

APPROVED ON JANUARY 8, 2020

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019
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, Martin LaLonde, Alex McHenry, Brian Minier

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

David Young

GUESTS

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board entered executive session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations with Administrators, Teachers, and Support Staff and legal services and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the district not to do so in executive session. The board requested that David Young attend executive session. All were in favor. The motion was approved.

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

In: 6:02 p.m.

Out: 6:40 p.m.

No Action

Legal Services

In: 6:40 p.m.

Out: 6:46 p.m.

No Action

The executive session was closed at 6:47 p.m.

PRESENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Bridget Burkhardt, Martin LaLonde, Alex McHenry, Brian Minier

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

David Young, Gary Marckres, Amadee Denton, Meg Collins

GUESTS

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REGULAR SESSION

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Several community members and two Chamberlin students provided comments to the board regarding the noise from the F35s and the health implications from this noise.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

David Young noted that he would like to add JUUL litigation to his superintendent's report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representatives to the Board, Cole Patno and Delaney Rosner were not in attendance due to CAP week, however, they provided the following announcements:

- There was a choral concert at SBHS on December 15.
- It is CAP week for high school students with TLCs every day this week starting on December 17.
- Rick Marcotte Central School had a music concert at the high school on December 17.
- The SBHS Scholar's Bowl A team received first place in Vermont.
- On January 10 and 11, FHTMS drama will be performing Twelfth Night.
- The SB Mentoring Winter Gala will take place on Saturday, January 18 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The gala will include dinner and a silent auction to celebrate the District's wonderful mentors.
- The SBHS Chamber Singers will be singing for the SB Rotary Club tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m.
- Bridget Burkhardt announced that her term on the board is up in March and she will seek re-election.
- Alex McHenry announced that his term on the board is up in March and he will seek re-election.

CITY AND SCHOOL COLLABORATION

David Young noted that he and Elizabeth Fitzgerald will meet with Kevin Dorn and Helen Riehle on Friday at 2 pm. They will discuss a variety of topics including a Master Planning and Visioning update, city and school budget, and an update on noise mitigation work.

SUPERINTEDEDENT'S REPORT**Rick Marcotte Central School/180 Market Street**

Gary Marckres gave an update on the construction on Market Street, and noted it is ongoing and is on schedule. The entrance drive seems to be working well. They have connected the Allard exit from their parking garage on School Street to Market Street. This is temporary for about 5 more weeks while they are finishing the western exit in the area of Mary Street. When completed, they will then be able to go left from the parking garage and it will be segregated from the school parking lot.

Bridget Burkhardt asked if there might be temporary lighting in the parking lot as it is hard to see at night. Gary Marckres noted that he talked with the construction company and was told that the existing lighting that was there was supposed to be put back in.

Chamberlin School Noise Mitigation/Airport

David Young noted the grant for noise mitigation requires a 10% local match and the district is in the position that they don't want to be doing that. Gary Marckres reached out to the Agency of Transportation and sought feedback from them on the match. The district has some next steps on how to pursue the 10% match. David Young noted the district is consulting with legal counsel and will continue to do so. Chamberlin is approved for air conditioning which allows the school to keep the windows shut. Gary Marckres noted that the other part of the project is to close all the exterior penetrations to keep out the noise.

Several community members spoke about the noise from the F35s and the impact of continued exposure on hearing and health.

Lead Testing in the Schools

David Young provided information to the board on lead testing. He noted that this was a legislative request to evaluate the lead levels in Vermont schools. The State has tested about 20% of the schools and of those schools about 80% have come back with positive levels at or above the 4 parts per billion. The past threshold was 15 parts per billion.

Gary Marckres noted that our schools were in the first 20% of districts across the state that were tested. As soon as results came out, notification letters went out to parents outlining the results. Immediate action was taken when the test results came in. Twenty-six taps were taken out of service. In each case it is believed that the presence of lead is due to the fixtures. New fixtures have been ordered and will be replaced. Once replaced they will be flushed twice a day for three weeks and then will be retested and await the results. They will not be put back into use until they have been tested and are below the threshold.

