

**OLD COLONY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**476 North Avenue  
Rochester, MA 02770**

**Wednesday  
November 16, 2016**

**MINUTES**

**Present: Mr. John Banzdul, Mrs. Evelyn Bouley, Mrs. Shirley Bourque,  
Mr. Stephen Cassidy, Mr. Donald Foster, Mr. Michael Gagliardi,  
Mr. Richard Gamache, Mr. Paul Guilbeault, Mr. Gary Mansfield,  
Mr. Maurice St. Amand, Mr. Donald Williams, Mr. Sylvester Zienkiewicz**

**Absent: Mrs. Donna Forand, Mr. David Hughes**

**Also: Mrs. Karen Guenette, Principal; Mrs. Jacqueline Machamer, Assistant  
Principal/Vocational Coordinator; Ms. Linda Deady, Academic Coordinator;  
Mrs. Sarah Griffith, Business Manager; Mrs. Rosemarie Canessa, District  
Committee Secretary; Ms. Savannah Lopes, Chairperson, Student Advisory  
Council to District Committee**

**Guests: Mr. Aaron L. Polansky, Old Colony Superintendent, Effective 11/28/16  
Mr. Kevin Gonsalves, Mathematics Instructor, Old Colony  
Mrs. Lisa Faria, Clerical Staff, Old Colony  
Mrs. Dori Maher, Clerical Staff, Old Colony  
Mrs. Maria Szymanski, Clerical Staff, Old Colony  
Mrs. Debra Smith, Clerical Staff, Old Colony  
Ms. Eileen Reece, Clerical Staff, Old Colony  
Mr. Thomas Smith, Lakeville  
Ms. Nancy Souza, Mattapoissett  
Ms. Cassandra Saniuk, Old Colony Student  
Ms. Sarah Murphy, Old Colony Student  
Mr. Patrick Murphy, Old Colony Student, Carver  
Mrs. Jody Murphy, Old Colony Parent, Carver  
Mr. Philip Rose, Parent, East Freetown  
Mrs. Paula Rose, Parent, East Freetown  
Mr. Steve Moniz, General Advisory Board, Graphics  
Mr. Michael Christian, General Advisory Board, Carpentry  
Mr. George Racine, General Advisory Board, Machine & Tool  
Mr. Stephen St. John, General Advisory Board, Welding  
Mr. Donald Bock, General Advisory Board, Electrical**

**Mr. Scott Weigel, General Advisory Board, Automotive  
Ms. Kate Weigel, General Advisory Board, Culinary  
Mr. Robert Thomas, General Advisory Board, CAD Drafting  
Ms. Nicole Letendre, General Advisory Board, Cosmetology**

**Mr. Cassidy called the meeting to order at 6: p.m.**

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

**Ms. Cassandra Saniuk (Freetown) received a Certificate of Achievement for the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards and Ms. Sarah Murphy (Carver) received a Certificate of Merit for the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.**

**Mrs. Machamer stated that members of the General Advisory Board were present to discuss the needs of industry and equipment of their respective shops.**

**Members of the General Advisory Boards discussed the needs of Old Colony's technical programs over the next five years.**

**Mrs. Machamer stated that the District has purchased some equipment from grant money received in the past and will continue to apply for any capital/improvement program grants.**

**Mrs. Bourque commended the Electronics Department and the work of instructor, Mr. Dutra, on the accomplishments he has made in turning the program around.**

**Mr. Foster also commended the Electronics Program for advancing to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He offered to donate two robotic arms to the program.**

**During Public Participation, Mr. Gonsalves stated that he has an issue with Ms. Sands wanting to withdraw from applying for the Superintendent-Director position and he asked for an explanation as to why she wanted to withdraw her name.**

**Mr. Cassidy stated that Ms. Sands had received a copy of the questions that were going to be asked at the final interview.**

**Mr. Cassidy stated that he has spoken with the State Ethics Commission and that he was told that we have done everything right to rectify the situation.**

**Mr. Gonsalves asked if we know who sent Ms. Sands the questions.**

**Mr. Cassidy stated that he knows who sent Ms. Sands the questions.**

**Mr. Gonsalves stated that according to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71 Section M, anyone who holds the position of Superintendent needs to be certified as a Superintendent.**

**Mr. Gonsalves asked Mrs. Guenette if she is certified to be a Superintendent.**

**Mrs. Guenette stated that she is not certified to be a Superintendent, but she is Principal of the school. She stated that Mrs. Machamer and Ms. Fay are certified to be Superintendents.**

