

**TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Minutes – October 26, 2016

Mr. Trask, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

***Members Present:***

Steven Trask, Chairman, Franklin  
David Bento, Medfield  
Adeline Bee, North Attleboro  
Paul Carbone, Franklin  
Jonathan Dowse, Sherborn  
Louis Hoegler, Walpole  
Linda Reynolds, Medway  
Janice Young, Walpole  
Robert Wilkinson, Plainville

***Members Not Present:***

Douglas Brown, Seekonk  
Donna Cabibbo, Vice Chair, Millis  
Robert Guthrie, Secretary, North Attleboro  
Kathi Hamilton, Norfolk  
Victor Knust Graichen, Wrentham

***Others Present:***

Steve Dockray, Superintendent  
Michael Procaccini, Principal

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Ms. Young and seconded by Mr. Hoegler that the minutes of the September 21, 2016 School Committee meeting be approved as submitted.

*Motion passed unanimously.*

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Dockray introduced Ms. Beckmann, Academic Coordinator and Title I Coordinator, and Mr. Pedersen, Math Instructor and Title I Instructor.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Mr. Trask apologized for not being able to attend the postponed meeting scheduled for the previous week.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

No report at this time.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

***Open House***

Mr. Dockray reported that the second annual Showcase Spectacular was held October 1, indicating approximately 500 attendees. Interactive activities were offered in all vocational labs; computers were made available for prospective students to complete online applications; lunch was prepared. In addition to the teachers and administrators involved, Mr. Dockray acknowledged Jess Silva, PR Specialist, for her efforts in publicizing and organizing this event.

***Career Day Visits***

Mr. Dockray indicated 1,752 eighth graders from 10 of our 11 districts will visit during Career Days on October 27 and 28. He noted that Franklin does not send its eighth graders to these scheduled days, however, Tri-County guidance personnel visited Franklin middle schools on October 18/19/20.

***Mass Insight Rally & Legislative Breakfast***

Mr. Dockray reported that the Mass Insight Rally was held on September 30. Senators Spilka and Ross, and Representatives Roy, Fernandez, Poirier, and legislative aides, were in attendance.

After the Rally a brief presentation was made regarding the Core Renovation Statement of Interest that Tri-County filed recently with the MSBA.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (continued)**

### ***Mass Insight Rally & Legislative Breakfast (continued)***

Mr. Dockray reported that Senator Spilka offered to write a letter of support for the Core Renovation application containing signatures from their delegation. Mr. Dockray anticipates that this letter will have a positive impact on the application process.

### ***Advanced Manufacturing Event***

Mr. Dockray reported that as part of Manufacturing Month, Tri-County partnered with Representative Roy and held an Open House for local manufacturers and legislators on October 25. Representative Roy is soon to be head of the Manufacturing Caucus. Attendees visited Tri-County's Advanced Manufacturing Lab where students demonstrated equipment recently obtained through state grants. The event was attended by several legislators, manufacturers and Wentworth Institute.

### ***Massachusetts Skills Capital Grant***

Mr. Dockray reported that Tri-County has received confirmation of eligibility for a letter of intent to participate in the FY17 Massachusetts Skills Capital Grant Program. Mr. Dockray explained that the focus of the grant would be the purchase and installation of equipment to support a potential new Chapter 74 bio-medical program, if Tri-County were to proceed in that direction. Potential maximum funds would be \$500K. Mr. Dockray indicated space requirements are a major factor in deciding whether or not to proceed.

Ms. Reynolds noted that it is important that we take our involvement seriously in this up and coming field.

In response to a question, Mr. Dockray indicated that Construction Craft Laborers is being phased out due to low interest. The concerns are having the ability to increase space in the short term while preserving our place with MSBA.

### ***Tri-County Education Foundation***

Mr. Dockray reported he sent out 21 letters to local businesses, former school committee members, former teachers, parents and advisory committee members, requesting their participation in the foundation. Two additional members have committed as a result. Mr. Dockray anticipates a meeting sometime in November.

### ***Taste of the Region***

Mr. Dockray reported that the Taste of the Region, hosted by the Taste of the Region, took place on October 25 at Tri-County.

### ***NSBA Conference***

Mr. Dockray reminded members that the NSBA Conference is being held March 25-27, 2017 in Denver and to please contact Jeanne Terrell if they are interested in attending.

