

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2015
Regular Meeting at 7:30 P.M.
Executive Session Following Regular Meeting
Frederick School Library**

PRESENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Martin LaLonde, Julie Beatty, Dan Fleming, Neerja Patel, Nerali Desai

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

David Young, John Stewart, Stuart Weiss, Patrick Burke, Holly Rouelle, Karsten Schlenter, Meg Collins, Susie Merrick

GUESTS

15

REGULAR SESSION

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE NEERJA PATEL

The board presented Neerja Patel with a gift card, flowers and plaque and thanked her for her service to the board. Neerja provided a few remarks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- Chamberlin School Upcoming Events
 - June 9 – Carnation Assembly and Field Day
 - June 10 – 5th Grade Celebration, 7 PM
 - June 12 – Last Day of School, ½ day
- All Schools
 - June 12 – Last day of school
- High School
 - Senior/Family Celebration is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, June 11 at SBHS.
 - Graduation will be Friday, June 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Michael's College, Ross Center. The ceremony will last approximately 90 minutes. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. and seating is first come, first served.
- FHT Middle School
 - Friday, June 5, 2015
 - 5th grade students from Chamberlin visit

- World Language Trip to Montreal
- Tuesday, June 9, 2015
 - Jazz Fest Performance on Church Street at 4 p.m.
 - Meet and Greet Night (5th-6th Grade Transition)
- Wednesday, June 10, 2015 – Activity Day
- South Burlington Community Identity – The Big Reveal is June 4, 6:00-7:00 p.m. at City Hall. You are invited to come hear the presentation at City Hall (575 Dorset Street), ask questions, and discuss what it means to be South Burlington and strategies to communicate our South Burlington-ness.
- *News and World Report* has ranked South Burlington High School No. 2 in Vermont. The rankings, released this month, considered standardized test scores, college readiness and teacher-student ratios. Fifteen high schools in Vermont were ranked as Silver Medal schools. Stowe High School was the only Vermont school to receive a Gold-Medal ranking.
- Big Picture students will be featured on two news segments, one of which may go national. Big Picture students have been working with retired UVM professor and local “Doomsday Prepper”, Tom Tailer, on building a prototype for earthquake-proof housing. The technology for this building, being built and assembled at Tom’s home in Essex Junction, has been created using masonry cement, fencing, and recycled carpet for very low cost. We have been using Egyptian and Roman building technology for the assembly, which can be replicated in more primitive conditions in Haiti and maybe Nepal. The segment aired tonight on Channel 5 WPTZ at 6:00 p.m. and may go national after.
- Senior Patricia Bristow-Johnson was on VPR Classical today at 8:30 a.m., Friday at 4 p.m., and Saturday at 9 a.m. if you want to hear her on the radio. Also, they uploaded her recording to the internet, so you can listen at your leisure. <http://digital.vpr.net/post/student-composer-whowcase-patricia-bristow-johnson>
- Nominations for VSBIT Board –VSBIT is seeking nominations for service on its Board of Directors. Two seats are up for election at the 2015 Annual Meeting. A three-year

CONSIDER HIRE OF RICK MARCOTTE CENTRAL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mr. Young recommended Brent Coon to the Board for Principal of Rick Marcotte Central School. The Board discussed the principal hire. Ms. Beatty made a motion to hire Brent Coon as Principal of Rick Marcotte Central School, Mr. LaLonde seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

MASTER PLANNING/FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP/CITY AND SCHOOL COLLABORATION

Mr. Young stated that he and Ms. Fitzgerald had a recent meeting with Mr. Dorn and Ms. Nowak and scheduled another meeting on Monday about the Task Force recommendations to the Steering Committee. The board will provide comments and questions. Mr. Young will post the Task Force recommendations on the district website and the city will also post the recommendations on their site. The City and School will put a calendar together over the summer to prioritize the work, including the public process.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- **Mentoring Assessment Update**

Susie Merrick introduced Alganesh Michael, a mentor with South Burlington Mentoring. Alganesh gave a brief overview of the program and introduced another mentor, Alex Spencer, who spoke of his experience with the program. Mentor Hank Fischer and the young leader he spends time with, Isaac Nicholson, displayed a bird feeder that they made during their time together. Matt MacNeil, from Howard Center, presented results from the 2014/2015 mentoring evaluation and noted the alignment with the South Burlington Ends Policy. The board thanked everyone for their presentation.

