

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, November 13, 2008

Minutes were accepted at the December 18, 2008 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: Raymond Chartier; V. Michael Ferdinandi, Carolyn Hebert;
Paul Ouellette; John Quinn; Dr. James Segovis, *Chairperson*;
Robin Smith

Members Absent: Richard Beaupre, Robert Boisselle; James Bone; Lawrence Gemma;
Robert Halkyard; Carolyn Kyle, *Vice-Chairperson*; Lori Ann McIntosh;
John Nardolillo

Others Present: Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Cheryl Carroll, Bernie Blumenthal, Susan
Paquin, Joanne Andrews, Gerry Manning, Frank Barcellos

Dr. Segovis introduced the two new Board members who were present, Mr. Paul Ouellette, Vice President at the Northern RI Chamber of Commerce, and Mrs. Carolyn Hebert, a parent. He welcomed them both to the Board.

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

Dr. Segovis asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mrs. Smith made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2008 meeting. Mr. Quinn 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 8:20 am, Mrs. Smith 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. Quinn seconded the motion and all were in favor.

E. **Return to Regular Session**

At 9:29 am, Mrs. Smith 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. Quinn seconded the motion and all were in favor.

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

Dr. Segovis reported that a finance report and some personnel issues/pending litigation were discussed and no votes were taken.

F. **Opportunity for Audience to Comment**

There were no audience comments.

II. Business Agenda

A. **Finance Report** –*Cheryl Carroll, Business Office Coordinator*

There was no report.

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

There was no report.

III. Informational Time/Program Updates

A. **Director's Report**

1) **Teacher Association**—*Frank Barcellos, President*

RIDE is having an open forum this evening, here at Davies, regarding the search for a commissioner of education replacing Peter McWalters, and Mr. Barcellos wanted to know if anyone from Davies administration was going to attend. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick will be there.

Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick is not sure how the program is going to move. The public can ask questions/give input on a profile of some sort of the commissioner they are looking for. One of our students, Taciana Ash, is part of that search committee. She will be there tonight to speak on behalf of the students on what they are looking for in a commissioner. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick will report back to the Board at the December meeting.

On behalf of the Board, Dr. Segovis hopes this person has a sense of what quality career and technical education is and that this becomes a priority. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick added that Mr. McWalters has been the commissioner for 17 years and she believes that he has done a wonderful job. It has taken some time to make changes in RI considering the environment we are in and some of the changes he has made through this reform initiative have been good changes. He is also nationally and internationally known as a great educational leader so wherever he goes, he will be an asset. Rumor has it that this new administration coming up, he is going to be a part of that administration so he must be doing something right.

2) **Teacher Assistants' Association**

There was no report. They have a new president, Patricia Rose.

3) **Technical Certification Report** — *Gerry Manning, Supervisor of Technical Instruction*

(See supplemental material: "William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical Industry Certification" document and "NCCER Modules for Electrical Breakdown by Year" document)

Mr. Manning gave a brief report on the technical certifications and he shared information on some reorganization and restructuring of technical programs.

He began by thanking Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick for giving him the opportunity to share with the board what Davies is doing with industry certifications. He did not go over the entire handout, but he did highlight a couple of points. AOIT, which is now CIS, is going through some restructuring growing pains at this time. The IC3 certification was actually a three-year process and last year they condensed into a one-year so they could move the students into A+ certification as well. We have allowed them to give it try and we now need to re-evaluate and re-assess exactly where that is and if the numbers are going to remain where they are. We may have to readjust or at least look at a two-year program with the A+ certification confined to the senior year as opposed to the junior and senior years.

In Automotive Careers, Dupont is listed at 50% (8:16). In his conversation with Mr. Murphy, Dupont is broken into two different areas which are Dupont and Standox. One of them is European finishing and the other is domestic finishing. Even though we may have had Dupont listed as 8 out of 16, the other 8 out of 16 was listed under Standox so they were actually at 100% for that certification.

In Electronics with the SET certification, last year was difficult because one teacher was getting ready to retire and there wasn't much movement with this certification at that point. We seem to have good momentum going on in that program right now with the new teacher, Mr. DiFazio, working with Mr. Cardoso. Mr. Manning is very excited about the direction the Electronics is going in at this point because they are working with some robotics equipment that has been in the closet for 15 years. It is part of the Robotics and Automation component which is a driving part of the industry right now. They have been working with Mr. Paul Williams from RIDE in getting a robotics program going. They have been going to meetings that will result in a culminating activity, a robotics tournament that takes place sometime in May. They are very excited about it. They have about ten robotics kits by LEGO and they will be starting as a rookie team. There are robotics certifications that the teachers will be looking into as well. This robotics programs will solidify and move Electronics in a slightly different direction than where it is right now.

Mr. Manning then brought the Board's attention to the "NCCER Modules for Electrical and Carpentry" handout. This is an industry-driven curriculum that the students are involved in. The accreditations are aligned with the post-secondary schools and it is all industry based. The certifications that the students earn with this are actually nationally tracked so that the student who passes particular modules in Carpentry or Electrical, if they move to the other side of the country, they are tracked in a national database, and the students will actually get credits for those in future employment opportunities. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick and he have met with both Electrical and Carpentry and kind of reviewed the different modules just to make sure the students get the exposure that we are looking for. In some cases, the students were getting the majority of the core curricula and we wanted to see some expansion into level 1, 2, 3 and 4 areas. This chart highlights the dialogue that went on in those meetings with the instructors in terms of what they are to cover in what years. The hours per modules come from the actual NCCER certifications.

