

Dighton~Rehoboth Regional District School Committee
Regular Session ~ March 11, 2014

A Regular Session of the Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School Committee was held on March 11, 2014, in the Dighton~Rehoboth Regional High School library.

Present:

Richard Barrett
Christopher Andrade
Tiffany Bartholomew
Eliza Couture
Peter Hebda
David Katseff
Susan Lorenz
Raymond Medeiros
Timothy Rapoza
Janice Terry

Also:

Michael Malone, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Gail Van Buren, Asst. Superintendent of Schools
Catherine Antonellis, District Business Administrator
Kellie Fagan, Recording Secretary

Mr. Medeiros stated that the committee would enter into Regular Session at 8:50 PM.

Agenda Item #4, Vote to Approve Minutes:

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, and seconded by Mr. Hebda to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2013 Executive Session meeting. No vote taken.

It was moved by Mr. Andrade, and seconded by Mrs. Bartholomew, and VOTED to table the June 11, 2013 Executive Session minutes.

VOTE ~ AYE ~ UNANIMOUS

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, and seconded by Mr. Hebda to approve the minutes of the January 08, 2013 Executive Session meeting. No vote taken.

It was moved by Mr. Andrade, and seconded by Mrs. Bartholomew, and VOTED to table the January 08, 2013 Executive Session minutes.

VOTE ~ AYE ~ UNANIMOUS

Agenda Item #5, Bills and Payroll:

It was moved by Mrs. Lorenz, seconded by Mrs. Bartholomew, and VOTED to approve the bills and payroll as presented.

V - #22	\$116,873.95
V - #1048	\$867,914.29
V - #1049	\$ 193.42
V - #1900	\$668,686.63
V - #1901	\$ 1,133.13

Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School Committee

March 11, 2014

Regular Session

Page 2

VOTE ~ AYE ~ UNANIMOUS

Agenda Item #6, Public Input:

None at this time.

Agenda Item #7, Correspondence & Enclosures:

Mr. Malone highlighted the following correspondence:

- All correspondence will be addressed during the meeting

Agenda Item #8a, Superintendent's report:

Mr. Malone stated that all issues were addressed during the public hearing of the budget.

Agenda Item #8b, Capital Projects Task Force/ Roof Repairs Update:

Mrs. Bartholomew recommended the following:

- ✓ Both Dighton and Rehoboth voted to put the roof repair projects on their warrants ~ people need to and vote
- ✓ Need to put together an informational sheet on the roof repairs for each town meeting
- ✓ Need to put that informational sheet, recent conditions/ damages pictures taken onto our website, put in the local newspapers, and send to parents, PTA, PTSA, etc.

Mr. Hebda suggested that we highlight the projects' positive facts on the informational sheet.

Mr. Katseff reiterated that the district will only bond for our portion of the projects – not the entire amount. The district will be paid by MSBA as the projects progress. Need to vote these projects in, or we will go to the end of the line with MSBA.

Mr. Katseff addressed the Regional Agreement stipulations with respect to any one town pulling out of the regional agreement.

Mr. Medeiros stated that this would be a debt exclusion, not a Proposition 2 ½ override.

Mr. Barrett will take pictures in the schools on the Rehoboth campus.

Ms. Antonellis stated that it would be difficult to estimate a dollar amount of savings from these projects.

Agenda Item #8c, Policy Subcommittee Report:

Mr. Hebda updated the committee on the meeting held on March 11, 2014:

- Section L was reviewed tonight
- Section G will be voted later in the meeting
- Next and final meeting: March 25, 2014 (Sections K and L)

Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School Committee

March 11, 2014

Regular Session

Page 3

Mr. Medeiros suggested that any recommendations for the Residency Policy be sent directly to Mr. Hebda before March 25th.

Agenda Item #8d, Advisory Finance Committee:

Mr. Malone and Mr. Katseff updated the committee on the meeting held on March 06, 2014. The committee discussed the budget and possible new assessment alternative methodology. Their next meeting is March 26, 2014.

