

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

**476 North Avenue  
Rochester, MA 02770**

**Wednesday  
September 18, 2019**

**DISTRICT MINUTES**

**Present:** Mr. Justin Brodeur, Mr. Donald Williams, Mr. Robert Marshall, Mr. Don Foster, Ms. Nancy Souza, Mrs. Shirley Bourque, Mr. David Hughes, Mr. Stephen Cassidy III, Mr. John Bandzul, Mr. Richard Gamache, Mr. Maurice St. Amand, Ms. Evelyn Bouley, Mr. Gary Mansfield

**Absent:** Mrs. Joann Puskar, Mrs. Sharon Cruz

**Also:** Mr. Aaron L. Polansky, Superintendent-Director; Mr. J. Michael Parker, Principal; Ms. Krystla Fay, Special Services Coordinator; Mrs. Bethany Botelho, Vocational Coordinator; Mrs. Catherine Tuccinardi, Academic Coordinator; Mrs. Jolene Costa, District Committee Secretary

**Guest:** Mr. Frederick Underhill, Rochester

**Mr. Bandzul called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m.**

**All those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.**

**Mr. Bandzul introduced Ms. Victroria Hannon, who will represent the student body and serve on the District Committee through May 2020.**

**Mr. Bandzul introduced Mr. Frederick Underhill.**

**Mr. Underhill updated the School Committee on discussions relative to water access for Old Colony, including current status and the next steps.**

**Mr. Underhill discussed the recommendations generated by the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness report, which showed the need to “*secure an independent water source for Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School, to address access and fire suppression concerns.*”**

**Mr. Underhill stated he would update the Committee as progress is made.**

**Mr. Bandzul asked the audience if there was any public participation.**

**The District Committee Chairman waived the reading of items listed on the Consent Agenda and a motion was made by Mrs. Shirley Bourque and seconded by Mr. David Hughes it was unanimously**

**Voted: To approve the Consent Agenda a. through g.**

**Acceptance of minutes listed below:**

**July 11, 2019 Policy Subcommittee minutes**

**July 17, 2019 District School Committee minutes**

**July 17, 2019 Executive Session minutes**

**July 24, 2019 District School Committee minutes**

**August 27, 2019 Policy Subcommittee minutes**

**August 29, 2019 Charter Review Subcommittee minutes**

**On a motion duly made by Mrs. Shirley Bourque and seconded by Mr. David Hughes, 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 School Committee.**

**Mr. Bandzul stated the warrants were available for review and asked if there was any discussion regarding the Operating Statement.**

**Mrs. Bourque inquired about the science supplies line item, severance pay and State Retirement Assessment.**

**Mrs. Griffith explained and clarified all information for the Committee members.**

**On motion duly made by Mr. Robert Marshall and seconded by Mr. Stephen Cassidy III, it was unanimously**

**Voted: To approve the cosmetology field trip to the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Next Level Show at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, RI. on October 28, 2019.**

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

**Voted: To approve prior year salary owed to a teacher to be paid from the FY20 budget appropriation in the amount of \$4,883.00. The teacher's current year salary is \$57,135.00, which is \$3,127.00 over the budgeted amount of \$54,008.00. Total amount in excess of the current year appropriation will equal \$8,010.00.**

**Mr. Polansky stated Mr. Jim O'Brien from Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School would like to donate a greenhouse to Old Colony once they have gone through their surplus process.**

**Mr. Hughes stated the greenhouse can be stored outside and G.N.B.V.T. will provide plans for the building and will transport it to O.C.R.V.T.H.S.**

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

**Voted: To accept the donation of a working greenhouse from Mr. Oliveira and Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School once the surplus process is complete.**

**Mr. Polansky shared articles with the Committee which focused on the Massachusetts School Building Authority and Vocational Education.**

**Mr. Polansky updated the School Committee on the Charter Review and the next steps and potential invitation to Freetown to join the District. He focused on the "A Vision for Expansion" document which can be used as a universal document for other projects.**