**Mr. Foster stated that we may not be in compliance with the law.**

**Mr. Gonsalves stated that the District may apply for a waiver in a circumstance of hardship.**

**Mr. Gagliardi recommended that we do not appoint a Superintendent and continue to let Mrs. Guenette run the building as the Principal for the remaining two weeks until Superintendent Polansky starts his position on November 28<sup>th</sup>.**

**Mr. Gonsalves stated that he spoke with Teamsters Union President, Philip Sullivan, and Mr. Sullivan asked Mr. Gonsalves to state to the School Committee that he commends the clerical staff for the professionalism during the difficult negotiation process.**

**On a motion duly made by Mrs. Evelyn Bouley and seconded by Mr. Maurice St. Amand, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To accept the minutes of the September 7, 2016 Negotiating Subcommittee Executive Session meeting.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. John Bandzul and seconded by Mr. Donald Foster, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To accept the minutes of the September 14, 2016 District Committee meeting.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. John Bandzul and seconded by Mrs. Evelyn Bouley, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To accept the minutes of the September 21, 2016 District Committee meeting.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. John Bandzul and seconded by Mr. Michael Gagliardi, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To accept the minutes of the September 21, 2016 Executive Session meeting.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. John Bandzul and seconded by Mr. Richard Gamache, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To accept the minutes of the September 26, 2016 Negotiating Subcommittee Executive Session meeting.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. Donald Foster and seconded by Mrs. Evelyn Bouley, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To accept the minutes of the September 28, 2016 District Committee meeting.**

**On a motion duly made by Mrs. Shirley Bourque and seconded by Mrs. Gary Mansfield, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To accept the minutes of the October 18, 2016 Negotiating Subcommittee Executive Session meeting.**

**On a motion duly made by Mrs. Shirley Bourque and seconded by Mr. Maurice St. Amand, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To accept the minutes of the October 19, 2016 Executive Session meeting.**

**Warrants were available for review.**

**On a motion duly made by Mrs. Shirley Bourque and seconded by Mr. John Bandzul, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To transfer the appropriation in the OPEB and Stabilization accounts to their respective funds/account.**

**Mr. Foster inquired what the status of the legal funds are.**

**Mrs. Bouley asked how much money the District has spent year-to-date for legal fees.**

**Mrs. Griffith stated that \$30,000.00 was appropriated for legal fees and the District has spent \$7,900.00 to date.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. Donald Foster and seconded by Mr. Michael Gagliardi, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To grant permission for the Senior and Junior class to hold their prom on Friday, May 26, 2017 at White's of Westport from 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. Michael Gagliardi and seconded by Mrs. Shirley Bourque, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To approve the sale or disposal of surplus property in accordance with District Policy NEPN Code DN as previously approved by the District Committee.**

**Ms. Savannah Lopes gave a bi-monthly report from the Student Advisory Council.**

**Ms. Lopes stated that the students are very excited about new Superintendent, Mr. Aaron Polansky coming to Old Colony.**

**Ms. Lopes discussed some of the concerns of the students. She stated that the students liked last year's choices for Physical Education better than this year's Fitness Program.**

**Ms. Lopes stated that some of the students would like college essay writing included in the senior English curriculum.**

**Ms. Lopes stated that Mrs. Guenette told the students that their portfolios should show their growth and what the students plan to do in the future.**

**Ms. Lopes stated that the students feel they should do larger fund raisers such as staff/student events, partnering with a restaurant for a percentage of sales, etc. instead of just selling candy or candles.**

**Mrs. Lopes informed the District Committee that their concern about bottled water being included free with their lunch was addressed. She stated that the water bottles price was reduced from a dollar to fifty cents.**

**Mrs. Guenette informed the District Committee that Freetown-Lakeville students did not participate in Career Awareness Days this year. She stated that Superintendent Medeiros had called Superintendent Cote' to tell him that Freetown-Lakeville was not going to pay for the buses this year.**

Mrs. Guenette asked the Lakeville Committee members to reach out to Superintendent Medeiros regarding this matter.

Mr. Foster stated that he feels the District should pay for the buses for all middle school districts for Career Awareness Days.

Mrs. Guenette stated that flyers about Old Colony were mailed to all the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in our sending towns and she gave an update on the number of visitors for the Sunday Open House for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

Mr. Bandzul stated that the flyers were excellent.

Mrs. Guenette stated that enrollment on November 9, 2016 was 545. The October first enrollment was 546 students.

Mrs. Guenette stated that no students can be accepted after November 9, 2016.

Mrs. Bourque commended Mrs. Guenette's November Principal's Newsletter.

A Budget Subcommittee is scheduled for December 14, 2016 at 5 p.m. in the library.

The next District Committee meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2017 at 6 p.m. in the cafetorium.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Canessa  
District Committee Secretary

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Mr. Stephen J. Cassidy, Chairman

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Date