

OLD COLONY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

**476 North Avenue
Rochester, MA 02770**

**Wednesday
April 24, 2019**

DISTRICT MINUTES

Present: Mrs. Shirley Bourque, Ms. Nancy Souza, Mr. Donald Foster, Mrs. Sharon Cruz, Mr. Richard Gamache, Mr. David Hughes, Mr. Robert Marshall, Mrs. Evelyn Bouley, Mr. Justin Brodeur, Mr. Gary Mansfield, Mr. Stephen Cassidy

Absent: Mr. John Bandzul, Mrs. Joanne Puskar, Mr. Donald Williams, Mr. Maurice St. Amand

Also: Mr. Aaron L. Polansky, Superintendent-Director; Mr. J. Michael Parker, Principal; Mrs. Bethany Botelho, Vocational Coordinator; Mrs. Sarah Griffith, Business Manager; Mrs. Jolene Costa, District Committee Secretary

Guests: Mrs. Heather Gifford, Old Colony Special Education Teacher

Mr. Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Mr. Hughes introduced Mrs. Heather Gifford who showed the Committee a power point presentation on Snow Day Alternative Learning. She stated this alternative learning is being utilized in other school districts providing work for students on the snow day at home to avoid adding days at the end of the school year.

Mrs. Sharon Cruz entered the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Mrs. Gifford asked for the School Committees approval to create a committee to develop a curriculum surrounding the Alternative Learning model.

Mrs. Gifford fielded questions from members regarding her presentation.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Donald Foster and seconded by Mr. Robert Marshall, it was unanimously

Voted: To approve the formation of a committee to study the Snow Day Alternative Learning model under the supervision of the Principal.

Mrs. Bourque requested a digital copy of Mrs. Gifford's presentation be shared with the full Committee.

Mrs. Bethany Botelho addressed the School Committee and made them aware that there were 13 Senior portfolios available for them to view.

The District Committee Chairman waived the reading of items listed on the Consent Agenda and a motion was made by Mrs. Shirley Bourque and seconded by Mr. Robert Marshall, it was unanimously

Voted: To approve the Consent Agenda a. through g.

Acceptance of minutes listed below:

March 20, 2019 Charter Review Subcommittee minutes

March 20, 2019 District Committee minutes

March 26, 2019 Negotiating Subcommittee minutes

March 27, 2019 Building Subcommittee minutes

March 27, 2019 District Committee minutes

March 27, 2019 School Resource Officer Subcommittee minutes

April 2, 2019 Negotiating Subcommittee minutes

Mr. Marshall voiced his concern regarding the lack of content/detail in subcommittee minutes.

Mrs. Griffith was available to discuss the Operating Statement and warrants were available for review.

Mrs. Bourque commended the Principal for the management of the substitute assignments, as a result, helping to control the substitute expense line item and not overspend.

Mr. Polansky also commended Mr. Linehan for his works on the assignment of substitutes.

The FY18 Certified Excess and Deficiency is 488,453.00

On a motion duly made by Mr. Robert Marshall and seconded by Mrs. Shirley Bourque, it was unanimously

Voted: To appropriate and transfer \$100,000.00 to the Stabilization Fund and \$100,000.00 to the OPEB Fund from FY18 Certified Excess and Deficiency.

On a motion duly made by Mrs. Shirley Bourque and seconded by Mr. Robert Marshall, it was unanimously

Voted: To appropriate and transfer \$140,000.00 from FY18 Certified Excess and Deficiency to be used to purchase:
\$20,000 Building Wireless Network
\$50,000 Field Lights
\$40,000 School Van
\$10,000 Sand Pro (Athletic Fields)
\$10,000 Ipad Cart (Electrical)
\$10,000 Interactive Board (4)

Mrs. Bourque inquired about the process regarding the field lights and if the proper avenues have been taken to include but not limited to speaking to abutters, speaking to planning and zoning boards, engineers etc.

