

ESSEX NORTH SHORE AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 27, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: G.R. Harvey, Essex, Chairman  
M. Patterson, Department of Agriculture, Vice Chairman  
L. Bonfanti, Peabody, Secretary  
L. Siewko-Story, Department of Agriculture  
D. Blake, Beverly  
R. Fravel, Danvers  
D. Ketcham, Hamilton  
P. Anderson, Lynnfield  
M. Sweeney, Marblehead  
E. Weitzler, Middleton  
B. Perkins, Rockport  
T. St. Pierre, Salem  
W. Jackson, Swampscott  
C. Robinson, Topsfield  
W. Nichols, Wenham

MEMBERS ABSENT: Boxford  
Department of Agriculture  
M. Teixeira, Gloucester  
J. Sabella, Manchester  
Nahant

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. O'Connell, Superintendent-Director  
M. Znamierowski, Business Manager  
C. Worth, District Treasurer  
T. Rodolico, Technology Director  
K. Nigro, PMA Consultants  
C. Levesque, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The recording secretary called the roll. It was noted that a quorum was present.

2. Tentative Regular Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2014 for Approval

A motion was made by Dr. Patterson and seconded by Dr. Story and VOTED to approve the Tentative Annual Meeting Minutes of January 16 2014 as amended. Abstentions: Mr. Fravel, Dr. Anderson and Mr. Robinson.

Delete – D. Porteous, Beverly. Add D. Blake, Beverly

A motion was made by Dr. Patterson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to move Item 6a) 1:1 Technology Presentation.

6a. Ms. Rodolico, Director of Technology, presented a 1:1 Student iPad Initiative for Essex Technical High School. The goal of this initiative is to develop and sustain a program that will provide each student in grades 9-12 with a personal learning device that they are able to use at home as well as at school. Equity of access is taken into consideration by providing financial options according to the family's income.

One plan includes a district cost for management and App fees providing exclusive use of the personal device with school sanctioned apps. Textbooks will be provided by the district.

A no-cost, non-take home option exists to allow families to opt-out. In that case the student will use a district funded iPad in school but will not have one to take home. Hard copies of textbooks will be available. The operational budget would not allow us to sustain this program at no cost to the family.

Ms. Rodolico addressed questions and/or comments from the members of the School Committee.

3. Business Manager's Report

A motion was made by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve the Balance Sheet of January 31, 2014 in the amount of \$10,606,972.48 and place on file for audit.

A motion was made by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve the January 2014 Profit and Loss and place on file for audit.

4. Owner's Project Manager Report – Mr. Kevin Nigro

Mr. Nigro reported that the transitioning the animals (cows and small animals) into the New Animal Barn went smoothly.

Mr. Nigro reported on the construction status of each of the buildings.

- Building D roof ice and water shield complete.
- Building E (Auto Tech & Collision) roof 98% complete, siding 45% complete.
- Building G steel delivery scheduled for January 15, 2014 (Phase I). The majority of underground plumbing and electrical is complete.
- Painting continued throughout Buildings A, B, C and gym.
- Electrical and mechanical contractors continue installing lights, registers, grilles and chilled beams in ceiling grip.
- Gilbane working with drywall contractor to increase manpower in Building Section D to recover schedule.
- Gilbane working with electrical contractor to recover schedule from delay in pendant light fixture delivery.

Mr. Nigro reported that the School Building Committee met earlier and requested a schedule update from Gilbane to kick off a final push to the finish. They will walk through every area of construction for risk assessment. At this time, three areas of the building are a week behind in the construction schedule.

Request to Award (RTA)

A motion as made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mrs. Weitzler and VOTED unanimously to approve awarding the following construction packages as recommended by the School Building Committee to:

Litania Sports, Sand Trap Cover in the amount of \$3,976.00

Bay State Building Specialties, Projection Screens in the amount of \$19,000.00

Costello Dismantling in the amount of \$1,791,000.00. Cost overrun reconciliation (In scope or out of scope) to be determined by District Sub-Committee

Authorizations to Proceed (ATP's)

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mrs. Weitzler and VOTED unanimously to approve the Out of Scope ATP's totaling \$82,260.00 and Gilbane "Change Order Number 7 (CO #7), as recommended by the School Building Committee.

Gilbane Co. Requisitions - #21

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve Gilbane Co. Requisition #21 in the amount of \$3,221,700.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

### Invoices

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve Designpartnership of Cambridge Invoice #10832 in the amount of \$81,384.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve Designpartnership of Cambridge Subcontractor Invoice #10833 in the amount of \$110.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

### 5. Communications

There were no communications.

