

GREATER NEW BEDFORD REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 13, 2024
5:45 P.M.
New Bedford, Massachusetts

PRESENT: Ms. Bettencourt, Chair; Mr. Oliveira, Vice-Chair; Mr. Shea; Mrs. Ribeiro; Dr. Marland; Mr. Durrigan; Mr. Toomey. Student Nia Rodrigues.

EXCUSED: Ms. Pimentel.

1. The meeting was held remotely and via remote participation (YouTube) for the public.
2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER CHAPTER 30, SECTION 21:**

On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mrs. Ribeiro, 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 discuss strategy with respect to negotiations with the Teamsters Local #59 Union and to discuss strategy with respect to negotiations with non-union personnel as the Chair has determined that an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the committee. Members will be returning to open session.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes
Dr. Marland	-	Yes			

Yes – 7 No – 0

Adjourned to executive session 6:01 p.m.

Returned to regular session at 6:50 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes
Dr. Marland	-	Yes			

Yes – 7 No – 0

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mrs. Fredette informed that there were no public comments submitted.

4. READING AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Mrs. Ribeiro, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was voted to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2024 meeting.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes

Yes – 6 No – 0

On a motion by Mrs. Ribeiro, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was voted to accept and hold the minutes of the executive session until the matter is completed.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes

Yes – 6 No – 0

5. APPROVAL OF BILLS:

On a motion by Mr. Toomey, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was moved to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$1,333,129.36.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes

Yes – 6 No – 0

6. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT:

Nia Rodrigues brought Committee Members up to date on the events taking place amongst the student body. She explained that SkillsUSA had quite a few conferences this past month. The SAIL Conference was held on February 8th. at Gillette Stadium. February 5th to the 9th was SkillsUSA week. Student Council members have been voting for spirit week ideas. The Spring Fling dance will be held on March 9th. Multi-Cultural day will be on April 12th.

7. INTRODUCTION ON STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM REPORT:

Superintendent Watson informed that Assistant Principal Derek Medeiros and Supervisor of Attendance Jennifer Carreiro would be presenting on Student Support Team. This is one of the District's goals for 2023/24.

Mr. Medeiros informed that the main goal is to provide support to all GNBVT staff in analyzing student performance/progress academically, vocationally and emotionally. The Team will continue to work on setting school wide expectations regarding an intervention model that best supports all students. Provide staff with professional development on tiered supports in the academic, vocational and social settings.

Critical data points that are looked at include MCAS, ACCESS Test, attendance data, teacher generated assessments, district wide assessments, progress monitoring data, report cards, standardized testing/assessments. Psychological evaluations, clinical observations, teacher observations, formal/informal assessments, screeners.

Mrs. Carreiro explained the attendance data that she has been tracking for the past three years. Our current overall average is 97% and it has been increasing for the past three years. Actions that have been taken to reduce chronic absenteeism include implementing clear objectives, policies and procedures, making daily robocalls, sending violation letters and conducting personal phone calls to the homes by the supervisor of attendance. Student attendance is monitored by using the following methods: daily attendance reports are generated, student parent conferences are conducted, home visits are made and referrals to community agencies as needed.

8. SUPERINTENDENT SHOUT-OUT:

Superintendent Watson in his monthly "shoutout" expressed his appreciation of the Human Resource department and the great work that they have done this year. There are two full time people in the department working to help faculty and staff.

9. PARENT COMMUNICATIONS:

Superintendent Watson informed that the possip surveys includes feedback that we're getting from parents.

10. ARTISAN REPORT:

Principal Williams explained this month's artisan report. This month, the artisan report centered around our science department in academics with highlighting Biology Teachers. In our Voc-Tech classrooms, Academies A and B were highlighted with classwork done in Carpentry, Plumbing, Electrical, HVAC, Off Campus Construction, Culinary Arts, Dental Assisting, Early Childhood Education, Medical Assistant and Nurse Assistant. The report also highlighted our Assistant Principals and SkillsUSA.

11. **SUPERINTENDENT’S WEEKLY UPDATES:** Superintendent Watson updated the Committee with his weekly newsletters to all staff. The newsletters are sent every Monday morning to all faculty and staff. They highlight the work that is being done from week to week.

12. **VOTE TO APPROVE OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR THE VISUAL DESIGN STUDENTS:**

On a motion by Mr. Toomey, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was voted to approve out of state travel for the Visual Design students to travel to RISD Museum in Providence, RI.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes
Dr. Marland	-	Yes			

Yes – 7 No – 0

13. **VOTE TO APPROVE A DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION & COMMUNITY SPECIALIST POSITION:**

Superintendent Watson explained that this position is a reallocation of resources from two previous family engagement positions.

On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mrs. Ribeiro, it was voted to approve a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Community Specialist position.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes
Dr. Marland	-	Yes			

Yes – 7 No – 0

14. **VOTE TO DESIGNATE EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS:**

On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was voted to designate the following equipment as surplus:

- 2-Versymmetric 2 post lift challenger lift MO. #CL9
- Small milling machine. Nyngbo Syil.
- CNC machine computer cabinet

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes
Dr. Marland	-	Yes			

Yes – 7 No – 0

15. COMMUNICATIONS:

On a motion by Mr. Toomey, seconded by Mrs. Ribeiro, it was moved to receive and place on file the following communications:

1. Treasurer’s Report
2. Donation from Brodeur Machine Company, Inc.
3. Donation from LMC Truck & Auto Repair
4. SkillsUSA District Competition – March 1, 2024
5. Honor Society Induction – March 21, 2024

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt	-	Yes
Dr. Marland	-	Yes			

Yes – 7 No – 0

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE IT:

Dr. Marland expressed an interest in revisiting the partnership with the New Bedford Airport.

Mr. Toomey is in favor as aviation mechanics are in high demand.

Mrs. Ribeiro agrees and believes that it is worth investigating.

Ms. Bettencourt suggested that Superintendent Watson look into the possibility of having an aviation mechanic program at GNBVT.

Superintendent Watson will meet Cathie Rebelo, Director of CVTE Programs to see if there is a possibility of having an aviation mechanic program at GNBVT.

17. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Mrs. Ribeiro, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was moved to adjourn.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Durrigan	-	Yes	Mr. Toomey	-	Yes
Mr. Shea	-	Yes	Mr. Oliveira	-	Yes
Mrs. Ribeiro	-	Yes	Ms. Bettencourt		Yes
Dr. Marland	-	Yes			

Yes – 7 No – 0

Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Secretary for the Committee