Agenda Item #8e, Chairperson's Report:

Mr. Medeiros updated the committee on the following:

- ✓ On March 08, 2014, Dr. Anthony Azar was offered the position of Superintendent of Schools the details of the contract will be worked on during Executive Session
- ✓ April 10, 2014 will be the CTE Awards Dinner ~ please contact Mrs. Matteson if you are interested in attending (Casey Clawson is the honoree from DR)
- ✓ Mrs. Schwall, Rehoboth Town Clerk, visited the high school to get potential "voters"
- ✓ The Cafeteria Subcommittee meeting minutes were included in the blue folders ~ Whitsons Food Services will give a presentation at the March 25, 2014 School Committee meeting

Mrs. Couture highlighted the Dighton~Rehoboth Mock Trial Team newspaper article in the Taunton Gazette; the team is doing excellent in competition(s).

Agenda Item #9a, Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Operations Position Discussion:

Mr. Andrade stressed that a facilities manager has to be in-place. The district needs the continuity of all of our schools. We need documentation of all projects performed in this district. Past documentation is lacking.

Mr. Rapoza noted that the district and towns will be spending money on school roofs, with no one to oversee and maintain our schools when the projects are complete. Mrs. Couture clarified that there will be a project manager from MSBA for roof repairs.

Mrs. Couture would like to see the final budget numbers before making a decision on this position.

Mrs. Bartholomew asked if this position would be for the current fiscal year. Mr. Malone stated that it would begin in FY '14.

Mr. Barrett asked about the "Other Expenses" line items in the budget. He stated that there seems to be an excessive amount of money in these lines, and the district could possibly take some money from these, to help fund this position.

Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School Committee
Regular Session
March 11, 2014
Page 4

Mrs. Couture asked if the committee could wait until the budget is finalized before someone is hired for that position. Mr. Malone noted that it could wait.

Mr. Katseff acknowledged that the district does need a Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Operations position; however, he suggested that the committee downsize this position to a 'Facilities Manager'. He suggested that the district cannot afford this position at this time.

Mr. Hebda noted that the committee tends to let the buildings "slide". This has caught up with the district, and it can't be done any more. Mr. Hebda would like to see a person in this position as soon as the roof projects begin.

Mrs. Lorenz noted that the job description for the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Operations has already been approved, therefore, the job title has been established.

Agenda Item #9b, CTE Director Position:

Mr. Malone will discuss this position in the budget meeting with administrators tomorrow.

Mr. Katseff stated that the full-time CTE Director's position needs to be filled. CTE is an existing program, not a new one, and he suggested that the job be posted as soon as possible.

Mrs. Lorenz requested a report on the CTE program (program needs, enrollment numbers, program growth, etc.). Mr. Malone will provide this information at the next School Committee meeting.

Mr. Andrade suggested that it is premature to get a CTE Director without knowing our enrollment figures. Also would like a report from CTE and the high-school principal.

Mrs. Bartholomew asked if a part-time employee is currently in that position. Mr. Malone stated that it is a part-time position. She asked how effective a part-time CTE Director position is working. Mr. Malone stated that this will be discussed in the administrative meeting tomorrow.

Agenda Item #9c, FY '15 Proposed Budget:

There was no additional discussion on the proposed FY '15 budget.

Agenda Item #9d, Section G of the District Policy Manual:

Mr. Katseff asked Mr. Hebda if the MASC recommendations for policies have been helpful. Mr. Hebda stated that he is confident that we have solid policies that are consistent with MASC and appropriate for the district.

Mr. Hebda noted that the Section G "Staff Evaluation" policy will need to be updated; however, the committee could vote on the current policy "as is" and then update it.

Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School Committee
Regular Session
March 11, 2014
Page 5

Agenda Item #10a, Vote to Accept Donation Requests:

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, seconded by Mr. Hebda, and VOTED to approve a monetary donation in the amount of \$29.90, from the Funding Factory, to the Dighton Elementary School.

