

GREATER NEW BEDFORD REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 8, 2022
6:30 P.M.
New Bedford, Massachusetts

PRESENT: Mr. Toomey, Chairman; Dr. Marland, Vice-Chair; Mr. Durrigan; Atty. Walsh; Mr. Shea; Ms. Bettencourt; Mr. Oliveira; Student Sarah Lopes.

EXCUSED: Mrs. Ribeiro.

1. The meeting was held in person and via remote participation (YouTube) for the public.
2. There was one public comment submitted from the GNBEU regarding the ESSER III Grant protocols.
3. On a motion by Mr. Durrigan, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was moved to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2022 meeting.

Yes – 7 No – 0
4. On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was moved to approve and hold the minutes of the executive session until the matter has been completed.

Yes – 7 No – 0
5. Lori Pelsue brought Members up to date on the SkillsUSA events. She explained that officers will be competing this year at the conference at Gillette Stadium. District Competition will be held on March 4th here at the school. State Competition will be held on April 14th and 28th. Nationals will be held in June.
6. Mr. Shea thanked the advisors for their efforts on behalf of the students and for their dedication to the organization.
7. On a motion by Atty. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was moved to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$684,759.45.

Yes – 7 No – 0
8. Robert Watt explained that the NEASC Two-Year Progress Report had been submitted on January 14th. He explained that 77% of the items have been completed or are in progress. He informed that the District was considering establishing an after dark program.
9. On a motion by Mr. Oliveira, seconded by Ms. Bettencourt, it was moved to receive and place on file the NEASC Two-Year Progress Report as submitted.

Yes – 7 No – 0
10. Superintendent Watson commended Meg Lacasse and Evelyn Bouley for their outstanding contributions to the Nurses during the last few weeks. He also recognized Tyler Stolmeir and Edmilson Tavares for helping the staff with all of their IT needs.

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11. Superintendent Watson explained the possip pulse checks. He informed that he is in the final stages of hiring the Family Engagement Specialist. He informed that this person will help with the possip checks and will reach out to families.
12. On a motion by Atty. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Bettencourt, it was moved to receive and place on file the report on Parent Communications.

Yes – 7 No – 0
13. Superintendent Watson presented the Superintendent’s Weekly Report that is sent out to the staff. He informed of the importance and need for continued communication.
14. On a motion by Mr. Durrigan, seconded by Atty. Walsh, it was moved to receive and place on file the Superintendent’s Weekly Updates.

Yes – 7 No – 0
15. Principal Williams explained the Artisan Report. He acknowledged the cafeteria staff who prepared the bagged lunches, on such short notice, for the students on the early release day that was due to inclement weather. He brought Members up to date on the A.L.I.C.E. training that was offered to the staff.
16. Mr. Shea stated that he was glad the A.L.I.C.E. training was still going on. He stated that it is a very important program to keep here at the school.
17. On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was moved to receive and place on file the Artisan Report as presented by Principal Williams.

Yes – 7 No – 0
18. Student Sarah Lopes brought Members up to date on the events taking place amongst the student body. She congratulated the Class of 2025 for receiving their permanent shop placement. She informed that the Class of 2022 is working on their prom, yearbook, senior superlatives and yearbook dedication. The Mr. Voc-Tech event is postponed to April. The Bears Building Community is collecting clothing to donate to the homeless. She informed that it is great to be back in school in person. The students are celebrating Black History month. This is great way to come together as a community.
19. Atty. Walsh commended Sarah Lopes for her work and for being a great ambassador of our school.
20. On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Atty. Walsh, it was moved to receive and place on file the Student Representatives report.

Yes – 7 No – 0
21. On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Atty. Walsh, it was voted to approve the three requests for out of state travel for the student athletes as requested.

Yes – 7 No – 0

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22. Discussion was held on the Student Transportation Contract for the 2022/23 school year. Pamela Stuart explained that Tremblay Bus Company was the sole bidder.
23. On a motion by Mr. Durrigan, seconded by Ms. Bettencourt, it was voted to award the Student Transportation Contract for the 2022/23 school year to Tremblay Bus Company.
- Yes – 7 No - 0
24. Discussion was held on the Proprietary Items for the Cosmetology Project. Pamela Stuart read the entire list of proprietary items.
25. On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was voted to approve all of the items read previously for the Proprietary Product Design for the Cosmetology project at 1121 Ashley Boulevard, New Bedford.
- Yes – 7 No - 0
26. Pamela Stuart explained the need to transfer funds. She explained that the Student Opportunity Funding that was being held in the Principal Professional Improvement line and the Salary and Benefit Allocation line, through an amendment, were to be transferred into the Facility Renovation line in order to fund the Security Main Entrance and the ADA Compliance Bathroom Renovation projects. These transfers will not have an effect on the budget.
27. On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Atty. Walsh, it was voted to approve the transfer of funds as requested.
- Yes – 7 No – 0
28. On a motion by Mr. Durrigan, seconded by Mr. Oliveira, it was voted to approve the 2022/23 School Calendar.
- Yes – 7 No – 0
29. Mr. Toomey informed that the Committee was in receipt of the communication from the GNBEU regarding the ESSER III Grant protocols. He informed that Members will review the information and discuss it with Superintendent Watson.
30. Serge Moniz read the communication from the GNBEU.
31. Mr. Shea informed that he had called Superintendent Watson once he received the email from the GNBEU regarding the ESSER III Grant protocols.
32. On a motion by Mr. Oliveira, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was moved to have the Superintendent and Business Manager put together a response to the GNBEU and District Committee Members.
- Yes – 7 No -0

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33. On a motion by Mr. Durrigan, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was moved to adjourn to Executive Session under Chapter 30, Section 21 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the GNBEU, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the GNBAU, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel and to discuss strategy with respect to ongoing litigation as the Chair has determined that an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the committee. Members will not be returning to open session.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Atty. Walsh	-	Yes	Dr. Marland	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Ms. Bettencourt		Yes			

Yes – 7 No – 0

Adjourned to Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

34. On a motion by Mr. Oliveira, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was moved to adjourn.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Secretary for the Committee