

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, November 1, 2006

*Minutes accepted at the December 2006 Board meeting.*

**I. Routine**

A. **Call Meeting to Order**

At 5:15 pm, Dr. Segovis, Vice Chairperson, call the meeting to order. He presided over the meeting in Mr. Ferdinandi's absence.

B. **Roll Call of the Board**

Davies' Executive Assistant called the roll of the Board.

Members Present: Richard Beaupre; John Gregory; Carolyn Kyle; Dr. James Segovis, *Vice-Chairperson*; Robin Smith

Members Absent: James Bone; V. Michael Ferdinandi, *Chairperson*; Larry Gemma; Robert Halkyard; Harvey Simms; Lornette Uthman

Others Present: Victoria A. Gailliard, Brian Butler, Judy Valentine, Bernie Blumenthal, Vicki Phelps, Susan Paquin, Frank Barcellos, Lynn Tait-Romano

C. **Approval of Minutes** – October 4, 2006 , 2006 Regular Session Minutes  
*The approval of the October 4, 2006 minutes was deferred until the next Board meeting in November because a quorum was not present.*

D. **Opportunity for Audience to Comment**

None were made.

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

Recess into Executive Session was postponed until the end of the agenda.

F. **Return to Regular Session**

Did not recess out of Regular Session at this point on the agenda.

**II. Business Agenda**

**Finance Report**

No report at this time.

B. **Human Resources Report**- *Joanne Andrews, Coordinator of Human Resources*

An offer has been made to a Math/ESL teacher and waiting for all of the paperwork to get in order. She received, today, a letter of resignation from a School-based Coordinator out of the School-to-Career Office. She will conduct a search for her replacement.

### **III. Informational Time/Program Updates**

#### **A. Director's Report**

##### 1) Teachers' Association

Frank Barcellos, President of the Davies Teachers' Association, passed along a message that Mr. Egan, Uniserve, has been under the weather. He was involved in a very long, contentious negotiation in Cumberland that was settled at the 23<sup>rd</sup> hour. He sends his regards. Dr. Segovis asked Mr. Barcellos to tell Mr. Egan that he hopes he gets better very soon.

The only other thing he had to say is everyone is glad NEASC is over.

##### 2) Teacher Assistants' Association

There was no Teacher Assistants' Association representative present this evening.

##### 3) NEASC Site Visit-October 23-26, 2006—Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick

This visit occurred last week. On Monday evening we had the kick-off and opening ceremony. She was quite impressed with that evening. The Community and Public Relations Committee coordinated the entire event. It was outstanding. Dr. Segovis attended the reception until he had to leave for class. Mrs. Smith also was there, along with Mr. Bone and Mr. Halkyard. You just had to be there. We also had Culinary students tending to the meal; serving coffee; and attending to everyone's needs, two students provided the background music one on keyboard and the other on drums, and there were Skills USA students as guides. It was fabulous and it set the tone for the rest of the week's agenda.

The NEASC team was here at the school from Tuesday at 7:30 am and they finished on Thursday at 11:30 am. The chairman stayed behind and addressed the staff at which time he could only give surface-type of information as it pertained to the evaluation. It was all positive. After reading the report, she is very, very pleased. It went extremely well and some of the recommendations, they were reaching.

From this point on, the process is she has to review the report, go through it for any inaccuracies and make sure they are corrected, then submit it to the NEASC Commissioner's Office, and then in April they have a team that reviews the entire evaluation and sends a report back to her to determine what our standing is. Are they going to continue our accreditation or probation, etc? Then there will be a 2-yr follow-up to see if we are working on our recommendations. She will incorporate these recommendations into the school's Strategic Plan and School Improvement Plan.

Mrs. Phelps feels we will make out very well. The visit was very comprehensive. They were on a mission to get it done. They spoke to every teacher, went into every classroom and spoke to some students. This is the first visit where she felt very comfortable, unlike the visit in 1996. We were really prepared. We answered most of the questions in the materials we prepared for them before they could ask them. It was really worth the effort.

On behalf of the Board, Dr. Segovis commended everyone. The set-up for the dinner was marvelous. It was obvious how everyone worked together to organize it. The reception was great; the music was wonderful. He extended his admiration to the students. We should do it more often at least once with the Board and teachers.

Lynn Tait-Romano, President of the Teacher Assistants' Association, walked in at this time and said that she has been through three NEASC visits and this one was the smoothest she had experienced. The team asked very pointed questions instead of the general kind. They were well prepared and knew what questions they wanted answered. She got a good impression and good feel from it.

4) Davies 2006 Performance Classification— *Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick*

*(See Supplemental Material: RIDE 2006 School Classification/Davies Career and Technical High School-High Performing and Commended*  
Based on the results of the State Assessment Testing in Math and ELA during the month of March, the performance classifications are determined in the middle of October and are rolled out sometime in November as was done here last year with the Governor and RIDE personnel. When she received Davies classification the timing couldn't have been more perfect. It was during the NEASC visit. She shared it with Mr. Ferdinandi before she informed the staff. The classification this year continues to be "High Performing and Commended." This means that Davies school for the third year in a row has had substantial achievement in student performance in ELA and Mathematics. We will be a Regents' Commended High School for the third year in a row as well and that is when we go down to the State House for the ceremony. A school has to have a 2% improvement in each target to continue to be high performing. We met the 2% and in some cases we were above.

The chart that Ms. Gailliard-Garrick distributed shows the targeted areas and our scores since 2003 in each. RIDE sets a percentage that needs to be met. In 2008, RIDE is raising those percentages.

The Board congratulated her, but she cautioned that the roll out hasn't happened yet until November. Dr. Segovis would like a letter to go out to the staff acknowledging this accomplishment. It could be included with their stipend checks.