JUUL Litigation

David Young informed the board that the law offices of Fraser, Maley and Maley and Lynn, Lynn, Blackman and Manitsky have been retained by the South Burlington School District and many other districts in Vermont in connection with potential litigation against Juul Labs, Inc. for the nuisance and other damages caused by the use of the Juul devices. David Young noted that he has signed on to the litigation and will provide the list of the other districts that are signing on. There is no financial outlay by the district. If there is a settlement, a portion of the settlement would go to pay the legal fees. He noted that this is an area we have been tracking and is a concern for our students and their health and educational outcomes. The board asked several questions and David will respond to these questions during his report at the next meeting.

MASTER PLANNING AND VISIONING UPDATE

David Young noted that there have been two additional meetings since the last school board meeting. A PTO meeting and a staff meeting were held. RMCS staff were provided an update on where we are. There is also a meeting on Friday where information will come back from the cost estimators. It is likely that it will circle back to the board for more clarification. Decisions need to be made to get ready for the vote. Bridget Burkhardt noted that a new website will be available soon. JunaPR has been helping with the communication process. The website explains where we are and the

rationale. The information received on Friday can be made available to the Board for information.

A community member asked about the building materials being used and when the public will have a better look at what the building will look like. Bridget Burkhardt noted that the website will be going up in January with a 3D video of the look of the building. The building materials would not be selected until after a bond vote.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENTS DRAFT OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET HIGHLIGHTING INCREASES AND DECREASES, PROGRAM CHANGES, COMPARATIVE STAFFING LEVELS, AND CURRENT AND PROJECTED ENROLLMENTS

David Young along with Gary Marckres and Amadee Denton provided a preliminary administrative budget to the board. It was noted that there is some important information from the State that is not yet available. They are waiting on the count of equalized pupils and the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) from the State. Current enrollment and projected student enrollment and staffing levels were also provided. David asked for some general next step guidance from the board.

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

Elizabeth Fitzgerald provided an update and noted that there are some dates from the SBEA that have to be firmed up to have a preliminary meeting. The binding arbitration occurred on Act 11 and the arbitrator ruled in favor of the union's proposal. This is a 30-month agreement that would extend through December, 2022. This will be incorporated into future budget projections.

OTHER PAPER ARTICLES

The board discussed topics for Other Paper articles.

SET AGENDA FOR THE JANUARY 8, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

The board discussed the agenda for the January 8, 2020 school board meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The board discussed future agenda items.

CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF DECEMBER 2 AND DECEMBER 4, 2019

Elizabeth Fitzgerald announced general consensus of the board to approve the minutes of December 2 and December 4, 2019. There were no objections.

CONSENT AGENDA

Hire

Maia Zuchman, .80 FTE Literacy Teacher at Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School

Resignations

Debbie Chanin, 1.0 FTE Special Educator at Rick Marcotte Central School effective December 20, 2019

Brent Coon, Principal at Rick Marcotte Central School effective June 30, 2020

Elizabeth Fitzgerald announced general consensus of the board to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Bridget Burkhardt asked about the hiring process for the principal. David Young noted that he has put a timeline together and will meet with the Rick Marcotte Central School staff on January 6th to go over the timeline. There will be a committee including board, parents, staff and students. A letter will go out to staff and parents informing them of the process and how to be involved.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ORDERS #22 and #23

The board reviewed accounts payable orders #22 and #23.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ORDER CHECKS TO HOWARD CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$122,669.51 AND \$83,915.87

Martin LaLonde moved that the board approve accounts payable order checks to the Howard Center for Human Services in the amount of \$122,669.51 and \$83,915.87. Bridget Burkhardt seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passes.

ADJOURNMENT

Martin LaLonde motioned to adjourn the regular meeting. Bridget Burkhardt seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passes.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Chair

Bridget Burkhardt, Clerk