

**SOUTHERN WORCESTER COUNTY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Regular Meeting

November 7, 2011

- A. The Regular Meeting of Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District Committee held in the Board Room at Muggett Hill Road, Charlton, MA was called to order at 7:00pm.

Alfred E. Beland, Chairman, presided

The following members were present:

Donald H. Erickson, Auburn
Jack Haroian, Auburn
Clarence A. Bachand, Charlton
Olaf R. Garcia, Charlton
Timothy Schur, Dudley
James N. Caldwell, North Brookfield
Benjamin J. LaMountain, Oxford
Michael S. Pantos, Rutland
Helen I. Lenti, Southbridge
Kenneth R. Wheeler, Spencer
Robert Zukowski, Spencer
Edwin G. Stalec, Webster

The following members were absent:

Alfred C. Reich, Dudley
Donald J. Gillette, North Brookfield
OPEN, Oxford
OPEN, Paxton
Robert A. Wilby, Paxton
Robert Mowatt, Rutland
Peter Preble, Southbridge

Also present:

Clifford Cloutier, Principal
W. Sue Foskett, Recording Secretary
John Lafleche, Assistant to the Superintendent for Business
Peter Letsky, Rutland Board of Selectmen
Donald Montville, Vocational Director
David Papagni, Superintendent-Director

B.1.a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B.1.b. FIRE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS – NOTICE OF PROPER EXITS –

Mr. Papagni reminded everyone where the proper exits were per Fire Department Regulations.

B.1.c. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2011.

Seconded by Donald Erickson

VOTED: Unanimous

B.1.d. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS – The Warrants were circulated for members to sign.

B.1.e. CORRESPONDENCE – Helen had no correspondence in her folder. David Papagni had two pieces of correspondence.

1. At the October meeting the School Committee had requested that the Superintendent send a letter to Al Dhembe congratulating him on his 200th game. The Superintendent notified the committee that a letter had been sent to Mr. Dhembe and that he also saw Mr. Dhembe and Mr. Dhembe thanked him for the recognition.
2. Every committee member received a copy of a letter written by Mr. Montville to Mr. Daniel Creeron addressing Mr. Creeron's concerns regarding the Programming & Web Development department.

B.1.f. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Kaitlyn Cahill a Senior in Office Occupations was present this evening.

B.2.a. NONE

B.3.a. APPROVAL OF OUTSIDE PROJECT – North Brookfield – As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Vocational Director,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to approve the outside project to construct and install an 8' x 8' trophy case for North Brookfield Junior/Senior High School, as outlined in Mr. Montville's memorandum dated October 28, 2011.

Seconded by Donald Erickson

VOTED: Unanimous

B.3.b. SURPLUS EQUIPMENT – As recommended by the Superintendent-Director, the Assistant to the Superintendent for Business, and the Principal,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to place a 1995 Ford E350 7D Van, VIN #1FBHE31H2SHA31270 and the Reading books listed on Mr. Cloutier's memo dated September 30, 2011, on the Surplus Equipment List, to be disposed of according to the School Committee Surplus Equipment Policy, using the most appropriate method available.

Seconded by Clarence Bachand

After a question asked by Robert Zukowski and answered by Mr. Lafleche,

VOTED: Unanimous

- B.3.c. **PAYMENT OF PRIOR YEAR BILL** – As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Assistant to the Superintendent for Business,

A **MOTION** was made by Clarence Bachand that we vote to approve paying a prior year bill for retirement gifts to Jostens, in the amount of \$856.40, to be paid out of Account #511, Discretionary.

Seconded by Donald Erickson

VOTED: Unanimous

- B.3.d. **APPROVAL OF SKILLS USA FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE** – As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Vocational Director,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to allow eight students and two advisors to attend the SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference, at the Best Western Royal Plaza in Marlborough, MA, from November 20 through 22, 2011, for a cost of \$2,510, to be paid out of Account #53, VICA.