### 6. Superintendent-Director's Report – Mr. O'Connell

#### CIC Grant

Mr. O'Connell reported that the district was awarded a CIC Grant in the amount of \$125,000.00. This grant will be used for establishing a Regional Technology Infrastructure for the new district. Mr. O'Connell commended Ms. Rodolico, Mr. Spano, Mr. Marino and Mrs. Rancourt for their efforts in securing this grant. To date the district has been awarded almost 1 million dollars in grants.

#### Legislative Breakfast

Mr. O'Connell reported that a Legislative Breakfast was held on February 24, 2014 asking for their support for the Sports Complex to be constructed on the grounds of the new school. A Bill has been filed with the House of Representatives and then will be forwarded to the Senate.

#### Merger Transition Plan Update

The Merger Transition Plan was distributed to members at this meeting. Mr. O'Connell stated that the Plan will be reviewed and updated by administrators at their weekly Principal meeting.

Dr. Patterson stated that he was impressed to see so many items that have been "completed" and he appreciated the follow through by the administration.

#### Negotiations Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that AFSCME had a informational meeting with North Shore Tech's secretarial, custodial/maintenance and cafeteria staff. There has been no communication from MTA or AFT. Mr. O'Connell reported that legal counsel will file a petition with the Department of Labor that there is no one to negotiate with from MTA or AFT.

#### Healthcare Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that he has received proposals from the Massachusetts Bay Health Care Trust and GIC. He is waiting for a proposal from MIIA.

#### 501(c)(3) Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that he is working with a business that has expressed an interest in partnering with Machine Technology. At this time, he would rather not name the business. Mr. O'Connell stated that there is a possibility there may be a business partnership with Cosmetology.

"Save the Date" Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup> for the Golf Tournament at Ferncroft Country Club in Middleton.

#### North Shore and Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce Presentations

Mr. O'Connell reported that he is presenting an update on the new district at the North Shore Chamber of Commerce Executive Breakfast Meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Peabody. Over 200 businesses,

government and community leaders are expected to attend. The focus for this meeting is “Innovation Economy – Filling the Jobs of Tomorrow Today.” Mr. O’Connell will present an update regarding the new district at the second annual “Focus on Education” Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce Caucus on March 7<sup>th</sup> at Gorton’s in Gloucester.

Mr. O’Connell reported that he is negotiating with representatives from North Shore Community College, Northern Essex Community College and Salem State University to rent space in the buildings that will be vacant at Essex Aggie. Also, a child care business has expressed interest in renting space.

Mr. Harvey asked about admissions for the 2014-15 school year. Mrs. Skinner stated that 369 students were conditionally accepted and the remaining applicants were placed on the wait list. The conditionally accepted students have to reply by March 7<sup>th</sup> if they intend to attend and verification of their address. If she does not receive a response she will replace that students spot with a wait listed student. Mrs. Skinner stated that they will accept transfer students next year in grades 10 & 11.

7. New Business

Mrs. Sweeney stated that Representative Speliotis was recently appointed to a new committee for safety in schools.

8. Old Business

There is no Old Business to report.

9. Sub-Committee Reports

**Finance & Property Sub-Committee**

Mr. O’Connell reviewed the list of “Unknowns” regarding the FY15 Budget.

A motion was made by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Weitzler and VOTED unanimously to approve the FY15 Preliminary Budget in the amount of \$28,500,000.00, as recommended by the Finance & Property Sub-Committee

Mr. Robinson asked why the Committee is approving the FY15 Budget this evening. Mr. Harvey answered that the towns need their assessments for town meetings.

There was no meeting of the **District Policy Sub-Committee**. Dr. Patterson reported that MASC has delivered the draft Policy Manual, which was generated by MASC. Dr. Patterson will put a preliminary process in place before the Sub-Committee reviews in April.

10. Warrant

A motion was made by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to accept the warrant of February 27, 2014 and place it on file for audit.

11. Executive Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. St. Pierre to enter into Executive Session to strategize for contract negotiations with Union personnel and to reconvene in Open Session.

A roll call vote was taken to enter Executive Session.

YES – Dr. Story, Mr. Blake, Mr. Fravel, Mr. Ketcham, Dr. Anderson, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Weitzler, Mr. Bonfanti, Mr. Perkins, Mr. St. Pierre, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Nichols, Dr. Patterson and Mr. Harvey  
NO – None

YES – 15                      WEIGHTED – 26

NO – 0

WEIGHTED – 0

Motion Carries Unanimously.

The Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School Committee entered Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

The Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School Committee returned to Regular Session at 9:02 p.m.

12. Adjourn

A Motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Perkins and VOTED unanimously to adjourn.

Mr. Harvey, Chairman, declared the meeting adjourned.

The Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School Committee adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

Meeting handouts: Merger Transition Plan Status as of February 27, 2014  
“Unknowns”

*All reference documents and reports are filed in the Superintendent-Director's office.*