There are so some many changes going on in education and for this staff to roll up their sleeves, jump on board, and sometimes jump through hoops, this check is well deserved by all. It is not a separation of academics, technical and education support personnel, but a collaboration of the entire school community. This was pretty much reflected in Monday night's NEASC dinner. It wasn't just teachers and teacher assistants. There were maintenance people, clerical workers, members of our technical advisory boards, parents and students. It is truly a community and collaborative effort when we look at the teaching and

learning in the school. Mrs. Gaillard-Garrick is very proud to be a part of it as the Director because without them, it couldn't be done.

5) NECAP Testing – Nov. 14-17, 2006—*Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick*

As of next year in October the testing is going to change. They will no longer use the New England Reference Examination in ELA and Mathematics. They will be using the NECAP Testing which is the New England Common Assessment Program along with Vermont and New Hampshire. This is the new test they will use to measure student proficiency. Nov. 14-17<sup>th</sup>, RIDE is doing a pilot test with our current junior class to field test some of the items in Mathematics, Reading, and Writing which will be either multiple choice, short answer, constructive responses, and they are all aligned to the Grade Span Expectations. It's an abbreviation of what the larger test is going to look like in October 2007. She doesn't know yet what the formula is going to look like for the performance classification, how it is going to work, or if it is going to stay the same.

6) Other

—Mr. Gregory informed the Board that Richard Beaupre was awarded the Manufacturer of the Year. His picture is in the Providence Business News.

—Mrs. Smith referred the Board back to the September Board minutes because she was not able to attend that meeting. She took issue with some of the comments that were made about CCRI. She will be happy to research Mrs. Gaillard-Garrick's areas of concern, but she did not agree with some of the statements that were made. She appreciated Mr. Simms saying that CCRI's new president may be more open. She works directly with the president and she will be happy to bring this to his attention. The minutes say that Mr. Butler will be in touch with her to set up a meeting so she is willing to meet whenever they want to discuss these issues.

One of the things she wanted to point out is she, her staff, and Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick have been in discussions about CCRI's evening programs held at Davies. We do give waivers, which are not mentioned in the minutes, and some of them are very costly for instance the Culinary Program over \$3000.00 and the number of waivers is being increased. She found some of the information in the minutes wasn't quite accurate because she wasn't at the last meeting to defend the issues that were brought up.

Dr. Segovis feels one side is assuming everything is fine and the other side doesn't have a feeling of equity in the relationship. You need to get together and identify what are the issues and what will be a win-win solution. That isn't to deny what Mrs. Smith just said. There needs to be a much more thorough discussion and lay it all out.

Mrs. Gaillard-Garrick said that this has occurred. The conversation at the board meeting was generated by her. She has been dealing with

CCRI for 3-5 years. She doesn't know which statements Mrs. Smith didn't agree with but she can assure everyone that if she made the statement before the Board then it is true. She has been working diligently with CCRI for some articulation agreements not only as the Director but as the Guidance Director and the cooperation was not there. Not only was it dealing with just secondary education and the programs here at Davies, but it was also at the State level. Mrs. Smith asked if she meant that she would like the programs offered here at Davies to be evaluated for credit at the college level. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick answered "yes" with the Health Careers program in particular and the IT program. This was part of the SPATE program with Diana Nobles. There was a great deal of discussion with CCRI because the articulation agreements were not coming and to this day we still do not have them. None of the career and tech schools in the state have them. There is a history behind the statements made at the last Board meeting that was not discussed but the state has actually documented it.

Regarding the Evening Program, because of the stipulations in the waiver agreement, we have been unable to take advantage of that waiver because 1) the program did not run last semester and 2) prior to that, not enough students enrolled. Ten waivers have nothing to do with technical training. They are for the sewing classes, the dancing classes, and other personal development programs. She is okay with them but she needs some that are a little more subtenant for our students that are in our technical programs that are offered at night. She has been told that this is not possible because CCRI doesn't make any profit from these programs, but it is one-sided. CCRI is using my building, my machines and equipment, and she can't get a scholarship. That has not happened until this year. The waivers for the personal development programs have been taken care of. A draft of the contract has been reviewed. The only thing that Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick is concerned about is the need for a maintenance person and CCRI will hire a part-time person.

After reading the minutes, Mrs. Smith just wanted the Board to know that she and her staff have been working with Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick to address her concerns with the evening program. The Director wanted Mrs. Smith to know that this discussion came about because she realized there are programs using this building unbeknownst to her and she is responsible for this facility.

Dr. Segovis would like an update on these issues at the next Board meeting. He would like to see if any of the issues have been resolved and what still needs further discussion. Mrs. Smith will not be at the next meeting. She can send Meo.

*IV. Back to Routine*

A. **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 5:52 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.*

B. **Return to Regular Session**

*At 6:05 pm, 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. Beaupre seconded the motion and all were in favor.*

*Mr. Gregory made a motion to keep the minutes of the Executive Session confidential; Mr. Beaupre seconded the motion, all were in favor.*

Dr. Segovis addressed not getting a full Board in attendance at the meetings and wondered if changing the meeting night for next semester will help. He is not teaching on Monday or Wednesday nights. Thursdays are a possibility. The first Monday is a possibility. This will be discussed further at the December meeting in order to plan for next year.

Usually in December the Board usually has a holiday get-together. Dr. Segovis asked if Mr. Beaupre could make reservations. This will be arranged for Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

*IV. Adjournment:*

At 6:10 p.m., Dr. Segovis asked for a motion to adjourn and all were in favor.

*V. Next Meeting* Wednesday, December 6, 2006