

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, December 7, 2005

I. Routine

A. **Call Meeting to Order**

At 5:24 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; V. Michael Ferdinandi, *Chairperson*; Robert Halkyard; Carolyn Kyle; Michael Marra; Dr. James Segovis, *Vice-Chairperson*; Lornette Uthman

Members Absent: James Bone; John Gregory; Deborah Lopes

Others Present: Victoria Gailliard; Susan Paquin; Joanne Andrews; Judy Valentine; Cheryl Carroll; Larry Gemma, Prospective Board Member

C. **Approval of Minutes** – November 2, 2005 Regular Session Minutes
A motion to accept the minutes of the November 2nd meeting was made by Mr. Halkyard, Mrs. Uthman 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 5:25 pm, Mr. Halkyard 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. Dr. Segovis seconded the motion and all were in favor.

E. **Return to Regular Session**

At 5:58 pm, Mr. Halkyard 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. Beaupre seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Dr. Segovis made a motion to keep the minutes of the Executive Session confidential; Mr. Marra seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Mr. Halkyard made a motion to accept the nomination of Mr. Gemma as a trustee member to be forwarded to the Board of Regents for approval, Dr Segovis seconded the motion and all were in favor. Another motion was made and all were in favor to make Mr. Gemma an advisor so that he may attend the meetings up until the time the Board of Regents notifies us that they approved his appointment.

- F. **Approval of Minutes** – November 2, 2005 Regular Session Minutes
Mr. Beaupre made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 2nd meeting, Mr. Beaupre seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

II. Business Agenda

- A. **Finance Report**- Cheryl Carroll, Business Office Coordinator
The biggest thing on her plate right now along with the Facility Coordinator's is the renovation of the Aquaculture Building to house two additional classrooms to accommodate the increase of student enrollment.

There is a sizable amount of unused funds last year given to us to take in 60 more students: 40 from Providence and 20 off of our waiting list. Unused funds have to go back to the State and we asked if some of it could supplement this year's budget to complete the renovation because we do have the 60 additional students on board. The State ultimately approved the carryover of \$250,000 for this project.

This is huge to us especially with the projected, sizable deficit. It is a real battle to get carryover money that the State does not like to give up. We have been doing the right things, which helped tremendously toward our credibility and they understand we do not ask for anything we truly don't need. It will be two additional classrooms for two teachers who are now housed in the dregs of the basement that really are not appropriate for any kind of long-term classroom instruction. Mr. Ferdinandi thanked Ms. Carroll for the great job she did in obtaining those funds.

As an FYI, we acquired two AED units (cardiac defibrillators). They have been making the news since the sudden death of a Lincoln High School athlete. She had a kick off meeting with some key personnel, one being the school nurse who is certified to be able to use the units and train the other staff, and with the vendor who sold us the units. One unit will be stored in the gymnasium area for athletics and the other will be in the nurse's office. We are hoping the nurse will be certifying other staff members who are already certified in CPR.

- B. **Human Resources Report**

This report took place in Executive Session.

- C. **Nominating Committee Report** – Mr. Halkyard

The committee will be sending its recommendation of Mr. Gemma's nomination to the Board of Regents for their timely approval, but in the meantime, he will be an advisor to the Board so that he can attend the meetings.

There are three or four other additional recommendations that have come to the Nominating Committee. Hopefully they will be interviewing all three or four of them between now and the end of the year in order to make recommendations to the Board at the January meeting.

III. Informational Time/Program Updates

A. Director's Report

1) Teachers' Association

There were no Teachers' Association representatives present; therefore, there was no report.

2) Teacher Assistants' Association

There were no Teacher Assistants' Association representatives present; therefore, there was no report.

3) Governor's Press Conference—Ms. Gailliard

On the 9th of November Davies hosted the rollout of the State Assessment results and statewide performance classifications. It was quite an exciting event. Both Mr. Ferdinandi and Dr. Segovis attended the conference as well as members from the Dept. of Education and the Legislation. There were a lot of accolades made about Davies and they are continuing to do so everywhere she goes. The Governor speaks very highly of Davies. The staff was so proud. It was a historical time in the history of Davies. When she was walking the Governor to the library, she learned it was he who selected Davies as the host site. He was very impressed with Davies and with what we are doing. He will continue to be a supporter of Davies.

Mr. Ferdinandi thought it was great how he took the time to answer the press's questions. It is quite evident that he is a promoter of education. The Dept. of Ed. also informed Ms. Gailliard that Davies will be a "Board of Regent's Commended School" once again this year.