**Mrs. Bourque updated the Committee on the progress of the Policy Subcommittee and its current focus on reviewing Retiree Insurance. She stated once a comprehensive draft policy is complete it will be shared with the full Committee.**

**Mr. Bandzul stated he will update the full Committee on the progress of the negotiating Subcommittee in Executive Session.**

**Mr. Foster updated the School Committee on the Educational Foundation and benefits to our students.**

**Mr. Foster discussed the criteria for membership and brief description of what the Foundation represents.**

**Mrs. Bourque inquired about the tickets for *A Night to Remember* and asked if tickets could be made available at the school.**

**Mr. Polansky agreed to have tickets at school.**

**Mr. Polansky commended Ms. Fay for the success of the Summer Programs she held.**

**Ms. Fay discussed the Summer Community Garden Project she incorporated this year for students at risk for Regression along with the Summer Transition Program she conducts.**

**Mr. Polansky discussed the success of the New Student Induction program and Summer Discovery.**

**Mr. Polansky discussed the District Improvement Planning Session he would like to conduct for two hours and potential dates. The Session would be open to all School Committee members and include some staff and students.**

**Mr. Polansky discussed the LAUNCH and Engineering Program with BCC/UMass Dartmouth and it's recognition by the State and funding potential.**

**Mr. Polansky stated the Transportation Contract with First Student is in its final year and Mrs. Griffith will start the bid process as she has in the past.**

**Mr. Parker discussed the success of the first day of school for the staff and the great presentation.**

**Mr. Parker stated this year the focus is on Staff and Student Wellness along with the addition of Cougar Time and Intervention and Enrichment Programs.**

**Ms. Hannon stated the students enjoyed the feel of the first day and are excited about Cougar Time.**

**Mr. Marshall inquired about time on learning and any issues for the State.**

**Mr. Polansky stated the team researched before piloting Cougar Time and there was no concern from the State regarding time on learning.**

**Mr. Parker discussed the White Mountains Educational Experience and stated he would have a presentation at the next meeting but overall stated the trip was a success and the students have formed a support system and built strong relationships.**

**Mr. Polansky invited the School Committee members to a presentation by the Massachusetts Partnership for Youth on October 8, 2019 at Essex Tech High School.**

**Mrs. Botelho discussed the Cooperative Education numbers for the past school year and its continued success. She stated for the past 3 years, Old Colony has been in the top 10 in the State for Cooperative Education.**

**Mrs. Botelho stated the shops seek out opportunities as well as potential employers contacting the school.**

**Mr. Marshall commended Mr. Souza and the entire maintenance staff for the exceptional work they did over the summer and the report that was generated.**

**The School Committee reviewed the Enrollment enclosure.**

**Mr. Polansky touched upon the Tour Dates and STEM Event planned for the 2019-2020 school year.**

**Mr. Parker discussed Parents' Night/Open House being held on September 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. He stated parents have the opportunity to follow their student's schedule and can participate in a question and answer session.**

**Mr. Parker discussed the new additions outlined in the Principal's Newsletter including the Freshman and Sophomore class advisors, student and staff member of the month, all student led assembly and a new fire drill procedure.**

**A roll call vote was taken to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining and will resume in open session District Committee meeting.**

**13 – Yes**

**2 – Absent (S. Cruz, J. Puskar)**

**After a return to open session a motion duly made by Mr. Robert Marshall and seconded by Ms. Nancy Souza, it was**

**Voted: To approve the recommendation of 3/3/3 COLA increase, the removal of the Principal's Secretary and Bookkeeper from the Teamsters Union, and the creation of a non-union position which includes the MCAS/EPP/Title I Coordinator and additional responsibilities of grant writer and grant manager.**

**13 – Yes**

**2 – Absent (S, Cruz, J. Puskar)**

**1 – Opposed (J. Bandzul)**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Jolene Costa  
District Committee Secretary**

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**Mr. John Bandzul, Chairman**

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**Date**