

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT (Via Zoom)**

Bridget Burkhardt, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Martin LaLonde, Alex McHenry, Brian Minier, and student representative Hiba Ali

**ADMINISTRATION/STAFF (Via Zoom)**

David Young, Gary Marckres, Patrick Burke, Joanne Godek, Michael Martin, Holly Rouelle, Karsten Schlenter, Mark Trifilio, John Craig, Kathleen Kilbourne, Steve Walker, Lissa McDonald, David Hyatt, and Noah Everitt

**GUESTS (via Zoom)**

8 guests

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

There were none.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

There were none.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

There will be no school January 18 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. day. On January 21 there will be an academic information webinar for 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents. An outdoor ice rink has been set up behind SBHS with the intent of it being used for physical education, hockey, and the figure skating club. January 29 marked the end of the first term. The Coalition for Community Service is beginning a program where students can write to senior citizens once per week. David Young said there has been an uptick in COVID activity. The Middle School will be resuming in person classes Thursday, January 14 after being closed due to a positive case. Orchard School was not closed. Chamberlin School had to close down preschool through Friday. One section of Kindergarten will be remote through Friday and learning remotely using the SeeSaw platform.

**PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE CAPACITY Title 16, section 822 (a)**

On or before February 1 of every year, school districts need to determine their capacity to accept students from other school districts. Currently, the district has 3 school choice students enrolled at the high school and 10 who attend the Big Picture program on a year-to-year agreement for payment with the Mount Mansfield Union School District. In the absence of the exchange of tuition, the administration has determined that it does not make sense to accept students. Therefore, the cap was set at 1 student for the 2021-22 school year. Martin LaLonde made the motion to set the cap at 1, Alex McHenry seconded, a roll call vote was held and all were in favor.

**ANNOUNCED TUITION RATE FOR FY22**

In accordance with Title 16 V.S.A. Section 826(a), the receiving school board must announce rates for the upcoming school year. If rates are to be increased, the sending student school districts must be notified of any increase by January 15, to go into effect on July 1, 2021. For FY 2022, the recommended tuition rates were: Grades 7–12

\$15,987 per student and Elementary Grades K–6 \$15,455 per student. Alex McHenry made the motion to approve the rate, Brian Minier seconded, a roll call vote was held and all were in favor.

**FY 2022 BUDGET: PRESENTATION OF RECOMMENDED BUDGET**

Gary Marckres and David Young gave a slide presentation of the recommended FY22 budget. The proposed budget represented a 7.02 percent increase in the SBSB expense budget from the FY21 approved budget. The percent increase for net education spending from the FY21 approved budget represented a 5.71 percent increase. Items covered included budget priorities, an outline of the percent expenditure increase over FY21 and what made up that increase, major contributors to the general fund expenses, enrollment, projected tax impacts, and a proposed \$2.5 million facilities bond article including what projects would be funded by the bond. A discussion was held between board members and comments and questions were received from the public. Board members were amenable to the bond, but raised concerns around the additions to the budget and the overall proposed expenditure increase. The board decided they needed more time to consider the budget prior to taking action; therefore, a subcommittee of the board will meet with Gary Marckres and David Young prior to a special meeting being held to approve a budget. David Young said he would confer with the city to determine the last possible date the board can approve a budget. The special meeting will take place January 16 at 1:00 pm.

**CONSIDER ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING WARNING**

This item was moved to the special meeting January 16 as it is typically warned once a budget is approved by the school board to go on the ballot.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Bridget Burkhardt called for a motion to enter executive session at 9:32 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations with teachers and support staff and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the district not to do so in executive session. Martin LaLonde made a motion to enter executive session at 9:32 p.m., Brian Minier seconded, a roll call vote was held and all were in favor. The Board requested that David Young and Attorney Colin McNeil attend executive session

**Discussion Regarding Labor Negotiations with Administrators, Teachers, and Support Staff**

In: 9:32 p.m.  
Out: 10:03 p.m.  
No Action

The executive session was closed at 10:03 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Martin LaLonde made the motion to adjourn, Elizabeth Fitzgerald seconded. A roll call vote was held and the motion passed unanimously at 10:04 pm.