

SHAWSHEEN VALLEY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting

February 23, 2021

M I N U T E S

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Meuse at 7:33 p.m. with Superintendent-Director Jackson and the following members present remotely: Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis and Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffat. Mr. Peterson joined after the start of the meeting. Ms. Gallagher and Messrs. Gedick and Gillis were absent. Also present remotely were Ms. Melanie Hagman, Assistant Superintendent-Director/Business Manager, and Mohammadali Khalifa and Madison Fusco, Shawsheen's Student Representatives.

Chairwoman Meuse read into the record:

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, S.18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational/Technical School District Committee will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen or watch the meeting may do so by accessing the meeting link above. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Shawsheen website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Mrs. Meuse reported to the Committee that it would be Mr. McIntyre's last meeting as a member of the Committee and thanked him for his years of service.

Mr. Fusco made a motion to open the Public Hearing on the FY2022 Budget, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, at 7:36 p.m. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, and Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffat and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried unanimously. Superintendent Jackson presented a PowerPoint with his rationale for the budget increase and then Public Comment was held:

Ms. Healy from Billerica questioned the number of 504 students currently in Shawsheen and expressed her agreement that an additional support services teacher would be added. She also expressed her concerns with the Superintendent's intended reorganization of the Support Services and Guidance departments.

Ms. Norman from Billerica questioned the concerns about gender in awarding raises to female administrators and the appearance of inequity and was concerned that it could be perceived that there was a disparity to female administrators rather than years of experience.

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Ms. Asbedian, to close the public hearing at 7:55 p.m. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, and Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffat and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Student Representative Report

Mr. Khalifa and Ms. Fusco shared the report, switching back and forth to give updates on students attaining high honors and honor roll, winter sports updates and co-op and SkillsUSA participation numbers. They expressed concerns regarding remote learning and that there have been no snow days this year. They asked if any decisions have been made on holding graduation and the prom in person. Dr. Jackson reported that surveys have been sent to seniors for feedback on their plans and the administrators are working on this now.

Bills and payroll approved.

LEGAL BILLS

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

Howard Greenspan	02/01/2021	\$4,420.00
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With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Ms. Asbedian, to approve the following payments for legal invoices, as presented:

Nuttall, MacAvoy	02/08/2021	\$ 601.40
Nuttall, MacAvoy	12/04/2020	938.00
Nuttall, MacAvoy	11/04/2020	3,203.50

With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Ms. Asbedian, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to accept the Minutes of January 26, 2021, as written. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre and Moffatt voted yes. Mr. Peterson abstained. Motion carried 6-1.

Correspondence

A thank you email from Marygrace Ferrari, Mathematics Instructor, for a dish garden that was sent upon the passing of her mother.

A thank you card from Brian Considine, Culinary Instructor, for flowers that were sent upon the passing of his mother.

Public Comment

Ms. Healy of Billerica questioned whether Shawsheen could put a social/emotional piece on the Agenda for an upcoming meeting for parents/guardians to be able to access to see what is available at the school to support the students. Dr. Jackson will ask Mr. Jeff Albert, Director of Support Services, to put a presentation together for a future agenda, something that could be put onto the website with phone numbers and contact information for easy access.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Jackson commended the winter sports teams for a great season, and their parents for their flexibility.

The date has been determined for the dedication of the Coach Mark Donovan Gymnasium on Thursday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m., which will be closed to the public due to covid concerns. There will be 20-25 members of the Donovan family present, along with invited speakers. The event will be broadcast live through YouTube with formal invitations to invited friends of Mr. Donovan as well as the school committee.

Subcommittee Reports

Mr. Moffatt, as Chair of the **Budget Subcommittee**, reported that the Subcommittee met on February 4 with Dr. Jackson and Ms. Hagman to discuss the FY22 Operating Budget. The Subcommittee voted unanimously to approve the budget and recommended approval by the full Committee.

After discussion,

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to amend the proposed increases for two administrative positions to 2.75 percent each. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried unanimously.

VOTE ON FY2022
OPERATING BUDGET

Motion made by Ms. Asbedian, seconded by Mr. Fusco, to approve the FY22 Operating Budget, as amended. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

OUT OF STATE
TRAVEL REQUEST

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Ms. Asbedian, to approve the Out of State Travel Request by Business Technology for a trip to the Microsoft Office Championships in Orlando, Florida, in June, 2021. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried unanimously.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve the Program of Studies as proposed by Ms. Jessica Cook, Principal and Ms. Danica Johnston, Director of Academics, and as recommended by Superintendent Jackson. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT DIRECTOR EVALUATION

Mrs. Meuse reported that she received six evaluations for the Superintendent and the summaries were all exemplary.

Future Agenda Items

- Social Media policy review by Policy Subcommittee
- Draft 2021-2022 School Calendar
- Italy Trip for April, 2022

Executive Session

Motion made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations and to conduct bargaining with non-union personnel which if discussed in open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the public body. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis and Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. The Committee entered into Executive Session at 9:25 p.m. stating they would return to public session for the purpose of making two votes.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 9:39 p.m.

CAFETERIA CONTRACT RATIFICATION

Motion made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Ms. Asbedian, to ratify the agreement with the Shawsheen Cafeteria workers beginning September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried unanimously.

CLERICAL CONTRACT RATIFICATION

Motion made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Ms. Asbedian, to ratify the agreement with the Shawsheen Clerical workers beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Fusco, seconded by Ms. Asbedian, to adjourn at 9:41 p.m. With a roll call vote, Chairwoman Meuse, Ms. Asbedian, Mrs. Gillis, Messrs. Fusco, McIntyre, Moffatt and Peterson voted yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Faiola
Recording Secretary

Taryn Gillis
Secretary