

WILLIAM M. DAVIES, JR. CAREER AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
50 Jenckes Hill Road, Lincoln, RI 02865

Board of Trustees

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 14, 2008

Minutes were approved at the April 10th meeting.

I. Routine

A. **Call Meeting to Order**

At 8:15 am, Dr. Segovis called the meeting to order.

B. **Roll Call of the Board**

Davies' Executive Assistant called the roll of the Board.

Members Present: Richard Beaupre; James Bone; Raymond Chartier; Larry Gemma; V. Michael Ferdinandi; John Gregory; Carolyn Kyle, *Vice-Chairperson*; John Nardolillo; Dr. James Segovis, *Chairperson*

Members Absent: Robert Halkyard; John Quinn; Robin Smith

Others Present: Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Cheryl Carroll, Bernie Blumenthal, Susan Paquin, Joanne Andrews, Judy Valentine, Susan Tierney, Adrienne Noelte, Frank Barcellos, Lynn Tait-Romano

C. **Approval of Minutes** – January 9, 2008 Regular Session Minutes

Mr. Gregory made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2008 Regular Session, Mr. Beaupre seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

D. **Recess to Executive Session Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42.46-5 (A) (1) and (2) to Discuss Pending Litigation and Personnel Issues**

At 8:16 am, Mr. Gregory made a motion to recess into Executive Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42.46-5 (A) (1) and (2) to discuss pending litigation and personnel issues. Mr. Ferdinandi seconded the motion and all were in favor.

E. **Return to Regular Session**

At 9:26 am, Mr. Gregory made a motion to recess out of Executive Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42.46-5 (A) (1) and (2) to discuss pending litigation and personnel issues. Mr. Ferdinandi seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Mr. Gregory made a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session; Mr. Ferdinandi seconded the motion; and all were in favor.

Mr. Gregory made a motion to nominate Robert Boisselle to the Board of Trustees; all were in favor. His resume will be submitted to the Board of Regents and we are still waiting to hear the status of Mr. Ortiz's nomination. We have heard nothing

since we submitted his resume back in December. Dr. Segovis has two more names of parents and he will pass them by the Nominating Committee.

Dr. Segovis announced to the audience that a vote was taken in Executive Session on the non-renewal notices. People will be notified as the normal process dictates.

- F. **Opportunity for Audience to Comment**
No comments were made.

II. Business Agenda

- A. **Finance Report** –*Cheryl Carroll, Business Office Coordinator*
Report was given in Executive Session.
- B. **Human Resources Report** - *Joanne Andrews, Human Resources Coordinator*
There are a couple of hires: Diagnostic Prescriptive Teacher/Special Education and a Special Populations Parent Liaison both beginning Feb. 24th. An offer has been made for the School-to-Career Coordinator position.
- C. **Nominating Committee** – *James Segovis, Chair*
There was nothing else to report other than the vote that was taken during Executive Session on the nomination of Mr. Robert Boisselle and the status of the Regents' approval on Mr. George Ortiz.
- C. **Approve Davies Graduation by Proficiency Appeals Process** – *Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Director*
(See Supplemental Material: “Davies Graduation by Proficiency Appeals”.
At the December meeting Mr. Quinn had some questions about the role of the Board of Trustees in this appeals process. He was not comfortable voting on it until the Board's role was better defined in the document. The document was revised for the January meeting but because a quorum was not present, a vote could not be taken. Mr. Quinn is satisfied with the document as it is now written. Dr. Segovis said it is a lot clearer and it addresses Mr. Quinn's comments, which Dr. Segovis thought was very appropriate. It solidifies what the Board's position is and is much clearer for anyone who will read this on what will happen.

Mr. Gregory made a motion to approve the “Graduation by Proficiency Appeals Process” as is amended; Mr. Ferdinandi seconded the motion; and all were in favor.

III. Informational Time/Program Updates

- A. **Director's Report**
1) **Teachers' Association** – *Frank Barcellos, President of the Davies Teachers' Association*
Mr. Barcellos asked Mrs. Garrick-Garrick if she was going to hand out the non-renewal notices the same way she has done in the past. She answered affirmatively and then Mr. Barcellos asked how many there were: two on grants and four that are not for a total of six.