- **Tuition Student Enrollment Update** – Mr. Young provided an enrollment report to the board. The board looked at trends in enrollment. Mr. LaLonde stated that the law has changed so that districts of sending schools can designate up to three schools for their students to attend. Mr. Young will be putting together a plan for next steps in understanding this law and a timeline for the board to connect with the boards of sending schools to discuss this change in law.

- **Staffing Requests**

Mr. Young provided the board with new staffing recommendations based on the current enrollment data which came in higher than projected in kindergarten at Chamberlin. Ms. Fitzgerald noted concern that we are adding staff while enrollment is decreasing, which is also the State trend. Mr. Burke explained the need for the increases in FTE at the high school. The board discussed the following recommendations:

- 1.0 FTE at Chamberlin School – Kindergarten
- .30 FTE at South Burlington High School – Social Studies
- .20 FTE at South Burlington High School – Mathematics
- .20 FTE at South Burlington High School – Japanese
- .20 FTE at Frederick Tuttle Middle School – Music
- .60 FTE at Frederick Tuttle Middle School – Visual Arts

Ms. Beatty moved to approve the staffing requests as recommended, Mr. LaLonde seconded the motion. Ms. Fitzgerald voted nay. The motion was approved.

REVIEW NEW LEGISLATION AND IMPACT ON SOUTH BURLINGTON

Mr. Young discussed the change in the Vermont residential tax rate from what was approved by voters (a \$1.00 increase) to what has been approved by legislation (a .99 cent increase). With this change, the tax increase over FY15 on residential value at \$100,000 is \$10. The tax rate on a \$330,000 home is \$32.00 or \$2.69 monthly and the tax increase on a \$226,000 condo is \$22.00 or \$1.83 monthly.

Mr. Lalonde stated another law that passed is the Universal Children's Savings Program which will provide seed money to establish an account for newborns for college. This may encourage parents to add to the account. Mr. Young mentioned that the administrators met with VSAC about getting information out to families regarding student assistance for college and discussed having VSAC come in to meet with

elementary PTOs to help families understand the importance of saving early for college.

Mr. LaLonde mentioned that a committee is looking at other healthcare options for teachers.

EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS POLICY MONITORING

2.1 Treatment of Parents and Guardians

The board reviewed each detail policy in 2.1 Treatment of Parents and Guardians and asked questions and made several changes. This monitoring report will be brought back for another reading.

SET AGENDA FOR THE JUNE 17, 2015 MEETING

The Board discussed the June 17, 2015 meeting agenda.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board discussed future agenda items.

CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 20 AND May 26, 2015

Ms. Fitzgerald announced general consensus of the board to approve the minutes of May 20 and May 26, 2015 meetings as amended. There were no objections.

VISIT TO MMU

Mr. Young and Ms. Fitzgerald met with the Mount Mansfield Union School District board to provide basic information on policy governance. They are in the infancy of thinking about it. Ms. Fitzgerald made it clear that South Burlington School District operates under a modified policy governance and stated that it does provide structure to keep the work at the board level and distinguishes work for the administration.

CONSENT AGENDA

Hires

- Kristen Couillard, 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher at RM Central School
- Megan Downing, 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher at RM Central School
- Amy Kelliher, 1.0 Elementary Teacher at RM Central School
- Jill Kellogg, 1.0 FTE Mathematics Teacher at SB High School
- Torey Olson, .30 FTE Science Teacher at SB High School
- Lauren Parren, 1.0 FTE Information Technology Educator, District
- Deirdre Phalon, 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher at Orchard School
- Jennifer Quavelin, .20 FTE ELL Teacher at SB High School
- Colleen Springer, 1.0 FTE Library Media Specialist at RM Central School

Ms. Beatty moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, Mr. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ORDERS #43, and #44

The Board reviewed accounts payable orders #43, and #44.

BOARD SELF EVALUATION

The board took their self-evaluation and discussed the results.

REGULAR MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered executive session at 9:59 p.m. to discuss evaluation of the superintendent and a potential legal claim and the district's investigation of the matter and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the district not to do so in executive session. The board requested that Mr. Young attend executive session. The motion was approved.

Personnel – Evaluation of the Superintendent

In: 9:59 p.m.

Out: 10:40 p.m.

No Action

Legal Matter – Discussion of Potential Legal Claim and District's Investigation

In: 10:40 p.m.

Out: 10:45 p.m.

No Action

The executive session was closed at 10:45 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Chair

Martin LaLonde, Clerk