DiBiasio on a roll call at 5:55 p.m. Mr. Jennings, Mr. Begin, and Mr. DiBiasio voting yes. Father Mello, Ms. Menard and Dr. Nehra voting no. The motion did not pass.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, and agreed among members for Attorney Brilhante and the union to meet with Mr. Berube. Mr. Sweet asked to extend the timeframe and to hold the grievance in abeyance.

Table grievance until November meeting.

Dr. Ferreira reported on the following personnel changes:

Mr. Luke Bahry has been appointed as Special Education Instructor for the 2021-22 school year at step 6 (\$60,836) of the 2018-21 DTA salary schedule.

Mr. Michael Zajac has been appointed as the District Staffing Coordinator for the 2021-22 school year at a stipend of \$7,168.

Mr. Armand Larginha, has submitted his letter of intent to retire on June 22, 2022.

Mrs. Gisele Parent, has submitted her letter of intent to retire in March, 2022.

Ms. Amanda Paquin has submitted her letter of resignation, effective December 3, 2021.

Mrs. Lucy Thompsen has submitted her letter of voluntary termination, effective October 6, 2021.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to appoint Mark Biltcliffe, as a business/industry advisory board member of the Electricity Program for a term of three years.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Nehra and voted unanimously to appoint Kyle Stone as a business/industry advisory board member of the Advanced Manufacturing Program for a term of three years.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Mr. Nehra and voted unanimously to approve the request from the Miss America Association for the use of the auditorium and gymnasium for a scholarship pageant on January 15, 2022 and January 16, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. and to waive the use fees.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve the request from the Massachusetts Technical Teacher Testing Program for the use of the Cabinetmaking shop, Building & Property shop and Machine shop on Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 7:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. for a performance exam and to waive the facilities fee.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Fr. Jay and voted unanimously to accept the donation of \$500.00 from Michael and Jana McHenry to the William McHenry Library.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to accept the donation of an engine short block and transmission assembly from Subaru of New England to the Automotive Technology Program.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Nehra and voted unanimously to accept the donation of \$75.00 from Laura Wong to the Senior Class 2022.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve the following expenditures:

AKINS Machinery	DMC wide belt sander (delivery, installation and training)	\$33,580
Assessment Technologies	Full-time students testing	\$27,300
Assessment Technologies	Part-time students testing	\$13,260
Community Connections	Supportive employment services 2021-22	\$25,000
Cristia Leshar Associates, LLC	Professional development 2021-22	\$14,646
Hands in Harmony, Inc.	FY22 after school music therapy	\$5,000
Homans Associates	Metal Fabrication – LFQ Sten	\$5,377
Johnson Controls, Inc.	Fire alarm repair – admin offices	\$5,015
Mass Dept. of Ed	Return of funds – stipends CTE & Tech Ed Partnering	\$5,721
Research for Better Teaching Inc.	ESSER II – professional development	\$22,100
St. Anne’s Hospital	FY22 – speech services	\$20,000

Sale of Surplus Auction Company – Dr. Ferreira provided report. Company that will handle the process for us for a percentage. Mr. Kitchen discussed the bid process and advertising in the newspaper; the online auction service allows for a wider net. Dr. Ferreira reported the sale of the surplus goes before the School Committee for approval.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve the sale of surplus – 86 Room 251 Restaurant chairs.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to award the bid to GMS Corp for the Polar Cutter 78ES in the amount of \$3,625.00

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Nehra and voted unanimously to accept the 2021-22 Employee Handbook, as submitted.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Nehra to accept the LPN Strategic Plan, as presented.

Housebuilding/Facilities Sub-Committee Report - Mr. DiBiasio reported out on the Civil Rights parking lot project. Mr. Ferreira provided report on the new specifications. Mr. DiBiasio reported out on the garage to be built in Swansea, MA. Greg Brillhante reported we are waiting on permits from the town of Swansea. Mr. Jennings reported the process will start next month for the 2022 - 2023 school year to start house project.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Mr. Nehra and voted unanimously to approve the contract as negotiated for the 2022 garage project in Swansea, MA

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin and voted unanimously to approve the bid for the New District Office parking spaces, in the amount of \$12,350.00.

Dr. Ferreira reported out on the revised Admissions Policy. The Admissions Policy will be submitted to the state on November 1, 2021.

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

Greg Brilhante left meeting at 7:36 p.m. and returned at 7:37 p.m.

Dr. Ferreira reported out on the revised mileage reimbursement rate.

Dr. Ferreira provided report for the MTRS Early Retirement Bill.

Dr. Nehra left meeting at 7:38 p.m. and returned at 7:39 p.m.

Dr Ferreira reported out on the Student Activity Agency Account Guidelines & Procedures.

Mr. Kitchen reported out on the Monthly Financial Report

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Ms. Menard and voted unanimously to approve the transfer from available funds.

Dr. Ferreira provided report on the Superintendent's Report

Ms. Menard left the meeting at 7:44 p.m. and returned at 7:46 p.m.

Dr. Ferreira provided report on calendar of events.

Mr. Rebello left meeting at 7:50 p.m. and returned at 7:52 p.m.

The next School Committee Meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2021.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 8:08 p.m. to enter into Executive Session for the following: Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a), paragraph 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares: AFSCME, DTA and DAA c. 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 – District Data Analyst; Cooperative Education Coordinator, IT Coordinator, Assistant IT Coordinator, Administrative Assistant to Principal, Logistics Coordinator, Accountant, Treasurer, Human Resources Coordinator, Security Officer, Parent Liaison, Team Chair – SPED, Evening School Director, LPN Director, Evening School Bookkeeper, Executive Assistant to Superintendent/Recording Secretary to School Committee, Financial Aid Coordinator, and Paraprofessionals.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously on a roll call at 8:25 p.m. to rise into Open Session.

It was moved by Mr. DiBiasio, seconded by Dr. Nehra, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Bosse

Materials Included:

August 12, 2021 Minutes

Employee Handbook

LPN Strategic Plan

Revised Admissions Policy

Student Activity Agency Account Guidelines & Procedures

Monthly Financial Report

FY21 Transfers

FY22 Transfers

Superintendent's Report