

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2014
Executive Session at 6:00 P.M.
Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M.
Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School Library**

PRESENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Martin LaLonde, Julie Beatty, Diane Bugbee, Dan Fleming

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

David Young, John Stewart

GUESTS

No guests

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered executive session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter, legal matter, and collective bargaining and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the district not to do so in executive session. The motion was approved.

Personnel Matter

In: 6:00 p.m.

Out: 6:37 p.m.

No Action

Collective Bargaining

In: 6:38 p.m.

Out: 6:45 p.m.

No Action

The executive session was closed at 6:50 p.m.

PRESENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Martin LaLonde, Julie Beatty, Diane Bugbee, Dan Fleming, Neerja Patel, Sabina Latifovic

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

David Young, John Stewart, Delina Gilroy, Stuart Weiss, Patrick Burke

GUESTS

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was amended to remove the action from item #10 – School District Calendar and removal of item #12 - 2.4 Financial Conditions and Activities (Audit). The

Executive Session will be continued at the end of the meeting for collective bargaining and a legal matter.

CITY/SCHOOL COLLABORATION

Mr. Young stated that he and Ms. Fitzgerald met with Mr. Dorn and Ms. Mckenzie yesterday. They discussed the next steering committee meeting date of April 9 (which will include a reorganization of the Steering Committee), budget, follow-up on voter information recently presented, and master planning and financial stewardship for both the school and city.

UPDATE ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE HOWARDCENTER'S PERMIT TO OPEN A METHADONE CLINIC ON DORSET STREET

Attorney Pietro Lynn provided oral arguments in front of the Vermont Supreme Court on Monday, March 18 at 10:00 a.m. at the Vermont Law School. The timeframe for the Supreme Court to render its decision is unknown. The school board continues to look at ways to secure safety zones around our schools.

UPDATE ON PROPOSED GRADE 5 TRANSITION

Mr. Young asked Ms. Godek to give a brief update on the meetings that have been held to date on the proposed grade 5 transition. The board asked several questions and added that, given the public scrutiny of this decision, it is important that clear and elevated objectives are defined which show the evidence and objectives of any decision.

A member of the public said it is important for parents/community members to receive answers to their questions submitted on the website in a timely manner. It was suggested that an automatic response be provided to individuals submitting questions so that they know they were received.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Neerja Patel gave the following update:

- Talent Night this weekend and it was fun. The freshmen won.
- CDC Career Job Expo is April 1.
- Student Council is holding spring fling all next week. Many different activities are taking place.
- TIE Japanese students will be here beginning next week.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Update on Request for Proposal (RFP) for Audit of Teacher Performance

Evaluation Practice – On March 7, I met with Diane Bugbee, Stuart Weiss, and Karen Dantzscher to review the status of the RFP on Performance Evaluations.

The group discussed the reasons for a limited response to the RFP. The group discussed possible next steps.

The board would like the following items completed and a date by which they can expect to see these items.

1. Three year retrospective for
 - a. The number of evaluations being done

- b. The number of persons eligible in a cycle
- c. The number of reviews by building
2. Number individuals on performance improvement plans and outcomes of those plans for last three years.
3. Roll up of common strengths or development needs combined from all evaluations for the last three years.
4. Ask respondents to help refine our RFP.
5. Have we contacted the Vermont School Boards Association or the National School Boards Association to ask who can do this work? Look at other local and national service providers.
6. Administration to call individuals, not necessarily previous respondents, who might be interested and ask them for feedback on scope of RFP. (Administration to set up meetings with at least three potential partners.)
7. Martin and Diane will work on this committee with the Administration.
8. In the future this should be included in a monitoring report on a regular (yearly) basis.

School's Out/Summer School Updates – K-5 After-School Programs

All elementary after school programs are operating at the maximum capacity of 75 children per day with 7 staff members. All of the children from the waitlists have been enrolled which marks the first time in program history that we do not have a waitlist. A 5% tuition increase is being proposed for 2014-2015 school year to bring us closer to the market rates (though still below the state average).

FHTMS After-School Program

School's Out at FHTMS has a current enrollment of 13 children per day. The program started the year at 21, but some students have dropped out due to other after school commitments. School's Out is currently experimenting with alternative enrollment options for this program, including drop-in services and clubs that will allow students to participate on a less consistent basis.

