

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD
MAY 5, 2010 7:00 P.M.
RICK MARCOTTE CENTRAL SCHOOL LIBRARY**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

PRESENT

Richard Cassidy, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Agnes Clift, Janine Allo, Martin LaLonde, Peter Nelson, Caitlyn Bishop

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

John Everitt, JoAn Canning, John Stewart

GUESTS

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COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2010

Mr. Cassidy announced a general consensus of the Board to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2010 meeting as amended. There were no objections.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Personnel

Leaves

Todd Jemison, .50 FTE Special Education Teacher at Orchard School (last serving as a Mathematics Coach)

Retirement/Resignation

Maureen Genzlinger, 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher at Orchard School
Kendra Rickerby, 1.0 FTE English Teacher at South Burlington High School

b. Accounts Payable Orders

#42 \$636,679.03

#43 \$246,746.92

#44 \$580,922.71

c. The superintendent is authorized to accept and file all state and federal grants

d. Rubbish Removal/Recycling Bid

e. Snow Plowing Bid

Mr. Cassidy announced a general consensus of the board to approve the consent agenda as amended. There were no objections.

COMMUNITY LINKAGE—STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING

This will be presented at the next board meeting.

COMMUNITY LINKAGE—DEVELOP BOARD ANALYSIS TOPICS FOR VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD'S POSSIBLE TRANSITION TO F-35'S

Ms. Fitzgerald gave an overview of the discussion from the previous meeting. The board would like to discuss/review the following items:

- Comments made by board members/schools from the Nellis Air Force Base and Valparaiso which dealt with the F-35
- Noise levels
- Loss of students/homes in the Chamberlin School area
- If the zone around the airport grows what will the impact be as 80 additional homes are targeted in the acquisition program
- Economic impact—need additional information about this
- Taxes
- Sound barrier—as homes are torn down are they looking at putting up sound barriers

After the draft environmental impact is released the public, there will be a 45 day review period and a public hearing will be scheduled for comments. Mr. Everitt said the administration is working with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission to get a map so the administration can indicate on the map exactly where our students live.

POLICY WARNINGS

Financial Condition and Activities—The board reviewed the new wording for 2.4 Financial Condition and Activities. The board made several changes and agreed to bring it back to the next meeting for a second reading.

Animal Dissection—The board reviewed the animal dissection policy and made changes. The board agreed to bring the policy back to the next meeting for a second reading.

4.1.6 BOARD PROCESS REVIEW

The board reviewed the items on the evaluation summary that included responses lower than the top two evaluation categories.

Question #2—The Board followed its agenda and did not allow itself to get sidetracked.

- Board should stick to the annual agenda and make adjustments when necessary
- Parking lot ideas should be placed in a visible area on the agenda. It was agreed to add a new category to the agenda called Future Agenda Items and keep a running list of items.

Question #3—Board members arrived on time, prepared to contribute to the meeting.

- The board agreed they did a good job with this.

Question #5—Participation was balanced. All participated; no one dominated.

- It was agreed that when the board is finishing a discussion each person should have an opportunity to make additional comments.

Question #10—The board reviews policy about each topic before discussing an issue.

- Members agreed it is helpful to put relevant policy numbers next to agenda items.
- It was agreed to revise Question #10 to read: Where appropriate the board reviews policy about each topic before discussing the issue.

Question #11—In writing additional policies, the board starts with the broad statement and becomes more detailed in a logical and disciplined sequence.

- When developing policy, the board sometimes starts in “bigger bowl” and sometimes in the “smaller bowl.”

Question #12—The board minimizes time spent monitoring past performance.

- It was suggested that the board review the monitoring reports before the meeting and only bring questions to the full board if they have concerns or comments. It was agreed it is too soon in the policy governance process not to cover every item in the monitoring report.
- A community member suggested moving the superintendent’s report to the beginning of the meeting instead of the end. The board agreed to move the superintendent’s report earlier in the meeting.

Question #13—The board routinely dedicates time to reviewing/improving its own process.

- The board agreed to use the first eight questions of the current survey to do a review each month the day after the televised board meeting. The administration will send email reminders to the board about the surveys.

Question #14—The board clarifies priorities/values when considering potential outcomes, beneficiaries, and costs of outcomes.

- The board discussed the use of Laura Soares, consultant, to help with this area.

Question #15—The board follows an annual calendar based on a plan for doing its work.

- At the end of the agenda the board should add a section to review what should be put on the next meeting agenda.
- The boards needs more focus on Ends Policy

Question #17—Should this question remain the same or should it be removed?

- It was agreed that this question should stay but a new question #20 was added to the review in the future.

Question #19—How is the Board doing in relation to its policies for operating.

- The board agreed to delete this question as it was confusing.

Question #20—The board is providing appropriate linkages between ownership and operational organization.

- If time and energy were unlimited there would be a lot more that could be done.
- A member of the community suggested board members participate in more community activities such as Dialogue Night.
- A board member asked about a district events calendar.
- How does the board tap into Senior Center and other events that are not school related? Possibly create a community events calendar committee.
- Possible agenda item for next meeting should be how to link to the community.

Ms. Allo suggested putting the board evaluation on the annual agenda calendar for the second meeting in February and August. It was agreed the additional questions developed should be added to the evaluation.

BOARD LIAISON—CITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The board discussed the community library and the city library committee. Mr. Everitt said there is no seat on the city library committee for a board member. The board agreed to recruit a community member to keep the board up to date on the city library committee. Ms. Catherine Sheffield agreed to do this.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Projects—Mr. Everitt gave an update on the projects currently underway in the district.

Community Linkage—This will be added to the next board agenda.

Policy—These policies were discussed earlier in the evening.

Library Committee—This was discussed earlier in the evening.

Energy Update—Mr. Everitt gave an update on the current energy usage for the school year.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

The board discussed the draft letter for the summit and suggested changes. Mr. Everitt will send the letter out soon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. LaLonde asked about the email received with regard to the strategic plan. Mr. Everitt said he has asked Ms. Canning to do a report on the strategic plan.
- Peter Nelson said the student council gave the high school principal a list of ten things they thought need to be done at the high school and one of the items on the list is the paving of the student parking lot. Mr. Stewart said that this is in the budget for FY2011.
- Mr. Cassidy announced that there is a vacancy on the Regional School Boards Association Board if anyone is interested.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered executive session at 9:21 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the District not to do so in Executive Session. The motion was approved.

The executive session was closed at 9:38 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Clerk

Richard Cassidy, Chairperson