VOTE ~ AYE ~ UNANIMOUS

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, seconded by Mr. Hebda, and VOTED to approve a donation of a Chrome Book, from Mrs. Gail Van Buren, to the district (approximate value \$280.00)

VOTE ~ AYE ~ UNANIMOUS

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, seconded by Mr. Hebda, and VOTED to approve a donation of a Chrome Book carrying case, from Mr. Ryan McDeed, to the district (approximate value \$40.00)

VOTE ~ AYE ~ UNANIMOUS

Agenda Item #10b, Vote to Approve Section G of the District Policy Manual:

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, seconded by Mr. Hebda, and VOTED to approve Section G of the District Policy Manual.

VOTE ~ AYE ~ UNANIMOUS

Agenda Item #10c, Vote to Revise the 2013-2014 School Committee Meeting Dates calendar:

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, seconded by Mr. Hebda, and VOTED to approve the revision of the 2013-2014 School Committee meeting calendar dates, by moving the April 08, 2014 meeting to April 15, 2014.

Mr. Medeiros noted that the reason is because the School Committee Reorganization meeting needs to take place after both town elections. Mr. Medeiros also noted that there may be a meeting added on April 29, 2014.

Ms. Antonellis stated that the Dighton Finance Committee meeting with the School Committee is scheduled for April 03, 2014. There is no date for Rehoboth yet.

VOTE ~ AYE ~ UNANIMOUS

Agenda Item #10d, Vote to Approve the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Operations Position:

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, and seconded by Mr. Hebda to approve the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Operations Position. No vote taken.

Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School Committee
Regular Session
March 11, 2014
Page 6

It was moved by Mrs. Couture, seconded by Mrs. Terry, and VOTED to table the vote to approve the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Operations position.

Mr. Andrade ~ Nay
Mr. Barrett ~ Nay
Mrs. Bartholomew ~ Nay
Mrs. Couture ~ Aye
Mr. Hebda ~ Nay
Mr. Katseff ~ Nay
Mrs. Lorenz ~ Nay
Mr. Medeiros ~ Aye
Mr. Rapoza ~ Nay
Mrs. Terry ~ Aye

AYE ~ 2.6 NAY ~ 6.40

MOTION FAILED

It was moved by Mrs. Couture, seconded by Mrs. Terry, and VOTED to approve the Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Operations position.

Mr. Andrade ~ Aye
Mr. Barrett ~ Aye
Mrs. Bartholomew ~ Aye
Mrs. Couture ~ Nay
Mr. Hebda ~ Aye
Mr. Katseff ~ Nay
Mrs. Lorenz ~ Aye
Mr. Medeiros ~ Nay
Mr. Rapoza ~ Aye
Mrs. Terry ~ Nay

AYE ~ 5.4 NAY ~ 3.6

MOTION FAILED

Mr. Hebda noted that there will be a septic system update at the March 25, 2014.

Mr. Andrade asked that an athletic fields presentation also be included on the March 25, 2014 agenda.

Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School Committee
Regular Session
March 11, 2014
Page 7

Mr. Medeiros stated that the committee would enter into Executive Session, as per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, for the purpose of discussing potential litigation, union issues, and security and would not return to open session.

It was moved by Mrs. Bartholomew, seconded by Mrs. Lorenz, and VOTED to enter into Executive Session as per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, for the purpose of discussing potential litigation, union issues, and security at: 9:45 PM. Roll call vote:

Mr. Andrade ~ Aye
Mr. Barrett ~ Aye
Mrs. Bartholomew ~ Aye
Mrs. Couture ~ Aye
Mr. Hebda ~ Aye
Mr. Katseff ~ Aye
Mrs. Lorenz ~ Aye
Mr. Medeiros ~ Aye
Mr. Rapoza ~ Aye
Mrs. Terry ~ Aye

MOTION PASSED

Janice Terry, Secretary