

SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting

MINUTES – January 5, 2010

EXECUTIVE SESSION **6:00 p.m.**
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING **6:30 p.m.**

SECTION I – Routine:

- A. 1. Attendance:
 - James Vincent, Chair
 - Jeffrey Houle, Vice Chair
 - Charles Condron
 - George LeBlanc
 - Theodore Locke (Tolland Rep.)
 - Elizabeth Magni, Secretary
 - Jean McGivney-Burelle
- 2. Administration:
 - John Barry, Superintendent
 - Paul Petit, Assistant Superintendent
 - Kathleen Lynch, Recording Secretary
- 3. Student School Committee:
 - Ellen Contois
 - Tyler Stahl
- 4. News Media:
 - Springfield Newspapers – Dave Vallette
 - Westfield Evening News – Dave Canton
 - Southwick/Suffield – Greg Scibelli

OPENING CEREMONY

Observers: 2

SECTION II:

- A. Secretary’s Report: 12/15/09 Accepted as written
- B. Bills: Circulated
- C. Correspondence:
 - 1.
- D. Meeting Rules:

SECTION III: PUBLIC COMMENT

SECTION IV: STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT

Ellen and Tyler reported that they will be attending the regional student advisory meeting on Friday. They said they had a good vacation and that finals will be coming up soon.

SECTION V: EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

- Special Education – Noell Somers – Mrs. Somers reviewed information on the special education population in the district. She said that special education students comprise 15.5% of our district enrollment – the state average is 13-17%. Mrs. Somers explained that autistic students are serviced in our inclusion model – she commended Patti Cullen and Ann Marie Scherpa for the wonderful job they do with this population. Mrs. Somers reported on the current enrollment of all the substantially separate programs in the district: Stepping Stones at Woodland; Crossroads at Powder Mill and AIM at the high school. Students with developmental delays, etc. are serviced in the Journey Program at Powder Mill and the Pathways Program at the high school. The maximum number of children that can be serviced in each program is twelve.
- WES Behavior Support Classroom – Kimberley Saso – Mrs. Saso explained that the Stepping Stones program was implemented last year at Woodland. Prior to this program, administration spent a significant amount of time supporting behavior intervention in the classrooms. Stepping Stones is a rigid, regimented program that is making a difference for the students enrolled. Mrs. Saso also said that two students who had been in out of district placements have been brought back to our district because this program is in place.
- Mid-Year Review & Management Plan/Goals – Dr. Barry - Dr. Barry presented his updated management plan and goals. He explained that administrators have been working with Dr. Ladd to develop our district and school improvement plans. He said he hopes to present a draft document to the school committee in March or April. Dr. Barry said that the building project is somewhat stagnant at this time because we have not heard from the MSBA – timelines will have to be adjusted. Dr. Barry said that the Southwick Board of Health is considering offering another clinic to provide the second dose of the H1N1 vaccine to students under the age of nine.

SECTION VI: POLICIES

JF School Admissions

2nd Reading

Policy JF will be voted at the next meeting

SECTION VII: ACTION ITEMS

	<u>Motion</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Abs.</u>	<u>* Reminder</u>
1. Move to approve the STRHS National Honor Society “Souper Bowl of Caring” fundraiser for the period January 25 th to January 29 th .	EM	CC	6	0	0	
2. Move to enter into a “Memorandum of Understanding” (MOU) between the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Southwick-Tolland Regional School District. This agreement defines a preliminary interest, on the part of the school district, to work toward Race to the Top program goals.	EM	CC	6	0	0	

• = Subject to Conflict of Interest Law

SECTION VIII: REPORTS

A. SUPERINTENDENT:

- 1. Home Education Proposal – Dr. Barry indicated that he approved one home education proposal prior to the vacation.
- 2. Pre-School Program – Dr. Barry informed the Committee that there is a possibility that a Granville pre-school student will be placed in our program.

B. ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS:

- 1. Assessment Ratios – Mr. Petit distributed information on proposed assessment ratios to our member towns. This information is adjusted each year and will be an Action Item at the next school committee meeting.
- 2. Regional Transportation – Mr. Petit reported that we received very good news – the Governor plans to reinstate 9C cuts to regional transportation this fiscal year. We hope to recoup approximately \$270,000. He explained that our regional transportation reimbursement is still down \$300,000 from last year – reimbursement is being funded at a 56% level.

SUB COMMITTEES:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Negotiations | C. Condron, J. Houle, T. Locke | |
| 2. Finance | G. LeBlanc, T. Locke, J. Vincent | The next finance subcommittee meeting will be held on Jan. 15 th at 8:00 a.m. |
| 3. L.P.V.E.C. Bd. Gov. | J. Vincent | |
| 4. L.P.V.E.C. Bd. Dir. | G. LeBlanc | |
| 5. Evaluation | J. Houle, B. Magni, J. McGivney-Burelle | |
| 6. Policy | J. Vincent, G. LeBlanc, B. Magni | |
| 7. Buildings & Grounds | J. Vincent, J. Houle | |

LIAISONS:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| a. Curriculum & Instruction | B. Magni, G. LeBlanc, J. McGivney-Burelle | The next IIC meeting is scheduled for Jan. 11th |
| b. Legislative Liaison | C. Condron | |
| c. SPED Liaison | J. Houle | |

SECTION IX: PUBLIC COMMENT

SECTION X: COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

A. Old Business

- B. New Business** Mr. Vincent requested that an updated expenditure report be available at the next meeting.

SECTION XI: EXECUTIVE SESSION

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PURPOSE:

- 1. Move to go into Executive Session to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health rather than the professional competence of an individual; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 2. Move to go into Executive Session to consider the discipline or dismissal of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual and to reconvene in Open Session and to re-open in Open Session.
- 3. Move to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the governmental body, and to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 4. Move to go into Executive Session to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 5. Move to go into Executive Session to investigate charges of criminal misconduct or to discuss the filing of criminal complaints; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 6. Move to go into Executive Session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 7. Move to go into Executive Session to comply with the provisions of [specify the law or grant-in-aid requirement applicable]; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 8. Move to go into Executive Session to consider and interview applicants for employment; and to reconvene in Open Session.
- 9. Move to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation and to reconvene in Open Session.

MOTION: EM ; **SECOND:** CC ;

VOTE: J.H. ; C.C. ; G.L. ; E.M. ; J.V. ; T.L. ; J.M-B.

Return to Open Session – Time: 6:38 p.m.

MOTION: EM **SECOND:** CC

VOTE: J.H. ; C.C. ; G.L. ; E.M. ; J.V. ; T.L. ; J.M-B.

Meeting adjourned: 8:01 p.m.

MOTION: EM **SECOND:** CC **VOTE:** **FOR:** 6 **OPPOSED:** 0

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Magni, Secretary

A. Dates to Remember:

January 5, 2010 School Committee Meeting
15 Pre-School Screening
18 NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Day
*20 School Committee Meeting – *PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE
25 Second Semester Begins
February 2 School Committee Meeting
3 Early Release – Staff Collaboration
11:00 STRHS
11:30 PMMS
12:00 WES
15 NO SCHOOL – Presidents’ Day
15- 19 NO SCHOOL – Winter Vacation
23 School Committee Meeting

B. Personnel:

1.

Retirements:

1.
2.

Resignations:

1.
2.

Assignments:

1.