

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

Board of Trustees

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

I. Routine

A. **Call Meeting to Order**

At 5:10 pm, Mr. Ferdinandi, Chairperson, 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; Timothy Csanadi; V. Michael Ferdinandi, *Chairperson*; John Gregory; Carolyn Kyle; Michael Marra; Dr. James Segovis, *Vice Chairperson*; Lornette Uthman

Members Absent: Robert Halkyard; Deborah Lopes

Others Present: Brian Butler; Cheryl Carroll; Catherine Collins; Vickie Gailliard; Susan Paquin; Vicki Phelps; Vincent Ragosta; Frank Barcellos; Jerome Egan

There was a moment of silence in memory of the Board's friend and colleague, Mr. Domenic Mitchrone.

Mr. Ferdinandi spoke with some of Mr. Mitchrone's family members and they were extremely appreciative and recognized the number of Board members and staff who attended the services. Board members would like to do something formally to recognize Domenic's achievements and his service to the Board and school; therefore the Board directed Ms. Gailliard to come up with some ideas that would be a tribute to him, and to bring them to the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Beaupre offered to do a plaque and Dr. Segovis suggested a scholarship.

C. **Approval of Minutes** – March 2, 2005 Regular Session

A motion was not made to accept or not accept the March 2, 2005 minutes; therefore, it was deferred until the May 4th meeting.

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 5:14 pm, 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. Beaupre seconded the motion and all were in favor.

E. **Return to Regular Session**

At 5:45 pm, 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. Dr. Segovis seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Mr. Gregory made a motion to keep the minutes of the Executive Session confidential. Ms. Kyle seconded the motion and all were in favor.

F. **Opportunity for Audience to Comment**

There were no audience comments.

II. Business Agenda

A. **Finance Report**

The finance report took place in Executive Session.

B. **Human Resources**

The human resource report took place in Executive Session.

III. Informational Time/Program Updates

A. **Director's Report**

1) **Teachers' Association**

There was nothing to report except Mr. Egan hopes to continue the fine relationship with the Board and both unions. It was so noted by Mr. Ferdiandi.

2) **Teacher Assistants' Association**

There were no Teacher Assistants' Association representatives present.

3) **SkillsUSA—State Competition** – Ms. Gailliard

Davies won 14 gold medals at the state SkillsUSA competition. The total gold medals we won is more than the total statewide. Overall, we won 32 medals, 25% statewide. 17 students are going to Kansas to compete nationally.

Mr. Ferdinandi stated that our excellence is raising to the point now that we need to start doing press releases. There is an awful lot of good that goes on and he isn't sure we get recognition for it. He will also send a note from the Board to each of those shop teachers. Mr. Gregory asked Ms. Gailliard while she brainstormed about Mr. Mitchrone, if we could possibly establish some type of Domenic Mitchrone award to the gold winners or something for his passion in making sure our students excelled, "Technical Excellence."

A newspaper article came out today in the Providence Journal on our basketball student, Tephania Malone. Carolyn Thornton, a sports writer for the journal, came in and interviewed Tephania, a result of her being selected by the RI High School Girls Basketball Association as this year's Most Courageous Player.

Mr. Ferdinandi also mentioned the article on Coach Suggs. He thought it was a good article when Coach Suggs basically made a stand on the competition in high school athletics. Where do you draw the line between trying to teach good sportsmanship and skills, and winning at any cost? He would like these articles circulated to the Board.

4) Professional Development Day – Ms. Gailliard

There are four professional development days every year. There is one scheduled on May 4th, which coincides with Teacher Appreciation Day. They will be provided a luncheon and a small token of appreciation from the Board and the administrative staff. A couple of workshops are scheduled. These workshops are always focused on the improvement of teaching and learning and student outcomes. One workshop is academic looking at improving student achievement through the inclusion model. Inclusion is pairing up Special Needs or ESL teachers with regular education teachers within a regular education classroom and teaching the students to the same standards maybe using different types of instructional strategies to put forth the same content information. The entire school will be attending this workshop. This is the model IDEA and the reauthorization of the regulations, is looking for. We did it this year with the ninth grade and we are looking to include the 10th grade next year.

The other workshop will be on part of the high school regs. with the new high school graduation requirements and the multiple measures to determine a measure of performance, and looking at how we can tie the English Language Arts and the Mathematics throughout those measures of proficiency as well. The measures are on exhibitions, senior projects, as well as portfolios

The third workshop hasn't been decided yet. Ms. Gailliard asked for the Board's advice on possibly doing something on the role of the union in high schools in general and what the benefits are to working at Davies. Mr. Ferdinandi believes the day-to-day relationship between the union and the administration is very positive based on the fact there are no grievances, which speaks for itself. The Board's opinion wasn't favorable so Ms. Gailliard will have to think of something else for the third workshop.

5) 05-06 9th Grade Admissions—Ms. Gailliard

The 9th grade admissions went extremely well. We did our lottery on April 1st and we had 319 students qualify for the lottery from districts we service. The number of slots available for each district is based on a formula. We accepted 205. We have a waiting list for students from Central Falls (12) and Pawtucket (102) like we do every year. We only took 205 because of the uncertainty of the budget. If it passes we will go down the waiting list and take an additional 40-50 students. Only two students from Providence out of 11 qualified from the first round of testing.

6) Other

a) *April 2005 Issue of the Patriot Newsletter*

The theme of the month is on 9th grade final technical program selection and some of the work-based learning sites our school is currently involved in. School-to-Career office is doing a great job getting the students out to job shadowing, internships, or co-op placements.

b) *Education Reform Workshop*

Catherine Collins thanked the union for inviting the Director and her to this workshop on education reform. Basically, the goal was to get all sides talking about what is happening in education reform. In attendance were school committees, all teachers' unions, and administrative staff who were all invited by their immediate local union officers. It was at the Weston and it was a fantastic opportunity to really bond with our union. She wanted to thank the union because it was a very hopeful experience.

Mr. Barcellos thanked the Director and the Board for the opportunity to go to the House Finance Committee to speak our case for the budget even though they didn't get the opportunity.

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. 6:00 pm, 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. Beaupre seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Return to Regular Session

At. 6:45, Mr. Gregory made a motion to return to Regular Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42.46-5 (A) (1) and (2) to discuss pending litigation and personnel issues. Mr. Bone seconded the motion and all were in favor.

In Executive Session there was an unanimous vote to accept the Director's recommendation to suspend Mr. Gerald Barnabe, a teacher.

A motion was made to keep the minutes of the Executive Session confidential.

Mr. Ferdinandi asked for a report on how many students applied, how many students were accepted, matriculation rate through the process, and how many students graduated for the last two years.

IV. Adjournment: At 6:50 p.m., Dr. Segovis made a motion to adjourn and all were in favor.

V. Next Meeting May 4, 2005