



MINUTES
Virtual Board of Directors' Meeting
JANUARY 20, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by the Chairperson of the Board, Mr. William Fonseca. The following were present:

Board of Directors: Mr. Carmino Mineo, Agawam
 Mr. William Fonseca, East Longmeadow
 Ms. Michelle Emirzian, Hampden-Wilbraham Regional
 Ms. Bronwyn Monahan, Longmeadow
 Mr. Jacob Oliveira, Ludlow
 Ms. Pamela Petschke, Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional
 Mr. William Garvey, West Springfield

Collaborative: Mr. Roland Joyal, Jr., Executive Director
 Ms. Anna Bishop, Director of Finance

2. A public forum was offered. There were no comments from the public.
3. Mr. Mineo moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Ms. Petschke seconded. On a roll call vote, the following voted YES: Ms. Emirzian, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Petschke, Mr. Mineo, Ms. Monahan, and Mr. Fonseca.
4. Mr. Joyal reported that job descriptions more than 5 years old will be updated to keep current. The Municipal Reimbursement department has submitted their revisions which are enclosed this evening for review. Ms. Emirzian requested that an attorney review before approval.
5. Mr. Joyal proposed to revise the vacation usage policy. Currently, staff have until August 15 to use any vacation time that cannot be accumulated. The 25 staff affected have been informed of the proposal. This year, the date will be rolled back to July 30 and then a report to the Board in the fall. Any issues will be taken into consideration in the interim. Ms. Emirzian moved to approve the policy revision as presented. Ms. Petschke seconded. On a roll call vote, the following voted YES: Ms. Emirzian, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Petschke, Mr. Mineo, Ms. Monahan, and Mr. Fonseca.
6. In the absence of a full-time special education director, three staff have been receiving stipends to assume additional responsibilities of that role. The stipends had only been approved until December 31th. Mr. Joyal requests that the Board extend until the end of the fiscal year, June 30th.

LOWER PIONEER VALLEY EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE
174 BRUSH HILL AVENUE, WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA 01089 PHONE 413-735-2200 FAX 413-735-2280

Mr. Mineo moved to continue stipends for the acting special education team as presented. Ms. Petschke seconded. On a roll call vote, the following voted YES: Ms. Emirzian, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Petschke, Mr. Mineo, Ms. Monahan, and Mr. Fonseca.

7. FY22 Educational stipends were included as part of the preliminary budget but are listed separately for the Board's information. Mr. Joyal noted that the FY22 preliminary budget was presented last week to both superintendents and business managers.

Mr. Oliveira joined the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Ms. Bishop reviewed each cost center noting a 2.5 percent COLA with an overall increase of 2.34 percent over last year. The FY22 budget will be finalized and voted on in June.

8. Ms. Bishop reviewed current revenues over expenditures noting that not all quarters have been billed.
9. Ms. Bishop reviewed current special education revenues noting that referral numbers have increased.
10. Mr. Oliveira moved to enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and also litigation as an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Board. Ms. Petschke seconded. On a roll call vote, the following voted YES: Ms. Emirzian, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Petschke, Ms. Monahan, Mr. Oliveira, Mr. Mineo, and Mr. Fonseca. Executive Session began at 7:22 p.m.

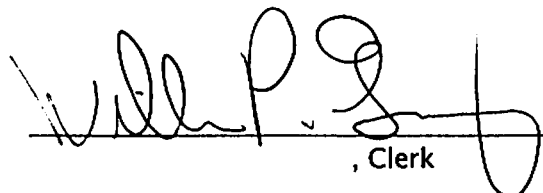
Open Session resumed at 7:32 p.m.

Ms. Petschke moved to adjust the first three steps of the current bus monitor salary schedule to bring rates to the \$13.50 minimum wage effective January 1. Mr. Oliveira seconded. On a roll call vote, the following voted YES: Ms. Emirzian, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Petschke, Ms. Monahan, Mr. Oliveira, Mr. Mineo, and Mr. Fonseca.

Mr. Joyal had previously informed the Board that Brush Hill programs are operating remotely this week due to pandemic issues. He anticipates in-person learning will resume on Monday.

Ms. Petschke moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mineo seconded. On a roll call vote, the following voted YES: Ms. Emirzian, Mr. Garvey, Ms. Petschke, Ms. Monahan, Mr. Oliveira, Mr. Mineo, and Mr. Fonseca. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

2/25/2021
(date)


, Clerk