

APPROVED ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD
AUGUST 18, 2010 7:00 P.M.
FREDERICK H. TUTTLE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered executive session at 6:01 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining matters 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 7:07 p.m. and the regular session was reconvened.

PRESENT

Richard Cassidy, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Agnes Clift, Janine Allo, Martin LaLonde (via phone for executive session only)

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

John Everitt, John Stewart, Stuart Weiss, Delina Gilroy

GUESTS

3

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 4, 2010

Mr. Cassidy announced a general consensus of the Board to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2010 meeting as amended. There were no objections.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Hire

Karola Troidl, .10 FTE Music Teacher at FHT Middle School

b. Accounts Payable Orders

#6 \$ 58,713.32

#7 \$196,557.80

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Energy Report—Mr. Everitt said he will bring additional information back to the board at the September 1 meeting about the energy education contract and actual savings.

City of South Burlington and Auditor—The city has decided to move away from the existing contract they have with the auditor and put out an RFP for a new auditor. Mr. Everitt said that this change will probably cost the district more money and the audit will take more time because of the delay in the start of the process. Mr. Boucher said the city council has an issue with the current auditors regarding the under funding of the city

retirement plan. Ms. Fitzgerald asked what the legal ramifications would be based on the fact that the district has already signed an engagement letter with the current auditors.

Convocation—Mr. Everitt announced that convocation will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, August 27 and will include a guest speaker, Dr. Robert Brooks.

Federal Funds—Mr. Everitt gave an update on the stimulus money and the new employment bill.

History Grant—Mr. Weiss gave an update on the history grant recently awarded to Vermont schools, including South Burlington.

SECOND READING OF ENDS POLICY REVISION

The board reviewed and discussed the second reading of the draft ends policy. The board agreed to bring the revisions back for additional review at a public hearing at the September 15 board meeting.

The board agreed to publish the Ends Policy in the *Other Paper* to seek public comment, send the two focus forum groups, post on the web, email to staff, and hold a public hearing.

SECOND READING OF EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS SECTION 2.10—CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

The board reviewed and discussed the addition of 2.10 Curriculum Development and Review to Executive Limitations. The board reviewed and discussed the second reading agreed to bring back for final review at the next meeting.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY SCHOOLS CAFÉ REVIEW

The board reviewed the Champlain Valley Schools Café meeting notes. Mr. Everitt gave an update on consolidation discussions throughout Chittenden County.

Ms. Fitzgerald asked about having the superintendents and board chairs from specific districts meet to possibly discuss some of the following:

- Consolidation
- Distance Learning
- 21st Century Learning Opportunities
- Joint summer school program
- State-wide data mapping
- Concept of small projects to collaborate on such as professional development, purchasing, statewide contract, etc.
- List of resources unique to each school that they would like to share

Mr. Cassidy asked that the meeting notes be sent to Chittenden County superintendents for distribution.

PLAN FOR COMMUNITY LINKAGE

The board suggested the following possible community linkage items:

- The board asked about presenting to the community on the district retirement plan
- Academic performance of our students

- Add review of Ends Policy to board agenda calendar on a regular basis
- Relating the District Report Card to the Ends Policy
- Ends Policy—create 4 different working groups to discuss on an ongoing basis the different areas which include Disposition of Life-Long Learning, Academic Proficiency, Personal Development, and Citizenship and to report out on how the Ends Policy is working in the schools/community. The board suggested selecting dates now to hold for the work group sessions.

DIRECT INSPECTION OF 2.9 COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT TO THE BOARD

Ms. Fitzgerald said at the last meeting the board reviewed the numbered items and made the following suggestions in reference to monitoring. Ms. Clift and Ms. Fitzgerald came up with comments/suggestions regarding communication and support to the board.

#3—Neglect to submit unbiased decision information required periodically by the board or let the board be unaware of relevant trends.

The board will provide the superintendent with more information regarding what the board would like to see from the superintendent in terms of more effective communication to the board.

#4—Let the board be unaware of any significant incidental information it requires, including anticipated media coverage, substantial grants, threatened or pending lawsuits, and material internal and external changes.

If there is a lawsuit, arbitration settlement, etc. the board wants to know about it.

#7—Fail to provide a workable mechanism for official board, officer, or committee communications.

Emails to the board—how does the board know individuals are responded to?

#8—Fail, when addressing official business, to deal with the board as a whole except when responding to officers or committees duly charged by the board.

No need to capture/chair superintendent communications, some items are added to the board questions. The possibility of adding a board blog was suggested.

#9—Fail to supply for the board's consent agenda, along with applicable monitoring information, all decisions delegated to the superintendent yet required by law, regulation, or contract to be board approved.

Create a data base of decisions delegated to the superintendent. No mechanism to validate this. Mr. Everitt is to ask other superintendent's if this is something that has already been done in another district.

MONITORING REPORT—2.1 TREATMENT OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

The board discussed Monitoring Report 2.1—Treatment of Students and Parents/Guardians. The board agreed to suggested changes and the monitoring report will be brought back to the next meeting with additional information.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

- A member of the board asked when the Fall VSBA conference will be held.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- F-35 Environmental Impact Study
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey (*scheduled for November 17*)
- Board Actions for Community Linkage (4.2.1)/Community Outreach
- Federal Department of Education Plans and direction and alignment with Vermont direction
- Act 66—specifically consolidation and student/teacher ratios
- Treatment of Staff Policy and Emergency Preparedness
- Report on Status of Staff Retirement System
- Treatment of Staff (*scheduled for September 1*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered executive session at 9:44 p.m. to discuss personnel matters 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 10:15 p.m. and the regular session was reconvened.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Clerk

Richard Cassidy, Chairperson