

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

Board of Trustees

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

October 7, 2010

Minutes were approved at the Nov. 4, 2010 board meeting

I. Routine

A. **Call Meeting to Order**

At 8:10 a.m., Dr. James Segovis, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

B. **Roll Call of the Board**

Davies' Executive Assistant called the roll of the Board.

Members Present: Raymond Chartier; Robert Boisselle; Lawrence Gemma; Robert Halkyard; Carolyn Hebert; D John Nardolillo; Paul Ouellette; Dr. James Segovis, *Chairperson*; Robin Smith

Members Absent: Richard Beaupre; Carolyn Kyle, *Vice-Chairperson*; John Quinn

Others Present: Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick; Cheryl Carroll; B. Blumenthal; Joanne Andrews; Susan Paquin; William Foley, William Okerholm, Bruce Barrett, John Higgins

C. **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2010 meeting; Mr. Halkyard made the motion; Mr. Chartier and Mrs. Smith 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**

It was not necessary to recess into Executive Session.

E. **Opportunity for Audience to Comment**

No comments from the audience.

II. Business Agenda

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

At the last Board meeting, Ms. Carroll reported she was working on the budget. For the 2012 budget, the Dept. of Ed. hadn't yet given us what the target needs to be for our budget submission for 2012. She still does not have that target but what she does have is a little bit more information on what RIDE is kicking around in their discussions regarding the next year, year-one of the implementation of the funding formula for Davies.

A couple of interesting things came out of the discussion she had with them. One is, initially the funding formula, in what they expect, will now be Davies' revenue with shares coming in from all of our locals and from the state, that revenue stream is going to determine our budget expenditure level. They are going to look for that to be the funding source of the school and become our new ceiling of expenditure level. Assuming the General Assembly and the Governor will begin kicking around the 2012 budget, initially, they are going to be using enrollment data. It is going to be # of kids x pupil cost is what we are going to get for funding. They are going to initially use a budget placeholder as the budget begins to go forward, based on October 1 enrollment data. Being that we are at 825 capacity school enrollment level right now, they are going to do one more sweep before they actually bless what our budget will be for next year under the formula. In the spring, Davies, as what happens in any district, our attrition always historically has a number a bit below 800 by the time the spring comes around. Ms. Carroll asked RIDE if they were going to do another sweep before we get our budget. They said, "Well we are assuming that you have such a waiting list that you can keep yourself at 800." That doesn't always happen. You can't interject that students will be willing to leave their school they started back in September to now come to Davies. She and the Director were not happy to hear that there will be one more sweep of spring enrollment data and cut the budget.

One other thing Ms. Carroll thought was extremely important in the conversation with RIDE is that they were sharing with her what has been going on in their brainstorming sessions. Basically Pawtucket and Central Falls will only be our only wait-listed districts with Pawtucket being by far the longest waiting list. Central Falls sometimes has a small waiting list. It is predominately Pawtucket. So one of the things that RIDE was kicking around is, using Pawtucket as an example, based on the number of kids that would be coming from Pawtucket to Davies, the State is going to reduce Pawtucket's budget accordingly. Because of that, what RIDE is struggling with in rolling out this formula is, they were saying that when Davies loses a child through the enrollment attrition process, that they were thinking because, for example, Pawtucket would have already been cut "x" number of dollars for the kids that come here, that if a Pawtucket child leaves, we can only replace him with a Pawtucket child in order to keep the budget sharing between us balanced. What that would mean is, if they held to that, if a Smithfield child left Davies, we would not be able to fill that slot because Pawtucket is our only wait list. Again, this is going to be a balancing, see-sawing act between the towns. This is something they did not say policy-wise, but they are struggling with how this balancing act is going to happen because Pawtucket has taken the pain from the loss of child they sent to us.

This is still an extremely interesting conversation that is going around. We still do not have the target that we are supposed to be leaning on in submitting the 2012 budget. Ms. Carroll was just fact sharing right now with the Board based on these conversations, but now what we are told is, the initial numbers given to us are the funding formula ramification to Davies which will be transitioned over a 10-year period of time to pare down to the new pain of the funding formula. She was told whatever the first numbers were that came out for Davies for year-one of the funding formula, should be her general guideline until they dust off numbers and give her a different target. Right now, that last known number, we are to submit a budget on or about \$250,000 less than this year's enacted budget. What that will mean is the powers to be at Davies needs to sit down and start looking at what it means for Davies because we all know, just the state increased fringe costs bumps the budget up without us even changing one single thing.