Mr. Polansky explained the process to Mrs. Bourque and the meetings that have already taken place and the approval tonight will start the process of speaking to the planning and zoning boards.

Mr. Brodeur asked questions regarding the wireless network and bandwidth along with the financial implications on the budget.

Mr. Brodeur will be put in contact with Mr. Kyle O'Neill, the It Specialist to help answer his questions.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Robert Marshall and seconded by Mr. Gary Mansfield, it was unanimously

Voted: To approve a field trip for the culinary students to attend the Gordon Food Service Food Show May 1, 2019 at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, RI.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Donald Foster and seconded by Mr. Shirley Bourque, it was unanimously

Voted: To amend the District calendar that was voted on March 20, 2019 and approve Monday, December 23, 2019 as part of the vacation week for the holiday break.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Donald Foster and seconded by Mrs. Shirley Bourque, it was unanimously

Voted: To approve the hourly rate for work completed in the role of Secretary to the School Committee equivalent to the calculated hourly rate paid for work as Assistant to the Superintendent-Director.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Donald Foster and seconded by Mr. Robert Marshall, it was unanimously

Voted: To table the recommended action to replace/update the existing Policy BEDH & BEDH-E until it can be reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee and voted on based upon the Subcommittee's recommendation.

Mr. Marshall requested to be notified of the date and time of the upcoming Policy Subcommittee meeting once established.

Mr Polansky discussed an article written by Ms. Grace bellanger from Sippican Week Today regarding possible expansion of Old Colony that was addressed at a recent Rochester Selectman's meeting with Mr. Hughes.

Mr. Polansky stated some of the article detail was incorrect and the article was pulled and will be corrected by Ms. Bellanger before being re-published.

There was discussion regarding how to accurately distribute information surrounding the completion of the District Agreement, Evaluating Freetown entering the District and the Statement of Interest.

Mr. Mansfield requested a digital copy of that process be shared with the full Committee.

The Old Colony 2019-2020 budget is waiting for approval at the town meetings.

Mr. Polansky shared the letter that was sent to the Freetown Town Administrator and the support from the Superintendent.

Mr. Brodeur shared a recap of the School Resource Subcommittee and the decision made to recommend to the full committee that we not move forward with the inclusion of a School Resource officer unless it is fully funded by the Town of Rochester or through Grant Funding.

Ms. Souza had concern regarding the recommended language that states “the position of School Resource Officer could be housed at old Colony” and requested it be revised to be clearer.

On motion duly made by Mr. Robert Marshall and seconded by Mr. Gary Mansfield, it was unanimously

Voted: To modify the current recommended language to read more clearly surrounding the housing of the School Resource Officer.

Mrs. Bourque stressed the importance of the conversation that needed to be had with Chief Small regarding the position.

The committee agreed to allow Mr. Polansky to conduct that conversation with Chief Small.

The Committee reviewed the Student of the Trimester enclosure.

Mr. Polansky stated he was unable to give an Admissions update due to the website being down however that they have already accepted 150 students.

Mr. Parker reviewed the principal’s newsletter and gave updates.

Mr. Polansky debriefed the School Committee on the recent NEASC visit and the main focus being on the facility and how it has been outgrown and curriculum and to expect a report within a month of the review

Mr. Polansky spoke about the Professional Development Activities including the Administrative retreat where he invited the School Committee to attend and play an active role in the District Improvement Plan.

Mrs. Botelho informed the Committee that there are over 50 students competing in the Skills USA Competition this week up from 18 last year and that the Nationals will be held from June 24th through the 28th in Louisville, Kentucky.

A tentative date of Tuesday, May 7, 2019 was set for the Policy Subcommittee.

The next meeting dates are as follows:

Negotiating Subcommittee

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. – Library

Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. – Library

District Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 7 p.m. following Reorganization dinner - Cafetorium

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene Costa

District Committee Secretary

Mr. David Hughes, Vice Chairman

Date