Mrs. Smith asked if this translate at all toward the apprenticeship program, any credits toward an electrical apprenticeship. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick said legislatively at this point they are looking at the time spent on task in high school. She knows it passed in the House, give additional credit, but she believes nothing happened in the Senate so at this point, she believes they were only getting 10 hours. Mr. Manning said if you go to other areas such as Massachusetts, students are given a lot more credit than what they are given in RI. That is part of the legislative battle.

Mr. Barcellos, one of the Electrical teachers, said Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick was correct with the number of hours and what is going on legislatively. This has been a plight for many years and not just with his particular program. The NCCER curriculum Mr. Manning is outlining, the background is essentially, not counting the military or a 4-yr college or CCRI, there are two avenues for our students when they graduate from the Electrical program. They can go to the IBEW Local 99 which is a nationally recognized curriculum, post secondary, or they can go with NCCER which is sponsored by the non-union ABC Assoc. This is nationally tracked as well. There are two different requirements for apprenticeship when they leave Davies. If they go to IBEW, it is a 5-yr apprenticeship but part of that 5th year is spent at CCRI getting an _____? _____ degree. For the non-union, it is 4 years. That is 176 hours of classroom time and 2000 hours a year on the job training, 40 hours a week. At the end of that time, they take their journeyman exam.

As a technical preparation school, Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick said that we are more interested in skills sets and this curriculum is reflective of those skills sets that we are requiring students to have upon their departure from Davies. When you look at whether it is the IC3 or the NCCER, there is core curriculum and then there is lab learning. Based on the conversation with the teachers in Electrical and Carpentry, these are the skill sets. The skills are what they are no matter what the curriculum is. Our job is to make sure the students are prepared to go into industry whether it is union or non-union.

Over the course of three years, Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick expects the students have completed the core curriculum and if they are not, then we have a concern. RIDE is coming to Davies to do a site-visit for three programs, Carpentry, Culinary and Business Tech because we now have to report to the Feds performance targets for technical skills. When we talked about reorganization and restructuring some of these programs, it is based on the Perkins grant changes. Dr. Segovis asked if we have statistics with the Met, Warwick and other programs throughout the state so that we can have a sense of comparison on how we are doing versus the other schools. The state has it through their Perkins reporting system, but we do not have access to it, and the directors have asked in the past. Dr. Segovis feels this would be important information in order to benchmark our school. If we go before the legislature saying we are the best in town, it better be true. Also maybe we should be looking at how well other states do on these tests. If they are doing better than maybe we should learn from them and incorporate some of their techniques.

Does the Met take these exams at all? No, and this is another bone of contention with Perkins funding and meeting targets. How do you measure a different model, the Met; they have a different model of career and technical instruction, but how are they measuring any of the targets that the state has submitted. They don't even have these certifications. Their model is more job shadowing, co-op placements, and things like that. They are not getting any technical preparation. Davies is a preparation school and they are more into career exploration, project-based, so Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick doesn't know how they fit into the reporting system that RIDE has and how it is reported out to the feds. When the directors ask, they never get an answer.

On behalf to the Board, Dr. Segovis feels having the data from other schools including schools in Massachusetts, is important to get a sense of how Davies is doing compared to other schools. He would also like the pass rate over the last five years to get a sense of what the history is. He also wants at least a two-page, single-spaced of action steps on programs that are less than 90%. Here are the steps we are taking to bring them back up so that we have a record and then have periodic updates every two months or so.

Mrs. Smith was concerned about the percentage rate for the CNA Program. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick explained that this program is one of our shining stars, but last year's class gave us so much trouble that we almost lost our CVS/Pharmacy Tech partnership. They were a very difficult group based on her conversations with the teacher. It was horrible to the point that the teacher didn't even want to show up for Senior Award Night and she has never done that. Mr. Blumenthal mentioned that this year's seniors are a motivated group and you will see that number change this year.

- 4) **NEASC 2-Year Progress Report**—*Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Director*
The NEASC Report is self-explanatory. She asked the Board to review the handout in the agenda packet when they have an opportunity. It just gives you an idea where we are in the process of meeting their recommendations. At the December meeting, they can ask any questions they may have such as an explanation of the types.
- 5) **Enrollments by Community and Technical Program** *Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Director*
Our enrollment for the first time over the last four or five years is still in the 800s in November. She thinks this is contributed to the programs that we did with the 9th grade transitioning and some of the remedial programs. We decreased the number of 9th grader repeaters by 15% over the year before. It worked. We still have the programs in place, the two 9th grade teams. The other program for those having a little more difficulty, behavior problems, we no longer have. It was a lesson learned and we had no recommendations so it was a success. Those students, at least 70% of them, moved into the 10th grade and we are monitoring where they are as 10th grade students to see if they are falling back. The teachers did an exceptional job and they continue to do so.

IV. Adjournment:

At 10:01 am, Dr. Segovis asked for a motion to adjourn and all were in favor.