

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2017
Executive Session at 6:00 P.M.
Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M.
Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School Library**

PRESENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Bridget Burkhardt, Alex McHenry, Steve Wisloski

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

None

GUESTS

Attorney David Rugh, Attorney Steve Stitzel

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered executive session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations with teachers and support staff, consider confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the school board concerning a legal matter and a real estate matter and evaluation employment, evaluation, and discipline of a public officer or employee, and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the district not to do so in executive session. The Board requested that Attorney David Rugh, and Attorney Steve Stitzel attend executive session. The motion was approved.

Discussion Regarding Labor Negotiations with Teachers and Support Staff

In: 6:01 p.m.

Out: 6:30 p.m.

No Action

Discussion Regarding a Legal Matter and Real Estate Matter

In: 6:30 p.m.

Out: 6:55 p.m.

No Action

The executive session was closed at 6:55 p.m.

PRESENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Bridget Burkhardt, Alex McHenry, Steve Wisloski

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

Joanne Godek, Stuart Weiss, Patrick Burke, Holly Rouelle, Meg Collins

GUESTS

8

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Fitzgerald announced that Convocation is August 25, beginning at 8:30 am, in the high school auditorium.

A community member asked if the Ted Manazir Award would be awarded this year. Ms. Fitzgerald stated that it would be awarded and read the criteria for the award.

CITY AND SCHOOL COLLABORATION**Regional Governance Resolution from South Burlington City Council**

Ms. Fitzgerald and Mr. Tom Chittenden noted that the resolution passed by the city council by a vote of 4:1. Mr. Chittenden stated that the resolution would explore an alternative governance model that would give a voice to the municipalities that are impacted by the airport.

Alex McHenry moved that the board support the resolution, Steve Wisloski seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

The Board will develop a signature page which supports the city council's resolution.

Ms. Fitzgerald noted that on Monday, the city council took action on a Letter of Intent that would look at a land swap on the Rick Marcotte Central School property, in part, for a community center for the city and then potential area for additional access to the school property, if needed. The city council also took action on a Memorandum of Understanding on the city hall property. In the event the voters approve a bond for development of the community center, which includes a recreation space, library, and administrative offices, the school district could access 575 Dorset Street for consolidation of the central office and business office, if proven as a viable option. The city council approved this action. This has not been warned for school board action at this time but Ms. Fitzgerald expects it will be taken up by the school board at a future meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**Enrollment Update, Including Tuition Students**

Ms. Godek provided the updated enrollment for each school to the Board, noting the numbers are fluid. Enrollments are continuing to come in. The grades being watched by administration are grade 4 at Orchard School and Kindergarten and first grade at Chamberlin School. Mr. Burke felt that the high school would not have staffing issues. Tuition students are up but are well within the forecast. The contingency teacher has not been utilized but the elementary school class sizes will be watched.

New Hire FTE Report Update

Ms. Godek reviewed the FY18 staffing changes with the Board. Ms. Fitzgerald would like a summary reconciliation on budgeted FTEs vs. actual FTEs.

POLICY REVIEW**D8 Travel Reimbursement**

This is the third reading of D8 Travel Reimbursement policy.

Ms. Burkhardt moved that the Board approve the Travel Reimbursement policy, Mr. Wisloski seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved.

E3 Capitalization of Assets

This is the third reading of the E3 Capitalization of Assets policy.

Mr. Wisloski moved that the Board approved the Capitalization of Assets policy and Ms. Burkhardt seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved.

ACT 85 (STATE BUDGET) – HEALTH CARE AND GENERAL EDUCATION FUND PAYMENT REDUCTION

The state issued a Health Care Recapture Summary stating that, “virtually all Vermont public school employees will be covered by new health care plans, beginning January 1, 2018. The Administration and General Assembly recognized that the change in health care plans could generate savings in local school budgets due to lowered premium costs. Act 85 finds that all supervisory unions and public school districts should be able to achieve savings. It directs the Agency of Education to calculate the projected amount of savings for each supervisory union or district in accordance with a formula and to deduct those amounts from the education payments made in the second half of FY2018 and in FY2019 as follows:

65% of the amount in FY2018
35% of the amount in FY2019”.

The district received its targeted reduction from the General Ed Fund which is \$304,731 in FY2018 and \$164,086 in FY2019. The Board had budgeted \$50,000 of health care savings in this year’s budget, so the target over a two year period is approximately \$525,000. This information has just been provided so the Board has not yet received feedback from our Business Manager.

The Board would like information on the following:

1. Need to understand the formula used
2. Whether or not there were 6 months of 12 months of the new plan for FY18?
3. How does the mechanism work?
4. Timing of payments from the Ed fund?
5. What does this imply for next year’s budgeting and how do we get the 35% back.
6. What does this mean to our current operating budget and future budget?

The Board will look to Mr. Aubin to give them guidance on this at the next meeting.

UPDATE ON NEGOTIATIONS

Ms. Burkhardt noted there is no update on support staff, they are waiting for staff to return from vacation and will then schedule a next meeting. The South Burlington Education Association and Board are scheduled to have mediation on Monday, August

21 at 10 am to see if they can come to an agreement. They will be working with a federal arbitrator. The goal is to secure a settlement before the start of the school year.

REVIEW TOPICS FOR OTHER PAPER ARTICLES

Ms. Fitzgerald noted that student rep, Alex Escaja-Heiss, will write an article that may be posted in another venue about roles and responsibilities for the student representative on the school board. Ms. Escaja-Heiss will provide the junior class with this information along with the application packet. The Board is hoping to look at candidates at the end of September or early October in hopes of having a new representative prior to budget conversations

SET AGENDA FOR THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2017 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The Board discussed the agenda for the September 6, 2017 school board meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board discussed future agenda items.

CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 31, AUGUST 2, AUGUST 3, AND AUGUST 7, 2017

Ms. Fitzgerald announced general consensus of the Board to approve the minutes of July 31, August 2, August 3, and August 7, 2017. There were no objections.

CONSENT AGENDA

Hires

Dennis Akey, 1.0 FTE Mathematics Teacher at South Burlington High School
Scott Carlson, 1.0 FTE Grade 6 Science Teacher at Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School
Maria Gordon, .20 FTE Mathematics Teacher at South Burlington High School
Rochelle McGurn, 1.0 FTE English Language Learner Teacher at Chamberlin School
Jennifer Tumilowicz, .60 FTE Guidance Counselor at Orchard School

Ms. Fitzgerald announced general consensus of the Board to approve the consent agenda as presented. There were no objections.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ORDERS #4

The Board reviewed accounts payable order #4.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Chair

Martin LaLonde, Clerk