

SHAWSHEEN VALLEY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting

April 26, 2022

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Meuse at 7:30 p.m. with Superintendent-Director Jackson and the following members present: Ms. Asbedian, Ms. Bartolone, Mrs. Gillis, Ms. Kim and Messrs. Fiore, Fusco, Moffatt and O'Donnell. Ms. Lawson was absent.

Also in attendance were Mr. Tony McIntosh, Superintendent Director-Elect, Mr. Howard Greenspan, Attorney, and Ms. Tayla Tildsley, Student Representative.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to open the Public Hearing on School Choice at 7:32 p.m. There being no public comment,

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to close the Public Hearing on School Choice.

SCHOOL

CHOICE 2022-2023

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Mr. Fiore, to accept Dr. Jackson's recommendation that Shawsheen Valley Technical High School will not be a receiving district for the 2022/2023 school year for the following reasons:

- Choice would eliminate occupational/technical preferences for District students;
- Enrollment projections for the 2022/2023 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.

INTRODUCTION  
OF TILDSLEY  
FAMILY

Mr. Fusco introduced Tayla and Sid Tildsley, two outstanding members of Shawsheen's Wrestling team. Tayla will be graduating this year and attending Phillips Academy in the Fall, and Sid will be a sophomore, hoping to add to his current 60-0 school record.

Student Representative Report

Ms. Tildsley updated the Committee on Spring sports that are underway, with all teams doing very well. Coach Costabile was inducted into the Massachusetts Football Coaches Hall of Fame, a great honor. Students will be enjoying a full calendar of activities this spring, with proms beginning on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The National Honor Society inducted 39 students this year, and the summer programs are almost full. Seventy-one students received medals at the SkillsUSA Districts, with the State competition beginning this week.

Reorganization

Mrs. Meuse asked for nominations for Chair.

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

Mr. Fusco assumed the Chair.

Nominations were accepted for Vice Chair:

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

Motion made by Ms. Kim, seconded by Mrs. Meuse, to nominate Mrs. Gillis as Vice Chair.

Mr. O'Donnell declined the role, Mrs. Gillis accepted. Motion carried unanimously for Mrs. Gillis as Vice Chair.

Nominations were accepted for Secretary:

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

Nominations were accepted for Treasurer:

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

Bills and payroll approved.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve the Minutes of March 22, 2022 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve the Minutes of April 6, 2022 as written. Motion carried 8-0-1 with Mr. Fusco abstaining.

LEGAL BILLS

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

Howard Greenspan	04/01/2022	\$3,360.00
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Motion carried unanimously.

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

Nuttall, MacAvoy	04/11/2022	\$1,354.50
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Motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT  
HANDBOOK  
APPROVAL

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve the Student Handbook, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Jackson updated the Committee on Covid numbers at Shawsheen since the last meeting with a slight uptick in cases this week after spring break. Dr. Jackson also commended Coach Costabile on his induction into the Massachusetts Football Coaches Hall of Fame. A "Day of Beauty" is planned in Cosmetology with lunch in the Rams Head, hoping to bring people back into the building. He updated the Committee on the status of the budget, with Bedford as the first to approve at their town meeting. He will be attending town meetings in Wilmington on Saturday, Tewksbury on Monday, Billerica on Tuesday and Burlington is scheduled for May 9. Dr. Jackson displayed all of the end of year activities that will be held for students through the balance of the school year.

Subcommittee Reports

The **Facilities Subcommittee** met this evening to go over the Authorization to Submit the Statement of Interest to the MSBA. After discussion,

Motion made by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Fiore,

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on April 26, 2022, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the School Committee of the Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational Technical School District, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent-Director to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 26, 2022, for the Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School located at 100 Cook Street, Billerica, Massachusetts, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 2: Elimination of severe overcrowding;

Priority 5: Replacement, renovation, or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy-related costs in a school facility; and

Priority 7: Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements, and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational Technical School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Old Business

##### UPDATE ON SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATIVE HIRES

Attorney Greenspan updated the Committee on the Administrative hires that the School Committee has the responsibility of hiring, which include the Superintendent-Director, the Business Manager, the Director of Special Education and also approves the hiring of an Assistant Superintendent-Director and has the sole authority to hire the school physician and the school's legal counsel.

##### RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS TO APPROVED FY23 BUDGET

After discussion on the proposed changes:  
Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to eliminate the position of Supervisor of Food Services and to replace it with the unaffiliated position of Director of School Food Services. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Gillis, seconded by Mrs. Meuse, to eliminate a Guidance Counselor position and replace it with the position of Director of Guidance

Motion amended by Mrs. Gillis, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to eliminate a Guidance Counselor position and replace it with the position of Director of Guidance, and to direct the Superintendent-Director to report back to the Committee before the end of 2022 on the status. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to eliminate the position of In-School Security Monitor and replace it with the position of Assistant Principal for Students. Motion carried 7-2, with Ms. Asbedian and Mrs. Meuse opposed.

New Business

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve the last day of school on June 16, 2022 as a half day for students and a full day for staff. 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, 2022, 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. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, that the Superintendent-Director be given authorization to spend District funds up to the FY2023 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.

VOTE TO INCREASE ATTORNEY FEE

Motion made by Ms. Bartolone, seconded by Ms. Asbedian, to increase the attorney fees for Howard Greenspan to \$275/hour, as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Agenda Items

1. Quarterly Budget to Actuals


Executive Session

Motion made by Mrs. Gillis, seconded by Mrs. Meuse, to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation, Department of Labor Relations, which if discussed in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the public body. With a roll call vote, Chairman Fusco, Ms. Asbedian, Ms. Bartolone, Mrs. Gillis, Ms. Kim, Mrs. Meuse and Messrs. Fiore, Moffatt and O'Donnell voted yes. Motion carried unanimously. The Committee entered into Executive Session at 9:47 p.m. stating they would return to public session for the sole purpose of adjournment.

Motion made by Mrs. Meuse, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to adjourn at 10:03 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Faiola  
Recording Secretary

  
Cheryl Bartolone  
Secretary