He then informed the board that the Director gave Mrs. Noelte and him a copy of a letter drafted by the Board and signed by Dr. Segovis and Mrs. Kyle outlining the board's opposition to the Governor's furlough days for

the teachers. He stressed that it was another example of how the union and the administration are on the same page and speaks of the good relationship between the two groups. He will never stop saying it is because of Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick's good leadership.

He also had an opportunity to join Ms. Carroll and Mrs. Andrews in testifying before a Senate sub-committee. Fortunately not a lot of questions were directed toward our end so hopefully that is good news. He thanked the Director for giving him that opportunity.

Dr. Segovis reiterated the appreciation the Board has of the teachers and staff for all of the work they do. The letter represents what the Board thinks in that we want our best teachers in the classroom and this does not help education and we are here for the kids.

2) **Teacher Assistants' Association**-Lynn Tait-Romano, President
No report was given.

3) **Commissioner's Review: Status of Fall 2007 Submission** – Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Director
(See Supplemental Materials: January 29, 2008 Letter from RIDE addressed to the Director and the action plan)

This letter, signed by the Commissioner, states that Davies' High School Diploma System was granted preliminary approval based upon alignment, access and opportunity, literacy, and personalization. The Commissioner's Review in 2010 will result in full approval if it meets all of the criteria. Included in the letter is a list of items that need continued attention during the 08-09 school year to prepare for that review. Out of the 36 districts, 9 did not get full or preliminary approval. for example, Exeter, West Greenwich, Burrilville, Cumberland, Providence, Woonsocket, Cranston, School for the Deaf. We worked long and hard to get to this step in the process.

The action plan is what we are currently working from to move this school to full approval, Regents' Diploma, which RIDE commended us on the direction we are going in as it relates to curriculum development, making sure students have the opportunity and access to all the courses we offer as well as getting them prepared for the assessment testing. There have been a lot of changes in the high school regulations which, once it is approved, the Director will give the Board a presentation of those changes. One of the changes is the Regents' is moving toward using more weight of the state testing scores. Originally it was 0%; then it was changed to 10%, and now they are looking at 33%.

4) **Professional Development Day – Jan. 25th**– Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Director

The workshops offered addressed some of the objectives found in the action plan. One of the requirements of proficiency in the core content areas is technology and to do that the teachers have to be proficient in technology in order to embed it in classroom instruction. Susan Tierney, Chair of the Technology Committee, did a teacher technological assessment workshop during PDD to assist her in working toward getting the teachers proficient.

The rest of the day was spent on two other things. Teachers worked on their curriculums and embedding the Grade Span Expectations into them; looking at assessments, etc. We also had the first Reading Day, which is for the Senior Project research papers that ties into one of the multiple measures required by the new High School Diploma System. The teachers involved in that gave some positive feedback. It was an excellent experience getting an opportunity to review what the students' interests are and how it relates to their technical areas. The paper had to be on an extension of their learning. The next step is the finished product related to the paper, for example, a group of Culinary students is coordinating a fundraiser dinner on March 14th. They are putting on a whole event for the evening. Everyone is invited.

5) **Other**

—(*See Supplemental Material: Pawtucket Times article, "Go to the Head of the Class"*) A Pawtucket Times reporter interviewed the Director, Bernie Blumenthal, some teachers and students about the US News and World Report article awarding Davies the Bronze Award, one of six high schools in RI to be recognized as either Bronze, Silver or Gold. The Director wants to recognize the teachers and the students for this accomplishment, but she first has to look at how she is going to fund it.

—Bernie Blumenthal passed out a "Save the Date" notice for the "Business Partnership in Education Breakfast" on Wednesday, May 7th, at 8:30-9:30 am. This is an annual event the School-to-Career Office puts on to acknowledge the fine work and commitment to Davies from the business partners by awarding certificates to each of the companies. They also award the students certificates for the work-based learning and award two companies "Business of the Year" with certificates and citations from the Governor's Office. Hopefully some trustees can attend to help handout the certificates and shake hands with our partners. As the event gets closer, invitations will be sent out.

Dr. Segovis appreciated everyone who came to the meeting this morning; a quorum was present and was able to conclude some business. The meetings will be kept to the second week of the month, shifting between Wednesday and Thursday and aim towards an evening meeting in May to give parents an opportunity to attend the meeting. We should invite them and do something that we don't normally do.

IV. Adjournment:

At 9:45 Dr. Segovis adjourned the meeting and all were in favor.

V. Next Meeting:

March 12, 2008, at 8:00 am