Dr. Segovis asked in a perfect world, if we got the students at capacity, what would be our actual budget under the funding formula? Because right now we are at a 14.3 million dollar state budget, year one of the formula in a perfect world, right now in their eyes would be take 250,000 from that so we would be at 14.1.

The Race-to-the-Top money, which is federal, temporary dollars is not tied into the funding formula at all. RIDE hasn't given us the direction on how to use that \$600,000. It was earmarked for staff to return from layoff status. We still have about three current staff members on the stimulus, stabilization money so some of that \$600,000 is going to be used to keep those people on federal money for another two years, just from a different source. The remaining money, there hasn't been any direction yet on how we can use that money. Hopefully, it will offset some of the money we may or may not lose. It is so convoluted at this point as far as the Director is concerned with the funding formula. Although, they are talking a \$250,000 reduction in the budget, and if you look at the total numbers and the money that follows the students, that is predicated on a couple of things. It is on the base-line of \$8295.00, the set factor based on students that are reduced-lunch which is \$11,000, and then you are looking at the CTE categorical funding. They have not given her or Ms. Carroll the full picture yet. If you are looking strictly at the numbers, it will not be anywhere near \$14 million dollars. It will not be anywhere near the perfect world.

Our most recent published per pupil cost is \$19, 500 to educate a child here at Davies under our current model, current budgetary allocation. Again, it will be a process of paring down over the next ten years fitting into the mold of \$8295 for every non-poverty child and \$11,360 for every poverty child. The categorical funding is unknown at this time. No matter how you look at it, it will be like fitting a size 12 foot into a size 6 shoe.

The Race-to-the-Top [RTTT] money can't be used to offset this. We may be able to use it for professional development that currently comes from the operating budget.

B. **Human Resources Report** – *Joanne Andrews, H.R. Coordinator*
No report was given.

C. **Nominating Committee** – *Mr. Robert Halkyard*
Mr. Halkyard and Mrs. Kyle met with Andrew Brown. He is willing to serve on the Board. Mrs. Kyle has the information on him. He attends the Partnership Appreciation Breakfast. He has had a relationship with Davies before.

Based on Mr. Halkyard, Mr. Ouellette, and Dr. Segovis's recommendations, Mrs. Smith made a motion to nominate Mr. Brown on the Board; Mr. Ouellette seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Dr. Segovis still needs to talk to RIME's Executive Director, Leslie Taito.

III. Informational Time/Program Updates

A. Director's Report

1) Davies Teachers' Association – *William Foley, President*

The school year started off, in his opinion, very well. Right now we are in the midst of the first round of NECAP assessment testing. Ms. Gailliard and he have been talking since the beginning of the year as they always do and things have been moving smoothly.

He was fortunate to bump into an aide for Congressman Langevin. He is very interested in coming to visit the school. He is a big supporter of Davies. Mr. Blumenthal will contact him early December.

He has also reached out to Rep. Eileen Norton in regards to the funding formula. Last spring, they were in contact with the members of the Finance Committee, specifically Joanne Giannini,

but she did not run for re-election. Ms Norton was another member on the Finance Committee and is currently playing phone tag with him, but she is willing to sit down and listen.

He has spoken to Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick about sitting down to discuss what is it exactly that we need and why we need it so when we explain it to those people up at the State House, they will understand that this is what we need to continue to operate this school at the high level that it is at. We all know that we do a great job here. He has two members of the Board who have children of theirs in my classes. Hopefully they are giving them good reports.

He thanked the Board for moving the agenda items so that he could get back to his class.

2) Davies Teacher Assistants' Association

No representative present.

3) CCRI's Presentation – Internet Redundancy Plan – V. Gailliard-Garrick, Director

(See supplemental material: "CCRI-Davies Project Summary" and "The Community College of Rhode Island [design spec drawings])

Two gentlemen representing CCRI, Mr. Bruce Barrett, Director of Network Department of Information Technology, and John Higgins, Principal of Skyline Group, presented to the Board regarding a project CCRI wants to do in partnership with Davies.

Mr. Barrett took the floor.

The objective is to provide a secondary Internet connection through a different path to CCRI's Lincoln campus. Right now the connection comes from the front of the building. In the event that it gets dug up, destroyed, they want an alternate path coming in. The optimal path they selected in conjunction with Mr. Higgins, is coming in front of Davies and run across Davies property.

