

SHAWSHEEN VALLEY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting

April 25, 2023

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Chairman Fusco at 7:02 p.m. with Superintendent-Director McIntosh and the following members present: Ms. Asbedian, Ms. Bartolone, Mrs. Gillis, Ms. Kim, Ms. Lawson, Mrs. Meuse and Messrs. Fiore, Moffatt and O'Donnell.

Also in attendance were Ms. Jenna Lesko, Business Manager; Ms. Jessica Cook, Principal; and Eli Ober and Skyla Doyle, Student Representatives.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to open the Public Hearing on School Choice at 7:04 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to close the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHOOL CHOICE 2023-2024 Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mr. Fiore, to accept Mr. McIntosh's recommendation that Shawsheen Valley Technical High School will not be a receiving district for the 2023/2024 school year for the following reasons:

- Choice would eliminate occupational/technical preferences for District students;
- Enrollment projections for the 2023/2024 school year indicate a full complement of students will be enrolling from the District;
- Maximum payment under school choice is less than the District towns pay to send a student to Shawsheen Tech.

Motion carried unanimously.

Student Representative Report

Skyla reported that term 3 had just closed and juniors going out on co-op. The senior prom is May 5th and the junior prom is May 19th. Spring sports are up and running and freshman are now in their permanent shops. Eli reported that students are heading to the SkillsUSA Massachusetts State Conference on Thursday and senior sign-out begins on May 26. The Drama Club's presentation of Bye, Bye Birdie is May 11th and 12th.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

School Committee Reorganization

Chair Fusco turned the meeting over to Mr. McIntosh as Chair Pro Tem until a Chairman has been elected.

Mr. McIntosh asked for nominations for Chair.

After accepting nominations for Chairman, Mr. Fusco was nominated by Mrs. Gillis and seconded by Mrs. Meuse, and Mr. Fiore was nominated by Mr. O'Donnell and seconded by Ms. Asbedian.

With a roll call vote, Ms. Asbedian, Mr. Fusco, Mrs. Gillis and Mrs. Meuse voted for Mr. Fusco; and Ms. Bartolone, Mr. Fiore, Ms. Kim, Ms. Lawson, Mr. Moffatt and Mr. O'Donnell voted for Mr. Fiore. Motion ended in a 6-4 vote, with Mr. Fiore assuming the role of Chair.

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to re-vote for the position of Chair to make the vote unanimous. With a roll call vote, Ms. Asbedian, Ms. Bartolone, Mr. Fiore, Mr. Fusco, Mrs. Gillis, Ms. Kim, Ms. Lawson, Mrs. Meuse, Mr. Moffatt and Mr. O'Donnell voted yes. Motion carried 10-0.

Mr. Fiore assumed the role of Chair and continued with the re-organization.

Nominations were accepted for Vice Chair:

Motion made by Ms. Kim, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to nominate Brian O'Donnell as Vice Chair.

Motion carried unanimously for Mr. O'Donnell as Vice Chair.

Nominations were accepted for Secretary:

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to nominate Ms. Lawson as Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

Nominations were accepted for Treasurer:

Motion made by Mrs. Gillis, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to nominate Ms. Kim as Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Bills and Payroll

Mr. Fusco, as the previous Chair, signed the warrants electronically after all members of the Committee had looked through them.

Legal Bills

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Ms. Asbedian, to approve the following payment for legal invoices, as presented:

Howard Greenspan 04/01/2023 \$1,677.50

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve the following payment for legal invoices, as presented:

Nuttall, MacAvoy 04/11/2023 \$2,042.50

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to approve the Minutes of March 21, 2023 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Manager Report

Ms. Lesko reported that she has received the preliminary audit for FY22 and has been working on the final product. She is meeting with department chairs and administrators to discuss their spending plans for the rest of the year. She thanked the members that came to the Finance and Ways & Means committee meetings for their support.

Mr. Fiore took the meeting out of order to discuss the School Improvement Plan under Item 13. Ms. Cook, Principal, was available to answer questions posed by members of the Committee, and after discussion,

SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENT
PLAN

Motion made by Mrs. Gillis, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to approve the School Improvement Plan as written by Ms. Cook and the School Council, and recommended by Mr. McIntosh. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. McIntosh began his report by updating the Committee on admissions. He was pleased to report that 30 students from Bedford were offered admission, with 21 out of the 30 confirming acceptance, and 9 that have not responded. With a target of 360, Shawsheen has confirmations of acceptance from 334. We are in the process of trying to enroll now, for September, incoming 10th

graders to fill vacancies in shops. There are currently 317 ninth graders and the goal is to back-fill into available shops to bring the number to 350 for sophomore year.

There are currently 213 seniors out on Co-op working an approximate total of 93,783 hours and earning \$1.5 million. There are 69 juniors that have begun their co-op placements as well.

Mr. McIntosh also reported that our ELL students are participating in the Massachusetts Seal of Biliteracy which certifies that they are fluent in more than one language which has benefits when applying to college. There are 66 students heading to the SkillsUSA Massachusetts State Conference on Thursday, with any gold medal winners heading to Nationals in Atlanta.

Subcommittee Reports

Ms. Kim, as Chair of the **Policy Subcommittee**, reported the subcommittee has had ongoing meetings and has voted unanimously to move Sections A, B and C of the Policy Manual forward for a vote by the full Committee. After questions and discussion by the Committee,

Motion made by Mrs. Gillis, seconded by Ms. Bartolone, to approve Sections A, B and C of the Policy Manual, as updated and approved by the Policy Subcommittee. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion turned to Policies DK and DGA, regarding warrant signatures, and DJE which deals with procurement and the bidding process. After discussion,

Motion made by Mrs. Gillis, seconded by Ms. Bartolone, to approve Policies DK, DGA and DJE as updated and approved by the Policy Subcommittee. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fiore, as Chair of the **Budget Subcommittee**, reported that the Subcommittee met this evening to discuss a possible capital budget adjustment as requested by the Billerica Finance Committee. The Budget Subcommittee has tabled this discussion until E & D is certified.

Mr. Fiore asked the members of the Committee to email him any requests or changes to the current Subcommittee assignments.

Old Business

Mr. Fusco reminded the group that the MASC Charting the Course for new School Committee members is being held here at Shawsheen on Saturday, May 6th from 8:00 am. – 4:00 p.m.

New Business

LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Ms. Kim, to approve the last day of school on June 21, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to approve the proposed school committee meeting dates for 2023-2024. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION TO BORROW Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, that the District Treasurer is hereby authorized, under the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 16(g), as amended by Chapter 134 of the Acts of 1972, and with the approval of the Chairman of District Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and to issue a note or notes thereof, payable within one year, and to review any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION TO SPEND Motion made by Mrs. Gillis, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, that the Superintendent-Director be given authorization to spend District funds up to the FY2024 approved budget amounts set by the School Committee, and be further authorized to purchase any materials in this fiscal year's budget that have been previously approved by the Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION TOOL Mr. Fusco went through the Superintendent Evaluation Tool, explaining the process of filling out the form. The Committee agreed to evaluate the Superintendent on the Performance Rating Standards of I-B, II-B, II-D, II-E, III-C and IV-E. Mr. McIntosh will send the group his talking points by May 5th, and the Committee will send the completed evaluations to the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent-Director by Friday, May 12th.

Future Agenda Items

1. Discussion of Audit Firms
2. Summer Retreat Date
3. Discussion of Organizational Development

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Ms. Lawson, to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Faiola
Recording Secretary

Gwen Lawson
Secretary