### ***Other***

Mr. Hoegler mentioned that the Walpole School Committee recently agreed to apply for \$150M new high school and it is possible that the state has already visited the current high school. Mr. Dockray indicated that is why he believes any help we can get from our own legislators is important in our quest.

## **POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Reynolds reported that she and Mr. Carbone met with Chris Beaton to discuss the Substance Abuse Plan which needs to be filed with the state October 28. Ms. Reynolds indicated that during the discussions, the Plan was streamlined. Information not included in the filed policy would be items that are not necessary in a policy such as curriculum, standing orders, etc.

Ms. Reynolds indicated that given the deadline, the subcommittee recommends to file a draft, streamlined version of the policy. The intent would be to review the full policy again to approve a permanent version.

## **POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT (continued)**

Ms. Reynolds explained that there is basically no policy change from Tri-County's current policy, it is just a document change.

In response to a question Mr. Dockray explained that there is probably no penalty for late submittal. And Ms. Reynolds indicated that the streamlined version would be minus the appendix A and B, and the standing orders.

Mr. Dockray also advised that the policy will be provided to the DESE by way of a link to Tri-County's website.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilkinson and seconded by Mr. Bee that the Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School Substance Use Prevention, Deterrence and Intervention Plan be adopted as modified and in draft form.

*Motion carried with one opposed.*

## **SKILLSUSA PRESENTATION**

Due to the re-scheduling of the School Committee meeting, the presentation could not be made on this date.

## **REPORT ON 2016 MCAS RESULTS AND PROGRESS PERFORMANCE INDEX**

The following highlights were noted when reviewing the MCAS presentation:

Ms. Beckmann and Mr. Pedersen reviewed Tri-County's MCAS results and Progress Performance Index, noting that the goal last year of moving more students from Proficient to Advanced in ELA was accomplished while keeping the same 4% for Needs Improvement and 0% Failing. Ms. Beckmann noted that the Math Advanced dipped a point to 47%; jumped in Needs Improvement from 12 to 15%; Failing decreased from 4 to 2%. While almost half of the students received Advanced scores, Ms. Beckmann indicated she will be working on the 15% Needs Improvement.

Ms. Beckmann noted that the push on Biology last year had been successful with the increase in Advanced scores to 32% (from a low of 16%).

Mr. Pedersen was pleased to report that Tri-County is still performing well compared to the state in all areas, quite significant considering our special education population. Mr. Pedersen indicated that when compared to other vocational schools in the state for overall performance, Tri-County is rated 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Pedersen indicated that Tri-County ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Math with all vocational and agricultural schools in the state, and 10<sup>th</sup> for overall performance. In addition, Tri-County has the most advanced scores of any vocational school in the state in ELA; in Biology, Tri-County ranks 7<sup>th</sup>; for Advanced scores Tri-County ranks 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Ms. Beckmann also noted that Tri-County has once again been classified as a Level I school and she is very proud of staff and students on their hard work.

Mr. Pedersen indicated that the current sophomore students will still take the current MCAS Exam and the new MCAS 2.0 would be the graduation requirement in English and Math for the Class of 2020. The expectation is for the test to be computer-based by the year 2019. DESE also anticipates to provide viable feedback on whether the students are on track for having successful transition out of high school. However, it seems that they are also looking at trying to continue the current type of MCAS for another year as they don't appear to be ready to move to the 2.0 on schedule. They will also be taking a vote as to whether to shift the tenth grade test to the eleventh grade or include a test for both tenth and eleventh graders in the future so there are a lot of factors that are still to be determined about the MCAS changes.

**REPORT ON 2016 MCAS RESULTS AND PROGRESS PERFORMANCE INDEX (continued)**

Mr. Trask thanked Ms. Beckmann and Mr. Pedersen and noted that the numbers are very good and all involved should be commended.

**REPORT ON OPEB TRUST MEETING**

Mr. Roy reported that the OPEB Trustees met on October 19, 2016, and voted unanimously to adopt the Trust Agreement which had been previously approved by the School Committee.

Mr. Roy also reported that the Trustees discussed how to move forward with the funds that will be contributed to the OPEB Trust, and voted to recommend to the School Committee to authorize the Trustees to establish an account at Rockland Trust.

