



Maine Region Ten Technical High School

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NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the Cooperative Board. Such action, either to approve or amend and approve, is anticipated at the April 27, 2015 meeting.

MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2015 BOARD MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: David Johnson, Janet Connors, Karin VanNostrand, Jeffrey Wolkens, James Grant, John Morang

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Brenda Clough, Sarah Singer, Dee Carrier

SUPERINTENDENTS PRESENT: Paul Perzanoski, Brad Smith

PRINCIPALS PRESENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Barry Lohnes, Director; Cindy Hutchins, Assistant Director; David Smith, General Trades Instructor; Greg Quinlan, Educational Technician/Information Technology Coordinator

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Janet Connors
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Agenda Adjustments – None
4. **Minutes of the February 23, 2015 Board meeting passed of members present.**
5. Public Comment
David Smith, General Trades instructor addressed the Cooperative Board regarding Superintendent Perzanoski's statements on changing governance at Region Ten Technical High School in light of Director Lohnes' retirement June 30, 2015. Mr. Smith reported the Region Ten staff whole-heartedly supports looking into changing governance and the possibility of a Superintendent/Director. The staff is also excited by the possibility of Region Ten becoming a Comprehensive High School and supports further investigation. Mr. Smith also requested clarification that the discussion of a work agreement in Executive Session at the February meeting did not pertain to the RTTA contract. He was assured the discussion and action pertained only to non-teaching support staff as stated in the February, 2015 minutes.

Old Business:

New Business

6. Budget to Actual February 28, 2015
Director Lohnes reported revenues exceeding expenditures. The weather has caused automotive issues and has required outside help with salting and sanding. The staff will continue to work diligently to conserve funding.
7. Finance Committee Report
Director Lohnes stated the Finance Committee reviewed the current draft of the 15-16 Budget and presents it to the Board. The Finance Committee is requesting a 2% increase with no new staff or programs and a reduction of the Firefighting I & II instructor position from .6 to .5. The Finance Committee believes the requested amount in the minimum to meet Region Ten Tech's needs so the school can meet the needs of the students. The proposal needs to be presented to the public and to district Boards for approval of district assessments.

Chairperson Connors requested tentative approved of the 2015-16 Operating Budget in the amount of \$2,076,290.00

Vote: Unanimous of members present

8. Public Budget Hearings
Motion: David Johnson
Second: Jim Grant
Vote: Unanimous
To: Set the Public Hearing dates/times for the Tentative Region Ten Technical High School 15-16 Operating Budget for Monday, April 6, 2015 – 5:00 PM at MSAD75 District Office and 6:00 PM at Region Ten Technical High School

9. 2015-16 School Calendar

Director Lohnes presented the proposed Region Ten Technical High School 2015-16 Calendar. Director Lohnes stated the calendar is the weighted average of the sending schools with only three dissimilar days between the districts, less than the allowable five per state statute. Director Lohnes pointed out that the dissimilar days were similar among two of the three sending schools.

Chairperson Janet Connors asked if two of the three schools was the rule for school cancellation in the case of inclement weather as well. Director Lohnes stated it happens infrequently that all three schools are not in agreement regarding weather related school cancellation, but there was one instance this winter when Region Ten opened to educate students from RSU5 though both Brunswick and MSAD75 had cancelled. Ms. Connors questioned whether the Policy Committee should look into writing a policy to make cancellation of Region Ten mandatory when two of the three sending districts cancel. Jim Grant stated he felt school cancellation should be left to the administration. David Johnson, Jeff Wolken and Karin VanNostrand agreed with Jim Grant. Superintendent Perzanoski referred the Board to a handout of a 2016 and 1017 calendar. Mr. Perzanoski said the length of the Winter Break I is determined in part by when Christmas Day falls. Winter Break I is expected to be shorter in length for the next two years as the Christmas holiday falls on a Sunday/Monday. Superintendent Perzanoski requested the Board table the vote on the Proposed 2015-16 Calendar as there remains a question regarding the weighted average that requires further investigation. Chairperson Connors declared the topic tabled.

10. SIT Committee Report

Director Lohnes reported that despite the weather, the SIT Committee has been extremely productive focusing on school renovation, changing governance and visitations to Comprehensive High Schools in Massachusetts. Mr. Lohnes brought the Board's attention to a handout highlighting areas of three Comprehensive High Schools the SIT committee is interested in sending SIT Committee and Region Ten Tech staff to visit: Worcester Technical High School, Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School and Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School. The Director feels making Region Ten Tech a Comprehensive High School is an exciting concept involving a lot of change, yet the staff is up for the challenge.

11. Evaluation Committee Report

Director Lohnes introduced Assistant Director Cindy Hutchins who made the report. The Evaluation Committee presented a draft Professional Evaluation and Professional Growth System to the Board. The committee created the PE/PG on the Charlotte Danielson model and has aligned it to meet the new state requirements. The system has been addressed with the whole staff at two separate in-services and was built with assistance from Mary Paine from the Department of Education. The state requires Board approval of the Professional Evaluation and Professional Growth System. The Evaluation Committee requests feedback from the Board on the draft and will present the final copy for approval in June. Jim Grant requested the Board be sent an electronic copy.