Seconded by Michael Pantos

VOTED: Unanimous

- B.3.e. **APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP – Junior ACF** – As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Vocational Director,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to approve an out of state field trip for 12-14 Junior ACF students and the Jr. ACF Advisor to New York City, on December 10, 2011, with a rain/snow date of December 17th, with costs to be paid by the individual students and transportation to be paid out of the Junior ACF Student Activities Account.

Seconded by Clarence Bachand

VOTED: (12) Yes (1) No [Jack Haroian]

- B.3.f. **APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP – Culinary Arts** – As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Vocational Director,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to approve an out of state field trip for 3 Culinary Arts staff members and the junior class to tour Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island, on December 19, 2011, with transportation to be paid out of the Culinary Arts tip money.

Seconded by Clarence Bachand

VOTED: Unanimous

- B.3.g. **APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP – Health Assisting** – As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Vocational Director,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to approve an out of state field trip for 3 Health Assisting staff members and the sophomore and junior classes, up to 40 students, to visit New England Technical College in Warwick, Rhode Island, on Friday, April 3, 2012, with transportation to be paid by the district.

Seconded by Donald Erickson

VOTED: Unanimous

- B.3.h. **APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP – Boys & Girls Soccer Banquet –**
As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Principal,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to approve an out of state field trip for both the boys and girls soccer teams to host their banquet at Village Haven Restaurant in Rhode Island, on Saturday, December 3, 2011, with transportation to be paid by the district.

Seconded by Donald Erickson

VOTED: Unanimous

- B.3.i. **APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP – Golf Team Banquet –** As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Principal,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to approve an out of state field trip for the golf team to host their banquet at Wright's Chicken Farm in Rhode Island, on Sunday, November 13, 2011, with transportation to be provided by the district.

Seconded by Donald Erickson

VOTED: Unanimous

- B.3.j. **APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP – Tech Prep –** As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Principal,

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to approve an out of state field trip for 2 staff members and 43 Tech Prep students, to visit New England Technical College in Warwick, Rhode Island, on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, with transportation to be paid by the district.

Seconded by Donald Erickson

VOTED: Unanimous

- B.3.k. **APPROVAL OF TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR'S EMPLOYMENT POLICY –** As recommended by the Superintendent-Director and the Assistant to the Superintendent for Business,

A **MOTION** was made by Clarence Bachand that we vote to approve the July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013 Transportation Coordinator's Employment Policy as submitted.

Seconded by Olaf Garcia

VOTED: Unanimous

- C.1. **REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT DIRECTOR –** The Superintendent-Director submitted his report in writing to the committee.

C.2. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. **AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE –** No report

B. **BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE –** No report

C. **BUILDING SUBCOMMITTEE –** The Building Subcommittee held a meeting this evening at 6:30pm to discuss the wind turbine project. The first order of business was the election of a new Chairperson. Michael Pantos was appointed as the new Chair of the Building Subcommittee. Only (1) Bid was received in response to the RFP for the wind turbine which turned out to be cost prohibitive. The subcommittee decided to

table this item for the time being and to wait to see the outcome of the issues between the Masonic Health Center and the Town of Charlton. Perhaps a new RFP will be opened in the future.

A **MOTION** was made by Clarence Bachand that we vote to table the wind turbine project and wait to see the outcome between the Masonic Health Center and the Town of Charlton.

Seconded by Benjamin LaMountain

VOTED: 12 (Yes) (1) No [James Caldwell]

D. NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE – No report

E. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE – No report

F. SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE FOR SWCRVSD – Next meeting is November 29, 2011 at 6:00pm

G. WARRANT SUBCOMMITTEE – No report

D.1. **MEETING DATES** –A Regular School Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 5, 2011 at 7:00pm.

D.2. **TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA** – If you have any items to add to agenda or discuss at the next meeting, please see Mr. Beland or Mr. Papagni.

