

GREATER NEW BEDFORD REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 12, 2024
5:45 P.M.
New Bedford, Massachusetts

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

1. The meeting was held in person and via remote participation (YouTube) for the public.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER CHAPTER 30, SECTION 21:

On a motion by Mr. Toomey, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was moved to adjourn to Executive Session under Chapter 30, Section 21 to meet for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the GNBEU, to meet for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the GNBAU, to meet for the purpose of discussing a Step 3 Grievance filed by the GNBEU Unit A in accordance with the grievance procedure in the GNBEU Unit A Collective Bargaining Agreement, and to meet for the purpose of discussing 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:

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

Yes – 8 No – 0

Adjourned to executive session 5:45 p.m.

Returned to regular session at 6:45 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

Yes – 8 No – 0

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mrs. Heather Pimentel withdrew her public comment.

4. READING AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by, Mr. Toomey, seconded by Mrs. Ribeiro, it was voted to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024 meeting.

Yes – 8 No – 0

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

Yes – 8 No – 0

5. APPROVAL OF BILLS:

On a motion by Mrs. Ribeiro, seconded by Ms. Pimentel, it was moved to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$968,215.93.

Yes – 8 No – 0

6. PRESENTATION ON FRESHMAN EXPLORATORY:

Cathie Rebello explained, in depth, the report on the Freshman Exploratory selections.

Mr. Shea indicated that he would like to see a report from teachers to the administrators regarding their individual area and the exploratory process.

Ms. Bettencourt informed that the General Advisory Members would like to see the shops promoting their areas.

Mrs. Ribeiro expressed concern with the 26 students that did not get any of their shop selections. She would like to see the demographics of these students.

7. INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT COACH PRESENTATION:

Dr. Susan Sylvia explained the work that is being done by the newly formed Instructional Support Coach program. She explained that the instructional coaching is a professional learning strategy that uses conversation and questioning to support a teacher's professional growth and development. The goal is to increase student achievement and to foster collegial collaboration focused on the improvement of teaching and learning.

8. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT:

Principal Williams brought Committee Members up to date on the events taking place amongst the student body. He explained that the students attended a Spring Fling dance where Ms. & Mr. Voc-Tech were crowned, SkillsUSA District Competition was held on March 1st. and the award ceremony was held on March 6th. Spring Spirit week is underway. BPA is going to Nationals in Chicago, IL on May 9-11. National Honor Society Induction will be held on March 21.

9. SUPERINTENDENT SHOUT-OUT:

Superintendent Watson in his monthly “shoutout” expressed his appreciation of Jeffrey Caron for the Admissions and Exploratory work that he has done this past year.

10. PARENT COMMUNICATIONS:

Superintendent Watson informed that the possip surveys includes feedback that we're getting from parents. He informed that the family engagement department continues to reach out to families regarding any concerns that they have.

11. ARTISAN REPORT:

Principal Williams explained this month’s artisan report. This month, the artisan report centered around our English and Math departments in academics. In our Voc-Tech classrooms, Academies C and D were highlighted with classwork done in Automotive, Business Technology, Collision Repair Technology, Cosmetology, Diesel Services, Information Technology and Program & Web Development, Marine Technology, Architectural & Mechanical Design, Engineering & Robotics, Machine Technology, Metal Fabrication & Joining, Stationary Engineering. The report also highlighted our Co-op Program and SkillsUSA.

12. 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.

13. VOTE TO APPROVE THE 2024/25 SCHOOL CALENDAR:

On a motion by Mr. Toomey, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was voted to approve the 2024/25 School Calendar.

Yes – 8 No - 0

14. VOTE TO APPROVE THE STUDENT OPPORTUNITY ACT PLAN:

On a motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mrs. Ribeiro, it was voted to approve the Student Opportunity Act Plan as submitted.

Yes – 8 No – 0

15. VOTE TO APPROVE OVERNIGHT TRAVEL FOR THE ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS:

On a motion by Mr. Durrigan, seconded by Mrs. Ribeiro, it was voted to approve overnight travel for the Engineering Technology students to travel to Cuttyhunk with an overnight stay in order to participate in the Cuttyhunk STEAM Academy on a Wind Energy Collaborative.

Yes – 8 No – 0

16. ESTABLISH APRIL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES:

It was the consensus of the committee to hold the regular meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

17. VOTE TO DESIGNATE EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS:

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

- Southbend Select 10 burner stove with ovens
- Star Manufacturing flat top griddle, Model #636TB
- Pitco fryolator 3 bay unit. Voltage 110, Model #SGBN14
- Pitco fryolator 2 bay unit. Voltage 110, Model #SGBN14
- Southbend oven/charbroiler/salamander, Voltage 110
- iMac x 15
- Lock forming machine
- Jet slip roll forming machine – 22 gauge
- 6-Burner Vulcan model stove

Yes – 8 No – 0

18. HVAC BID AWARD

On a motion by Mrs. Ribeiro, seconded by Mr. Durrigan, it was moved to receive an place on file the communication to APC Development Group Inc. informing of the bid award.

Yes – 8 No – 0

19. REPORT ON PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, RETIREMENTS OR RESIGNATIONS:

On a motion by Mr. Toomey, seconded by Mrs. Ribeiro, it was moved to receive and place on file the early notification of retirement of Cathy Chace effective February 24, 2025.

Yes – 8 No - 0

20. COMMUNICATIONS:

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

1. Honor Society Induction – March 21, 2024

Yes – 8 No – 0

21. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Yes – 8 No – 0

Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary for the Committee