12. Facilities Update

Roof Failing: Director Lohnes reported the roof work done in the fall was a band-aid for a larger issue and it is time for the Board to look at total roof replacement. A competitive price for a full replacement of a rubberized roof with demolition and removal of the current roof stands at around \$375,00.

Security Alarm Failure: The Protection One Security Alarm, which is at least as old as the building, recently failed. Region Ten invested \$998 from the Maintenance Account for repair including \$200 for an upgrade to the system so it can grow with the potential renovation of the building.

ADA Compliance: The Early Childhood Education program is grandfathered allowing placement on the second floor. The program needs to be moved to the ground floor with direct outdoor egress to meet ADA requirements. Plans for a move to the ground floor with an adjacent outdoor play area are a part of the renovation plans.

13. Director Search

Superintendent Perzanoski directed the Board's attention to a handout highlighting the current Director salary/compensation package and outlining the consideration of governance restructure to a Superintendent/Director position. Mr. Perzanoski covered five factors in how a Superintendent/Director would better benefit Region Ten Tech: Streamline communication between Staff and Superintendent; Provides the Cooperative Board with their own employee; Streamlines the hiring practices; Relieves any possible perception of a conflict of interest, especially around budget development; Places the three sending district Superintendents in an advisory role. Superintendent Perzanoski also stated a change in governance is an important step in turning Region Ten Tech into a full day comprehensive program.

Karin VanNostrand asked what the pool is in Maine for qualified individuals. Mr. Perzanoski stated with superintendent certification, an individual should be able to fill any educational position. It would be important for the individual to have some CTE or trade background. Director Lohnes remarked a well-structured search could attract prime candidates to the area.

Ms. VanNostrand asked when the Board needed to make a decision. Superintendent Perzanoski stated the opportunity has presented itself so now is the time for investigation. If the Board wishes to entertain the possibility he suggests hiring an interim for the 2015/16 school year, noting someone needs to be at the helm on July one.

Ms. VanNostrand questioned if the recommendation for governance change to Superintendent/Director would be different if the Board's decision was not to pursue a change to a Comprehensive High School. Superintendent Perzanoski said the decision would be the same.

Chairperson Connors asked if the change would require serious policy re-writing. Superintendent Perzanoski stated there would be minimal changes to the Cooperative Agreement.

Ms. VanNostrand asked if the Finance Committee had looked at the possibility and questioned if a 10% increase in the Compensation Contract would be enough to attract an interim Director. Mr. Perzanoski stated the 10% increase would only be for the change to a Superintendent/Director. The Finance Committee has not yet looked at the numbers; the Board needs to first make the decision to address the proposal.

Motion: Jim Grant

Second: Karin VanNostrand

Vote: Unanimous

To: Continuing investigating a change in the governance of Region Ten Technical High School from Director to Superintendent/Director

13. Director's Report

a. SkillsUSA – Eight students participated in the State SkillsUSA competition in Bangor on March 6th. All students represented Region Ten very well and we are proud of all students. Tyler Walter (MTA) earned a gold medal in Auto Collision Refinishing, Marian Newby (BHS) earned silver in Action Skills Demonstration, Alyssa Caouette (FHS) earned bronze in Restaurant Service, and Shelby Fraser (BHS) earned bronze in Customer Service. Tyler Walter will be competing at the National level in Kentucky this summer.

b. National Technical Honor Society – Many students were nominated by Region Ten Instructors this year and fifteen made the first cut. Board members will be sent formal invitation to the installation ceremony anticipated in April.

c. Rotary Recognition – Two students were honored in February by the Brunswick Rotary for their commitment to community service. Zoe McCrary (BHS) and Alyssa Neilson (FHS).

d. FAFSA Workshops – The last of three scheduled FAFSA workshops was completed March 11, all were very successful helping a record number of Region Ten students complete the financial form. The workshops are sponsored through Region Ten's MELMAC grant.

e. Scholarships – The 14-15 school year has seen more students than ever applying for a variety of scholarships.

f. Composites – Ten students are participating in a Composites Program which is a collaboration between Region Ten Tech and Southern Maine Community College. To participate in the intensive six week program, students needed to complete an application and pass the Accuplacer. Successful completion of the program awards three credits at SMCC. Funding for the program is through grants from the Maine Composites Association, Perloff Family Foundation, Maine Space Grant Consortium and the Maine Community Foundation.

g. MDOE 5 Year Check-In – The Administration has filled out the necessary forms and sent requested information to the MDOE regarding the 5 year check-in. Region Ten has accomplished a high proportion of the recommendations made by the 2010 team.

14. Communication
None

15. Meeting adjourned to no objection at 7:20 PM