4) Enrollment Data – Mr. Butler

(See Supplement: "Enrollment by Technical Area, School Year 2005-2006")
Report data was broken down by technical area, community, and the special populations we serve (ESL, ECO, 504). ECO is a Davies' acronym for Enrichment and Career Opportunities for those students on IEP's because on the report cards we cannot put Special Education.

AODI is the Academy of Digital Imaging and there is only four students in that program because changes have been made to the particular teacher who will be doing the special projects and meeting those technology proficiencies. Instead of limiting AODI to students interested in the program, all the students throughout the school will be get some instruction related to digital imaging as part of the portfolio piece.

Last year Ms. Gailliard divided the computer technology program into two separate programs, Academy of Information Technology and Business Computer Technology. This year the numbers have increased in those two programs and hopefully by the end of Freshmen Exploration in March, there will be an increase in the 9th grade numbers. AOIT is NAF certified and there can be only one academy in a district so if any student who wants to enroll in AOIT has to come to Davies.

With the community data, Ms. Gailliard is quite pleased with the increased numbers from Central Falls, Lincoln and Smithfield thanks to the recruitment efforts Ms. Sullivan and the Guidance Dept. have done and thanks to the press we have been getting over the last few years. For example, in the past we were lucky to get approx. 17 students from Smithfield. This year we have 32. Dr. Segovis asked what was "504". Mrs. Phelps answered that they are students who are protected by federal law, who do not have an IEP but need special accommodations.

5) Future Student Night – Nov. 15, 2005—Ms. Gailliard

This was Ms. Gailliard's first time in her 18 years at Davies that we had such interest in Davies. There were over 1000 people in the building that night. It was a very successful night; the teachers did a wonderful job talking about their technical areas and the expectations; the academic teachers did a great job as well. This was the first time the staff was so involved and engaged in this whole future student night. They talked to parents; walked them to classes; answered all of their questions; giving them the right answers. It was very, very positive. This night there is a sign up for entrance testing and 450 signed up for it. As of this meeting about 632 have signed up. About 25% end up not showing historically. Depending on the funding, we accept between 225-250 students each year. There will be great backlash in dealing with those who are not accepted. There is a lot of talk within the state about career and technical education in regards to exposing all students to some type of it, so who knows what lays ahead for Davies because space has to be found to place these students.

6) Neasc Site Visit—Ms. Gailliard

This 10-year accreditation review site visit is scheduled for October 2006. The New England Association of Schools and Colleges accredits all post-secondary and secondary schools throughout the country. At this point, Davies is in the process of a self-study. One of the first things we had to do was to revisit our mission statement as well as our philosophy and goals.

The teaching staff and the administration received a copy of the mission and philosophy statements dated back to 1996 so obviously it wasn't aligned with the changes and reform with the NCLB as well as the High School Regs. The staff proposed revisions on the missions statement and the philosophy and goals. Actually they did not change much of it plus they moved the built in measurement on how we are going to accomplish it to the philosophy and goals statement.

At the January meeting, the Board will be asked to vote on the approval of the statements.

Another piece of the self study is each program has to answer a series of curriculum related questions, and committees have to work on projects such as the profile of the school, student services, student records, etc. This is where this will be tied into the sub-committees of the Strategic Plan, but first contract language needs to be finalized before they can begin working on this.

4) Other

—Mr. Ferdinandi informed the Board that Vin Ragosta researched on amending the by-law's to include voting or meeting by electronic means, and he found we are unable to do it because the Open Meeting Laws of RI do not allow it.

—The two letters were written to Domenic Mitchrone's family and to Thomas Tanury, ex-chairman's of the Board, to inform them about Davies accomplishments and to show our appreciation for their efforts in laying the foundation for those successes.

—Mr. Ferdinandi is waiting for the Providence Journal to approve us to reproduce their article on Ms. Gailliard and Davies for marketing purposes to be distributed to business and industry leaders and legislators.

—Enclosed in the agenda packets was a copy of the Valley Breeze article on Carlos Ferreira, a 1999 Davies graduate who now works for Mr. Beaupre at Chemart and who won this year's White House Ornament contest. John Ratzenberger went to Chemart to film an episode for "Made in America." It was shown on national television with about 16 minutes of prime time. The Board congratulated Mr. Beaupre on his success especially since after all of these years, the White House Historical Association is finally allowing Chemart to be recognized for its involvement with this association.

V. Adjournment:

At 6:36 p.m., Mr. Ferdinandi made a motion to adjourn and all were in favor.

VI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled on January 4, 2006

(These minutes were approved at the January 4, 2006 Board of Trustees meeting.)