School's Out Summer Program

The School's Out summer camp is partnering with the special education department to provide an integrated camp/ESY program that will operate from July 7–August 1. School's Out and special education have collaboratively designed a curriculum that allows for all campers to participate in fun, choice based, literacy and math activities on a daily basis. Special educators will work alongside School's Out staff, as well as independently, to ensure that the ESY needs of their students are being met. Their salary will be funded by the special education department.

School Governance Update – Mr. Young gave an update on the current status of the Vermont School Governance activity. The Vermont Superintendent's Association (VSA), along with the Vermont School Boards Association (VSBA), has been working with the Vermont General Assembly to focus its attention on the organization and governance of Vermont's education delivery system. Over the last month several events have taken place. Mr. Young said he testified last night about School Governance at the State House.

Legislative Update – The most recent legislative report from the VSA/VSBA was provided to the board.

CONSIDER AND APPROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

The board discussed the proposed calendar, specifically the testing week at the high school in May. Ms. Bugbee asked how many actual days of instruction there are at each grade level with all the missed days, including testing? The calendar will be added to the next meeting agenda for consideration.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Special Education Services and Funding – Ms. Joanne Godek gave an overview of the Special Education Program in the District. The board asked several questions. Ms. Fitzgerald thanked Ms. Godek for attending and presenting.

EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS POLICY MONITORING

2.4 Financial Conditions and Activities – This was rescheduled to the next meeting.

2.7 Asset Protection – Ms. Beatty and Mr. LaLonde presented the changes they suggested to the report. The board discussed and made several suggested changes. The report will be brought back to the next meeting for review.

SET AGENDA FOR THE MARCH 26, 2014 MEETING

The board discussed the March 26 meeting agenda.

SET AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 2, 2014 MEETING

The board discussed the April 2 meeting agenda.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The board discussed future agenda items.

CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF MARCH 5 AND MARCH 10, 2014

Ms. Fitzgerald announced general consensus of the board to approve the minutes of the March 5 and March 10, 2014 meetings as presented. There were no objections.

CONSENT AGENDA

The board considered the hire of Ed Hockenbury, 1.0 FTE Student Activities Director for the District and the Resignation/Retirement of Kathy Kort, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher at the High School. Ms. Fitzgerald announced a general consensus of the board to approve the consent agenda as amended with the bid being removed from the consent agenda.

The board recognized Ms. Kathleen Kort for her 42 years of service to the district. Mr. LaLonde moved and Ms. Beatty seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion was approved.

Bid for Hardware and Network Switch

Mr. Fleming moved and Ms. Bugbee seconded the motion to approve the bid for the network switch as presented. The motion was approved.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ORDERS #33

The board reviewed accounts payable order #33.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK

The board reviewed the check payable to Essex Community Educational Center in the amount of \$62,704.00. Ms. Bugbee moved and Mr. Fleming seconded the motion to approve the check as presented. The motion was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- April 3 and 4 are half days for PreK-8 students for parent/teacher conferences.
- Kindergarten Registration is April 7 and 8 at Chamberlin School, April 9 at Orchard, and April 9 and 10 at RM Central School.
- The 15th Annual Career/Job Expo is coming to the high school gym on Tuesday, April 1 from 12:00-2:00 p.m.
- Four Vermont schools - Big Picture South Burlington, Cabot School, Mt. Abraham Union Middle/High School, and Vergennes Union High School - have been invited to represent their state at a regional conference on effective strategies for improving teaching and learning in the 21st century.
- Neighborhood Learning Conversations Celebration and Community Dinner at the high school on March 20 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. (Cafeteria 2)
- Vermont's top spellers competed in the Statewide Spelling Bee today at 3:30 p.m. FHT Middle School Student, Liam Lustberg, was the representative for the middle school.

BOARD SELF EVALUATION

The board reviewed and discussed the board self-evaluation.

The board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board reentered executive session at 9:06 p.m. to discuss a legal matter and collective bargaining and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the district not to do so in executive session.

Legal Matter

In: 9:06 p.m.

Out: 9:20 p.m.

No Action

Collective Bargaining

In: 9:21 p.m.

Out: 9:46 p.m.

No Action

The executive session was closed at 9:46 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Martin LaLonde, Clerk

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Chair