

SHAWSHEEN VALLEY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting

January 25, 2022

M I N U T E S

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Meuse at 7:34 p.m. with Superintendent-Director Jackson and the following members present: Ms. Asbedian, Ms. Bartolone, Mrs. Gillis and Messrs. Fiore, Fusco, Moffatt, O'Donnell and Peterson. Ms. Kim was absent.

Also in attendance were Ms. Melanie Hagman, Assistant Superintendent-Director/Business Manager and Ms. Tayla Tildsley, Student Representative.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Student Representative Report

Ms. Tildsley began by reporting that 35 juniors have been inducted into the National Honor Society with 70 members of NHS working on their community projects, including Lucy's Love Bus. She updated on Career Night as well as the progress of winter sports and how each team is doing to this point in their seasons. Chuck Baker, coach of Shawsheen's Boys' Hockey team reached his 200th career win.

Bills and payroll approved.

LEGAL BILLS

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

Howard Greenspan	01/03/2022	\$840.00
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Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to approve the Minutes of December 14, 2021 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Jackson updated the Committee on Covid numbers at Shawsheen since the last meeting, which had seen a spike and now a decline since the return from Christmas break. The DESE mask mandate is in place until February 28. If that were to be discontinued by the DESE, Billerica has a mask mandate in place that would supersede unless Billerica abolishes the mandate. Dr. Jackson also updated the Department of Public Health numbers on the percentage of students in the five towns that are vaccinated by age grouping.

Shawsheen is shifting its preferred strategy, along with most of the state, to make tests available to students and staff weekly. Those that opt into the program will test between 6:00 p.m. on Sunday evening and 6:00 a.m. on Monday morning and those positive tests will require that person to stay home. Almost half the staff have opted in and Shawsheen is expecting about 350-400 students as well. Contact tracing and test and stay will end on February 7.

Our recruitment efforts are ongoing with 452 applications received to date for 340 seats, of which 12 are out of district applications. Mr. Peterson asked that Ms. Lesko, Assistant Principal / Director of Data & Assessment, provide an explanation as to what we have done with the out-of-district applications.

Subcommittee Reports

Ms. Asbedian, as Chair of the **Policy Subcommittee**, reported that the group met on January 18 to continue the process of updating the Policy Manual. This will be a slow process to go through the entire Manual.

Mr. Peterson, as Chair of the **Superintendent Search Subcommittee**, reported the Subcommittee met on January 18 to look at the applications that were received. They have gone through all ten and will be interviewing three semi-finalists on Thursday at 5:00, 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. He will make a report to the School Committee Chair as to who the Subcommittee has moved forward, and feels we have three extremely qualified candidates.

Mr. Moffatt, as Chair of the **Budget Subcommittee**, reported that the Subcommittee met this evening to discuss the FY23 Capital Budget, which the subcommittee unanimously approved.

FY23 CAPITAL Motion made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve
BUDGET the FY23 Capital Budget as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.
APPROVAL

Old Business

Chairperson Meuse took a moment to recognize the outstanding work being done by Ms. Allison Cammarata, Director of Community Services & Workforce Development, in keeping Shawsheen in the news with the multitude of press releases included in the packet.

New Business

SUBSTITUTE Motion made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve
TEACHER PAY the recommended increase in the daily rate paid to substitute
INCREASE teachers as outlined in the memorandum by Superintendent-Director
 Jackson, effective February 1, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Agenda Items

1. Draft of preliminary Operating Budget to be distributed prior to the March 1 Public Hearing.

Motion made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Faiola
Recording Secretary

Kent Moffatt
Secretary