A motion was made by Ms. Young and seconded by Ms. Reynolds that the School Committee authorize the request of the OPEB Trustees to establish an account at Rockland Trust for the OPEB Trust.

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**STUDENT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS**

Mr. Procaccini requested that members approve an overnight field trip for 20 CIS students to travel to Avalanche Game Studios, New York City, on November 8-9, 2016. Mr. Procaccini indicated the funds for this trip will come from the App Challenge Award earned during last school year.

A motion was made by Ms. Young and seconded by Ms. Bee that the School Committee Approve an overnight field trip for CIS students to New York City, November 8-9, 2016.

*Motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Procaccini requested that members approve an overnight field trip for nine SkillsUSA students and two chaperones to attend the State Fall Leadership Conference in Marlborough, November 19 - 22, 2016.

In response to a question, Mr. Roy indicated that the money for this trip would be taken from the revolving account.

A motion was made by Ms. Young and seconded by Mr. Dowse, that the School Committee approve an overnight field trip for nine students to attend the SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference, November 19-22, 2016.

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT TREASURER**

Mr. Roy reported that Ms. Cabibbo informed him that she would not be able to fulfill the duties of Assistant Treasurer and regretfully requested to be removed from that position. Mr. Roy asked if any members were interested in filling the vacancy and added that he had a conversation with Ms. Hamilton who conveyed her willingness to serve in that position.

In response to a question, Mr. Roy indicated that the Assistant Treasurer serves as backup to the Treasurer if he is unable to do so.

A motion was made by Ms. Young and seconded by Ms. Bee that the School Committee appoint Kathi Hamilton as the Assistant Treasurer.

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**DISCUSSION OF WARRANTS**

Mr. Roy reported that the Warrant Subcommittee had been contacted since the last School Committee meeting for the purpose of signing warrants covering routine payroll obligations, and other miscellaneous items in the amount of \$904,170.62.

Description	Amount	Description	Amount
Operating Warrant # 35	\$35,746.10	Operating Warrant # 45B	\$91,443.68
Operating Warrant # 36	\$264,712.53	Operating Warrant # 46	\$19,895.83
Operating Warrant # 37	\$11,628.87	Operating Warrant # 47	\$35,854.80
Operating Warrant # 37A	\$91,234.40	Operating Warrant # 48	\$1,014.00
Operating Warrant # 38	\$2,117.34	Operating Warrant # 49	\$29,765.00
Operating Warrant # 39	\$264,662.75		
Operating Warrant # 40	\$4,288.50	Payroll Warrant # 7	\$497,830.53
Operating Warrant # 41	\$3,529.26	Payroll Warrant # 8	\$500,875.37
Operating Warrant #42(PYE)	\$38,815.40	Activity Warrant # 1	\$375.00
Operating Warrant #43(PYE)	\$360.00	Activity Warrant # 2	\$300.00
Operating Warrant # 44	\$32,527.28	Activity Warrant # 3	\$225.85
Operating Warrant # 45	\$14,863.17	Activity Warrant # 4	\$1,507.00
Operating Warrant # 45A	\$82,578.44	Activity Warrant # 5	\$2,876.10

**TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIRPERSON 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING**

In response to a question, Mr. Procaccini indicated that construction craft students are working on a project for the Franklin Police Department. Other town projects are being completed in-house.

It was suggested by Mr. Hoegler that if Mr. Knust Graichen is unable to travel to the Cape to accept his award, that arrangements be made to present it to him locally, perhaps with someone from MASC in attendance. Ms. Reynolds and Mr. Dockray will follow-up at the Conference.

With regard to the Emeritus Chairman honor Mr. Carbone reported that Mr. Rappa’s daughter, Jodi, said that Mr. Rappa was very appreciative of the honor bestowed upon him.

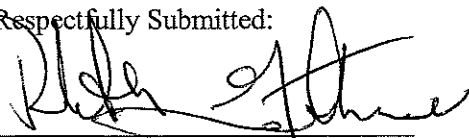
**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Dowse and seconded by Mr. Hoegler that the School Committee meeting be adjourned.

*Motion carried unanimously.*

The School Committee meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
 Robert Guthrie, Secretary