E. **REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR** –

1. The Superintendent stated that a problem has arisen with the Spencer school department. The Spencer Superintendent refused to let his students come to Bay Path for a tour and refused to let our staff speak to their 8th grade classes. Mr. Zukowski and Mr. Wheeler spoke to the Spencer Board of Selectmen about this issue and are on the agenda to speak to the Spencer/East Brookfield School Committee tomorrow night to explain our position. The Superintendent has provided each school committee member with a copy of the DESE regulation on Access to Equal Education Opportunity 63 CMR 26.00 which insures that all students have equal rights of access and equal enjoyment of the opportunities, advantages, privileges, and courses of student at public schools in the Commonwealth. He further explained that there are 1,800 students in the district and that we accept 300 of those students each year so the Spencer Superintendent's reluctance to allow the grade 8 students to attend could be due to a loss in revenue.
2. Our Open House was held on October 26th and the Superintendent estimates that 800-1,000 people attended. He felt the Open House was a huge success.
3. Our students are currently doing an excellent job passing the MCAS test. With twenty-two percent of our population on an IEP that is quite impressive. Bay Path offers remediation programs for those students who are having a hard time passing the MCAS and the administration feels this is working to their advantage. Currently, we offer embedded academics in the shops and related theory; AP Math & English; and a language. Our facility capacity is 1,110 and currently we have 1,065 students attending the school.

4. The Legislative breakfast held on Friday, October 28th was a huge success with 8 out of our 10 legislators in attendance along with representatives from each of the district towns. It was a great turn out and great start for our addition/renovation project.
5. The Superintendent was in Boston last week at a Legislative Hearing before the Joint Committee on Education with MAVA supporting Bill No. 01082. This Bill reflects post-secondary degrees and vocational education, the ability to institute new programs with more ease. There is also a possibility of appointing a MAVA representative to sit on the licensing boards for the vocational areas.

F.1. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** – No questions.

F.2. **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE** –

1. Robert Zukowski informed the Committee that he and Mr. Wheeler were invited to address the Spencer/East Brookfield School Committee tomorrow night to present their position regarding the Spencer students not being allowed to attend the 8th grade tours at Bay Path. Mr. Zukowski expressed his disappointment in the Superintendent for denying the students the right to decide themselves whether or not they would like to tour the school. He explained the contributions the Town of Spencer is receiving, for instance, with the tax revenues collected for the house that was built in Spencer by the Bay Path students.
2. Michael Pantos asked if Senator Richard Moore and the Treasurer had visited the school as scheduled. The Superintendent informed him that they were not able to come to the school because of a personal family issue of the Treasurer's. They are suppose to get back to us to reschedule.
3. James Caldwell asked if Bay Path was offering any continuing education classes for the construction supervisor's re-licensing requirement. Currently our Evening School does have the construction supervisor's licensing class but the Superintendent didn't think we offered any continuing education courses.
4. Timothy Schur had asked a question earlier as to whether any of our district towns were involved in their own building projects at the present time. The Superintendent stated that close to ½ the towns are either in a project or would like to begin one.
5. Helen Lenti asked if there was any decision on senior lunches which was previously asked by Helen's cousin. John Lafleche informed Helen that he has spoken to her cousin about the senior lunches.
6. The Superintendent, David Papagni, stated that our Education Foundation meeting was tomorrow and that we were preparing for the Santa Claus Breakfast. We have already collected \$3,000 toward the breakfast from area sponsors, which is a terrific start.

7. Al Beland shared some information regarding relicensing pilots and how most pilots don't actually fly the planes themselves manually but fly on auto pilot and that's why there is less control in a case of emergency.

G. **ADJOURNMENT -**

A **MOTION** was made by Olaf Garcia that we vote to adjourn the Regular Meeting of November 7, 2011.

Seconded by Benjamin LaMountain

VOTED: Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.



Helen I. Lenti, Secretary