

**SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**School Committee Meeting**

**MINUTES – October 20, 2009**

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:     0    

**SECTION II:**

- A. Secretary’s Report: 10/6/09 Accepted as written
- B. Bills: Circulated
- C. Correspondence:
  - 1. Dr. Barry informed the Committee that the Southwick Rotary recently announced that Sgt. Kevin Bishop, Kelly Magni, and John & Kathy Whalley will be honored for “Outstanding Community Service.”
  - 2. Dr. Barry informed that Committee that ethics reform legislation has been passed and will require municipal employees to take an online training course and test. This appears to be another unfunded mandate.
  - 3. Dr. Barry expects to receive information of proposed 9C budget cuts from the Governor by the end of the month. Dr. Barry said that he will work with the administrators to reach the reduced funding levels we expect.
- D. Meeting Rules:

**SECTION III: PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**SECTION IV: STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT**

Ellen Contois reported that parent conferences were well-attended. The National Honor Society held its fall awards ceremony yesterday. It was a very successful and everyone likes having the ceremony in the Fall.

**SECTION V: EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION**

Math Curriculum – Allison LeClair – Dr. Barry explained the process used to develop the Mathematics curriculum. It has been presented to the Instructional Improvement Committee and we have received input from Jean McGivney-Burelle. He explained that two addenda will be added: assessment and maintaining the CMP (Connected Math Program.) A scope and sequence is being developed. Dr. Barry said that the vote to approve the Math Curriculum will be tabled until November 3<sup>rd</sup>. A copy of the entire document will be available in the Superintendent’s Office.

Mrs. LeClair explained that district experts with specialized training in mathematics and familiarity with the frameworks were pulled together to develop the curriculum document. This new document reflects realignment with the supplement added in 2004. A significant amount of time was spent adjusting the Grade 5 curriculum. *Everyday Math* is being used at Woodland and *Connected Math* is used in grades 6-8. The high school uses the Glencoe McGraw-Hill textbook series. The new middle school textbooks will also provide for online access or cd’s that can be given to students who do not have internet access. Students who do not have home computers available will be allowed to take the textbook home. A recent student survey showed that 90% of our families have internet access.

Mrs. LeClair distributed copies of the curriculum revision cycle. She explained that English/Language Arts in under way this year. The State is in the process of revising the frameworks.

**SECTION VI: POLICIES**

GCCC	Employee Family And Medical Leave	3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading
GCCC-E	Family And Medical Leave	3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading

**SECTION VII: ACTION ITEMS**

	<u>Motion</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup></u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Abs.</u>	<u>* Reminder</u>
1. Move to approve Policy GCCC, as presented.	JH	EM	7	0	0	
2. Move to approve Policy GCCC-E, as presented.	JH	EM	7	0	0	
3. Move to approve the agreement between the Southwick-Tolland Regional School Committee and the Southwick-Tolland Computer/Network Technician for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2012.	JH	EM	7	0	0	
4. Move to accept the recommendation of the Instructional Improvement Committee to approve the updated K-12 Mathematics Curriculum.						MOTION WAS TABLED

• = Subject to Conflict of Interest Law

**SECTION VIII: REPORTS****A. SUPERINTENDENT:**

1. DESE District Accountability – Dr. Barry informed the Committee that STRSD is listed in Level 1 which is the most positive level. MCAS data will be reported in a value-added format that will show how individual students perform over time.
2. DESE Coordinated Program Review – Dr. Barry reported that our district will be submitting data electronically to the DESE for the Coordinated Program Review. The CPR covers Special Education, Title I, and ELL services.
3. Home Education Proposal – Gr. 10 – Dr. Barry informed the committee that he approved the home education proposal.
4. Mouthguard & Snow Day Practices/Games – Dr. Barry explained that he has researched the mouthguard issue. He feels that we should be consistent with MIAA and not require mouthguards but highly recommend the use of mouthguards for soccer and basketball.
5. H1N1 – Update – Dr. Barry explained that the flu wave is hitting our schools. We had a 13% absentee rate today and the numbers at Woodland are increasing. Due to the lack of available vaccine, the planned clinic has been postponed indefinitely. Jean McGivney-Burelle asked if staff members are making accommodations for students who may be absent numerous days. Dr. Barry said that he has asked teachers to be flexible – students should not be punished academically for having the flu.
6. PMMS Washington, DC Trip – Dr. Barry informed the Committee that the potential exists to include the Grade 8 students from Granville in the Powder Mill trip to Washington.

**B. ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS:**

1. Statement of Revenues & Expenditures – FY2010 – Budget vs. Actual – Copies distributed. This report reflects the line item transfer votes from the last school committee meeting.
2. Tentative Budget Calendar for FY2011 – A copy of the proposed budget calendar was distributed. Mr. Petit said that he hopes to have a first draft of the FY2011 budget to the Committee by January 19<sup>th</sup>.
3. E-Rate Reimbursement, FY2010 = \$12,523 – Mr. Petit said that we have received \$12,523 in Federal E-Rate funds.
4. FY2009 End-Of-Year Report to DESE – Informational – Mr. Petit informed the Committee that he recently filed the end-of-year report.
5. Medicare Part B – Mr. Petit reported that retirees who continue to be on our health insurance may be mandated to go on Medicare Part B when they turn 65 years of age. Legislation was recently passed which allows current employees to be grandfathered. A subcommittee meeting will be held next Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. to discuss this issue.

**SUB COMMITTEES:**

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Negotiations        | C. Condron, J. Houle, T. Locke          |
| 2. Finance             | G. LeBlanc, T. Locke, J. Vincent        |
| 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                    |

Meeting scheduled for 10/21/09

**LIAISONS:**

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| a. Curriculum & Instruction | B. Magni, G. LeBlanc, J. McGivney-Burelle |
| b. Legislative Liaison      | C. Condron                                |
| c. SPED Liaison             | J. Houle                                  |

**SECTION IX: PUBLIC COMMENT**

**SECTION X: COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

**A. Old Business**

**B. New Business**

Mrs. Magni asked about the “Readiness Centers” proposed by the Governor. Dr. Barry said that this reflects Governor Patrick’s vision of how public education should be enhanced.

**SECTION XI: EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**TIME:** 6:01 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:** \_\_\_\_\_ ; **SECOND:** \_\_\_\_\_ ;

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

Return to Open Session – Time: 6:18 p.m.

**MOTION:** JH **SECOND:** EM

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

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:09 p.m.

**MOTION:** JH **SECOND:** EM **VOTE:** **FOR:** 7 **OPPOSED:** 0

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Magni, Secretary

**A. Dates to Remember:**

October	20	Flu Clinic for Staff – 7:30-10:30 a.m.
	20	School Committee Meeting
	21	Early Release – Parent Conferences
		11:00 STRHS
		11:30 PMMS
		12:00 WES
	23	Early Release
		11:00 STRHS
		11:30 PMMS
		12:00 WES
November	3	School Committee Meeting
	11	NO SCHOOL – Veterans’ Day
	17	School Committee Meeting
	25	Early Release
		11:00 STRHS
		11:30 PMMS
		12:00 WES
	26 & 27	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving
	30	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS – Professional Development Day

**B. Personnel:**

1. Donna Colson                      PMMS    Librarian                      M6       \$44,656 prorated    Effective 10/12/09
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

**Retirements:**

- 1.
- 2.

**Resignations:**

- 1.
- 2.

**Assignments:**

- 1.