

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD  
OCTOBER 20, 2010 7:00 P.M.  
FREDERICK H. TUTTLE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**PRESENT**

Richard Cassidy, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Agnes Clift, Janine Allo, Martin LaLonde

**ADMINISTRATION/STAFF**

John Everitt, John Stewart, David Young, Stuart Weiss, Delina Gilroy

**GUESTS**

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**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were none.

**CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 2010**

Mr. Cassidy announced a general consensus of the Board to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 6, 2010 as amended. There were no objections.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

a. Accounts Payable Orders

#14 \$545,890.33

#15 \$127,504.94

b. Protection of Teacher(s)—Lori Centerbar, FHT Middle School Teacher

c. Consider Quarterly Payroll Registers

Mr. Cassidy announced a general consensus of the board to approve the consent agenda as amended to include Ms. Lori Centerbar as the teacher to be protected. There were no objections.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Special Education Program**—Mr. Everitt distributed a chart about out-of-district special education placements. He said the district is right on average with other districts in the area of similar size.

**Budget**—Mr. Everitt said the administration has almost completed the “baseline budget” that will show the investment required to continue with the student opportunities and stewardship currently in place.

**Audit**—Mr. Everitt said that Mr. Stewart and Ms. Clift participated in the city’s bid review process to select a new auditing firm for the city and school district. The city manger will make a recommendation to the city council soon.

**Retirement**—Mr. Everitt said that the district has contracted with Tracy Braun, an actuary with People’s Bank, to get some expertise to assist the administration with making a recommendation to the board on funding a change to the Vermont Municipal Retirement System. Ms. Braun will

- a. Review our plan documents, actuarial reports, projections of plan obligations, and VMERS proposal for assumption of active plan participants

- b. Assess retirement plan options for future funding of active and non-active participant obligations, and
- c. Recommend specific actions to finance the migration of active employees to VMERS, and to finance the remaining liability for non-active employees under the existing South Burlington Pension Plan.

**Early Childhood Education**—Mr. Everitt said the district's year-long study on the needs of South Burlington families with young children has attracted the attention of a foundation. The district has initiated discussion with the foundation about funding an outreach position to implement some of the recommendations that we see emerging from our study.

Mr. Everitt said he attended a meeting with the Business Roundtable last week and they have taken on early childhood education as a focus of their work for the coming year.

Mr. Young and Stuart Weiss spoke about two grants.

1. Farm to School Implementation Grant—would enable the district to work towards building more excitement and knowledge in all students about eating healthy and local foods.
2. Common Roots Grant Application—would establish an apprenticeship program for high school students to have a garden at the high school and high-tunnel hoop house at South Village to grow salad greens and other vegetables for use in the school food service program.

#### **EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS POLICY 2.2 TREATMENT OF STAFF**

Mr. LaLonde said that he and Ms. Clift reviewed the Vermont Teaching and Learning survey which addresses teaching and learning conditions in all schools in Vermont. The board suggested changes to the policy and asked Ms. Clift and Mr. LaLonde to create one or two Policy Governance® scenarios for draft detail items 5 and 6 on the proposed Treatment of Staff policy. Mr. LaLonde agreed to bring the changes back for further review.

The board suggested going to Merchants Bank, Dealer.com, or Gardner Supply to see about employee satisfaction at those organizations.

This will be put back on a future agenda for the meeting on November 30 or December 15.

It was agreed that the Standard Emergency Protocol Plan for the district will be reviewed at the next meeting.

#### **MONITORING REPORT—2.4 FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES**

The board reviewed Monitoring Report 2.4—Financial Condition and Activities. The board agreed with the monitoring report as presented with changes in detail #2.

#### **MONITORING REPORT—2.6 EMERGENCY SUPERINTENDENT SUCCESSION**

The board reviewed Monitoring Report 2.6—Emergency Superintendent Succession. The board agreed with the monitoring report as presented.

#### **VERMONT SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION**

The board agreed proposing a resolution for changes in labor law was a good idea, but did not feel there was enough time to review and approve the resolution before the Vermont School Boards Association meeting next week. There was no consensus on the item. The

board agreed to continue discussions with area board members and consider this at a future meeting.

### OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

- Ms. Fitzgerald asked about the buses being out this weekend transporting individuals to and from the breast cancer walk. Mr. Young and Mr. Everitt gave examples of various uses of the buses beyond student transportation to and from school and co-curricular events.

### 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 (Beyond the Ends Policy) (*Presentation by Mr. LaLonde*)
- Federal Department of Education Plans and Direction and Alignment with Vermont Direction (*Superintendent to talk with the commissioner about this*)
- Act 66—specifically consolidation and student/teacher ratios (*Superintendent will get the board information on this*)
- Strategic Plan (*How will the district move forward on the Strategic Plan? Inspect the relationship of the Ends Policy and the Strategic Plan.*)
- Review Policy 2.1—Treatment of Students and Parents/Guardians, Detail #6 (*Superintendent suggests February 2.*)
- Nutrition Program Report (*to be scheduled after nutrition article comes out in the Other Paper*)
- Follow-up to Café (*meeting with board chairs to identify future projects*)
- Vermont School Boards Association resolution on legislative changes.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Everitt said the handout from the Public Assets Institute had good information.
- Mr. Cassidy asked about getting sender email address from emails sent to the school board email address.
- There is a public talk to be held at UVM on Thursday, October 28 from 5-6:30 p.m. by William Duncombe, professor of public administration at Maxwell School of Public Administration at Syracuse University.
- Mr. Everitt discussed a letter from a Rick Marcotte Central School parent about how wonderful the recent C.A.R.E.S. Assembly on empathy was as it relates to the personal development portion of the Ends Policy.
- The wellness and inner resilience meeting of parents that met at the high school this week was very successful. Staff and students presented on the work they have been doing in the area of wellness and inner resilience.
- The State Board of Education Meeting—The Big Picture students made a presentation at the meeting that was well received.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered executive session at 9:44 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining, a legal matter, and a personnel matter 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 10:18 p.m. and the regular session was reconvened.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

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Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Clerk

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Richard Cassidy, Chairperson