

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Board Of Trustees Meeting

Minutes of the 158th meeting held October 20, 2005 at 100 Longwater Circle, Norwell, MA.

Notice of this meeting was sent to appropriate governmental agencies and press, and was published in the "South Shore Charter Public School Update".

Trustees:

In attendance: Kathy Arthur Tyler (Chair), Miriam Brownwall (Vice Chair), Michael Nuesse (Treasurer), Bill Smyth (Clerk), Hannah Connolly, Jessica Engebretson (ex officio), Barbara Fournier, Robert Gass, Dorothy Galo, Leslie Jubinville (ex officio), Charleen Tyson.

In absentia: Hannah Connolly, Matthew Lind, Stephen Locke, Dominic Slowey, Frank White

Also in attendance:

Staff: Mike Munhall (Executive Director), Kristine Shipp (Business Manager), Claire Overlee (FASA Rep/Title 1 Director), Ron Larrivee, Tom Gorsuch, Howard Bean

Guests: Joel Aronson and John Buckley (Alexander, Aronson, Finning – Auditors), Laurie Rumpf (Vice Chair Parents Association)

Chair called the meeting to order at 7:13pm.

Agenda: Add discussion regarding school trips. D. Galo announced that the law is that the Board needs a policy regarding trips but that approval of each individual trip may not be necessary and left to the discretion of Head of School.

Announcements and Calendar Events:

- Next scheduled Board meetings Thursday, November 17th and Thursday, December 15th.
- Retreat was successful, goals due by November 9th.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: B. Smyth. To approve the minutes to the 157th meeting as presented. Seconded M. Brownwall, motion carried unanimously.

Open to the Audience: no report

FASA: Claire Overlee introduced herself as the FASA representative to the Board and announced Shelley Toleno will lead FASA this year.

Parents Association: Laurie Rumpf, (Vice Chair) reported.

- Fundraising Committee working on the upcoming Auction.
- Fee based after school programs are being offered. Science, Games/Mazes, Chess Club, etc.
- Volunteer committee is putting together the names of the parents interested in volunteering for specific areas.

Business Office: Michael Nuesse reported.

- M. Nuesse introduced Joel Aronson and John Buckley from Alexander Aronson Finning Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors.
- Joel Aronson provided the Board with an overview of the audit for FY05.

- The Auditors report included a statement of the financial condition of the school with recommendations that may be considered to be implemented.

MOTION: M Nuesse to approve the audit as presented with one minor change in the bonding and insurance recommendation (which has been implemented) and approve this audit as final for the FY05 School Year. B. Gass seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Report: Mike Munhall reported.

- Enrollment is a moving target. Currently at 467 students. Have gone through High School waitlist as many of the 8th grade students gave late notification of their not returning for 9th grade. The 9th grade students that were on the waitlist had accepted openings at other schools
- Amendments have been presented to the DOE. One change would be raising enrollment cap to 540. This would give School some leeway in accepting at lottery. Amendment should be heard at the next DOE meeting.
- The October 1 report will be filed shortly.
- Program addition – Will Glennon has the Athletic Department up and running. The school is partnering with the YMCA in Hanover for gym/field use. SSCPS now has its first soccer time and has begun games in the Charter School League.
- Status of the renovation of the Bio/Chem lab. Plans are ready, however, there are snags over the use of chemicals and their disposition. Working with builders and town officials. If all is ready will start construction during December vacation.
- Annual Report was distributed to the Board members. South Shore VoTech printed the 2005 Annual Report through a new partnership with the school.
- The school is planning several trips. The International Cultural Exchange Workshop is planning a February trip to Honduras. H. Bean presented the details of the trip to the Board.

MOTION: B. Gass to accept the recommendation of the Head of School for the trip to Honduras as presented. B. Smyth seconded, motion carried unanimously.

- Claire Overlee presented initial interest in a trip to Italy during April vacation. The tour would be directly related to the curriculum of the 6th and 7th grade student.

MOTION: B. Gass take under advisement, Board supports concept. Need more information.

- 8th Grade trip to Montreal. This trip has been the traditional end of 8th grade trip. D. Galo has contacts with tour group for this trip.

MOTION: B. Gass to accept the recommendation of the Head of School for the 8th Grade Montreal trip. C. Tyson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

- More trips will be presented at the next Board meeting.
- Refer the Trip Policy back to Governance.

MOTION: B. Smyth. The Governance Committee recommends that the Board rescind the Acceptable Use Policy that was included in the Student Handbook and reinstate the Acceptable Use & Internet Safety Policy previously approved policy of 2003.

Academic Report:

Ron Larrivee, Director of Learning Services, was introduced to the Board. R. Larrivee reported on the state of the Learning Service Department.

- Currently there are 77/78 students that the Learning Services staff is working with.
- The department is tracking the students on a newly installed software system, which handles IEP's, and 504 students.
- The Director and staff are working on the review of last years Coordinated Program Review. Final action plan and remedies will be finalized by the end of November with a package being forwarded to the DOE.

- At the 1st Professional Development Day the Learning Services Director conducted seminars for the faculty on classroom management and student behavior.
- The Special Educations PAC (parent advisory council) have begun meeting.

Governance Committee: B. Smyth reported

- The committee has been working on a state mandated student records policy.

MOTION: B. Smyth to approve the recommendation of the Governance Committee and approve the Student Records Policy with the Interim version of Section 5 part C as stated on the DOE website. B. Gass seconded, motion carried unanimously.

- The Governance Committee distributed a draft of the Building Maintenance and Use Guidelines for the Boards review. The committee will submit a final version for vote at the next Board meeting.

Executive Session:

MOTION: B. Gass to enter into Executive Session at 9:00pm. It was moved and voted upon by unanimous roll call, individual voice vote, to enter Executive Session for purpose of Real Estate negotiations.

At 9:05 pm Executive Session adjourned back into Open Session.

Minutes of the Executive Session are in the possession of the Clerk.

It was Moved and Voted unanimously to adjourn the Open Meeting at 9:06pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Bill Smyth, Clerk
Pam Algera