

UPPER CAPE COD REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 13, 2011 MEETING HELD AT THE SCHOOL

PRESENT: Robert Fichtenmayer, Vice-Chair (Acting Chair); Joseph Agrillo; Penny Blackwell; Steven Chalke; Eunice Manduca; Kent Pearce; Edmund Zmuda; Kevin Farr; Robert Dutch; Sharon Brito, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

STUDENT ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE: No student representative was present and no report was available.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Ms. Blackwell, seconded by Mr. Zmuda, for approval of the minutes of the September 8, 2011 regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: The Superintendent read a letter from the Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent/Principal indicating her intention to retire on August 1, 2012.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES: Mr. Chalke, Treasurer, reported that the Budget Sub-Committee's next meeting is scheduled for October 24th at 5:00 p.m.

MASC REPORT: Ms. Blackwell reported that the Northeast Regional meeting of the National School Boards' Association will be held in Hyannis over the upcoming weekend.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Chalke reported on several bills that were of a significant amount including payments for the transportation contract, textbooks, the 2011 Ford F250, the county paper bid, and two new vans. He stated that the new procedures for the signing of the accounts payable and payroll warrants appear to be working well.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Farr asked the committee if there were any questions regarding the written report that was included in the mailout. He informed the committee that he and Mr. Dutch are attending a special MAVA legislative meeting tomorrow regarding the pending bills which could affect vocational education. Also, Mr. Dutch has been inducted as a member of the Bourne Financial Development Corporation, replacing Mr. Farr.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mr. Dutch reported that the fall sports programs are well underway. He updated the committee on their progress, stating that the football team just recorded their first varsity win against Harwich. Mr. Dutch also provided an update on the construction of the LPN building, reporting that they now have the permit in hand to finish the building to completion. The original permit was only for the foundation. The walls will begin to be installed next week. Mr. Agrillo then mentioned Policy FE which states that the School Committee is the Building Committee. He then inquired as to how the school is handling concussions, citing that there are 300,000 cases in schools per year, 141,000 of which seek treatment at a hospital. Of those cases, 17% show signs of dementia later in life. Mr. Agrillo asked if we have the appropriate staff to deal with this. Mr. Dutch responded that we have a trainer on site for all games and practices. Mr. Agrillo suggested that we check with other schools to make sure that the schools our students travel to for away games have the same safety precautions in place and a defibrillator on site.

PTO REPORT: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

PN Accreditation Update – Mr. Farr reported that the visiting team is still scheduled to visit the school in the spring.

Athletic Handbook – Mr. Dutch reminded the committee that this document was reviewed at the September meeting and minor edits were suggested and incorporated following that meeting. Ms. Blackwell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zmuda, for approval of the Athletic Handbook as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Program of Studies – Mr. Dutch stated that this document was also reviewed last month and minor edits were made. Mr. Pearce thanked Mr. Dutch for bringing this document before the School Committee and asked that this be done on an annual basis. Mr. Chalke suggested putting the document onto the school's website. Ms. Blackwell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zmuda, for approval of the Program of Studies as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

MCAS Presentation – Mr. Dutch provided a Power Point presentation of the results of the MCAS testing which was administered in the spring. He showed a score comparison for the past four years. The ELA advanced and proficient numbers have increased, while the needs improvement and failing numbers have decreased. Unfortunately, the Mathematics numbers aren't quite as impressive. There is little change in the Biology numbers.

Policy – Initial Approval / Policy JIE – Pregnant Students – Ms. Blackwell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zmuda, for initial approval of Policy JIE – Pregnant Students as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Visits to the School by School Committee Members – Mr. Agrillo stated that he has been in communication with staff members at the Massachusetts Association of School Committees and they informed him that School Committee members do not have to check in when they enter the campus, only if they enter the building. He stated that the policy should be changed to reflect that. Discussion ensued regarding the LPN building that is under construction. Mr. Pearce expressed concern that he has not seen specifications or plans for the project. Mr. Forget will make that information available to those interested and a meeting of the Building Sub-Committee will be scheduled.

Legislation re: Technical Education – Mr. Dutch explained that there were four pieces of proposed legislation included in the meeting packet.

- Senate Docket Number 00213, which the district is opposed to as it handcuffs the School Committee and limits their ability to put money into extraordinary maintenance.
- House Docket Number 01082 which has three components to it; all of which the administration is in favor of. It gives the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education the authority to approve new programs without legislative approval. The second component allows for the addition of one representative from vocational education to each of the Boards of Examiners for the various technical areas. Currently, there is no representation from vocational education. The third component of House Docket Number 01082 would allow for a commission to be formed to investigate the feasibility of authorizing public vocational-technical high schools to award post-secondary associates degrees.
- House Docket Number 00173 mandates the accreditation of secondary graphic communications education in vocational and technical schools. The district is in support of this.
- House Docket Number 00134 calls for separate MCAS exams for special education and vocational students. The district is opposed to this.

Other – Mr. Pearce expressed concern about the recent purchase of a turf vehicle for the Landscaping shop, stating that it was a lot of money to spend on such an item. He stated that he feels that purchases need to be looked at more closely. Mr. Agrillo

added that he would like to see the purchase amount needing School Committee approval to be lowered from \$12,500 to \$7,500.

Mr. Agrillo commented that anything relating to the school is public record. He went on to state that he had asked Mr. Farr for a log sheet of his hours and had not received it. Mr. Farr explained that he doesn't keep a log of his hours, just a calendar of his meetings, conference and appointments. Mr. Agrillo replied that he was looking for something that showed Mr. Farr's use of vacation and sick time. Mr. Farr responded that he didn't realize that was what Mr. Agrillo was asking for and that he would provide him with an attendance report right away.

November Meeting Date - Ms. Blackwell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Agrillo, to change the date of the November meeting to November 17th due to a conflict with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees annual conference which a number of committee members are attending. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Blackwell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Chalke, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:45 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.

A True Copy Attest

Date: _____
(Seal)

Kevin C. Farr, Secretary