What they propose is to run four 4" conduits across Davies property in the back, where the field is, then pick up some telephone poles in the front out to Rt. 123 where they will pick up the Internet Service Provider. This is one of these projects that is a win-win for both sides.

The first phase of the project is putting in the actual raceways in, the conduits. The second phase will be the running of the fiber optic cable. We will run multiple strands of the cable and they will take some of those strands and use those to interconnect CCRI and Davies. There will be a network connection between CCRI and Davies.

Why is this beneficial to both parties?

1) Davies will now be able to use CCRI's network connection at the Lincoln campus as a backup Internet connection for Davies so in the event that Davies loses its connection (primary connection), CCRI can reroute Davies through their internet connection. They can easily facilitate it.

2) The other benefit to Davies is CCRI is building a DR facility, a data recovery system at the Lincoln campus. In the event that CCRI loses their computer center from the Warwick campus, they will have a redundant computer center at the Lincoln campus. In building that, they will have extra space so they are working with other institutions in the area who may want to share that space with CCRI. CCRI will allocate space in that particular room for Davies.

Davies will be able to put any equipment in there that we will want to be redundant in the event Davies loses its computer system. He had very good discussions with Susan Tierney, Davies IT Coordinator, on how it would be technically done. In terms of hardware use, CCRI and Davies are in sync. They use the same hardware. What CCRI would propose is that we use server virtualization. Server virtualization means that CCRI buys this one big box physically put in CCRI's Lincoln campus that will be subdivided into virtual servers. They can be created as needed and very cost effectively. What Mr. Barrett proposed is that some space in the box be allocated for Davies and then we can create a virtual server for Davies' use that would emulate the services we have here in the event we go down, another win-win situation. Davies will have a back-up for its server and applications.

3) As far as CCRI, one of the problems they have is they do not have access to the State purchasing system. They need a secondary route to get the state administrative network to do purchasing, etc. Davies has a pathway to it that CCRI could probably use in the event CCRI loses their single connection from Warwick then they can reroute it through Davies; once again, this is one of these win-win situations.

As far as cost when they run the fiber through, CCRI is running the fiber through anyway and add some strands for Davies' allocated for Davies' use. There should be no charge for that. As far as the virtual servers, virtual servers are hundreds of dollars at the most for the purchase of the software (VMware). Mr. Barrett spoke without getting the details of the exact cost from their financial people, but he doesn't see it costing any more than hundreds of dollars as opposed to thousands of dollars if Davies had to provide this functionality on its own at some other location.

The Director then spoke on this approval process for this project which is a lengthy process, about 1-2 months. The first step is to have the party requesting the partnership, to do a presentation to the Board. Then the two parties have to come together and create an agreement regarding this partnership. Once that is done, it gets approved by Davies and the Board of Higher Education. Then it has to go down to RIDE. Their coordinator of school construction and facilities reviews it and then sends it to the Board of Regents. From the Board of Regents, it goes to the State's Properties Committee. It will not affect any of the school's grant funding.

Mrs. Smith suggested if the contractor would agree to allow some Davies students to observe/work as the project develops so that they can gain some practical experience (job shadow experience). Mr. Higgins from Skyline doesn't see it as a problem but it will all depend on the contractor and what the liability would be.

Dr. Segovis asked if there was any downside to this. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick answered, "Based on my conversation with Sue Tierney, she is saying "no." Sue Tierney was unable to make this meeting tonight. She would have been able to answer any technical questions. She will be at the November meeting. The only problem is CCRI wants to do an easement. Mr. Barrett hasn't found out any information on it yet because they are still working on the draft. Once more information becomes available, it will be presented to the Board.

This presentation tonight was informational only until the project has been fully designed and laid out.

Mr. Higgins of Skyline, took the floor.

Skyline was hired by CCRI to provide them with feasibility-study information about alternate routes and the design to provide CCRI with a secondary Internet pathway. Skyline's task is to try to find locations where they can do that in a diverse manner to utility providers, Cox Communication, Verizon, and others.

They investigated opportunities to connect to the high tension wires in the back of CCRI, and routes more westerly. They provided CCRI with 2 or 3 options of routes and again, they need to connect to where the utilities can meet them in a cost effective way for the State or CCRI while making sure the utilities are able to get to the facility. You have different levels of diversity starting with someone maybe unfortunately hitting a telephone pole in the street. If CCRI loses its connection due to a fire, we would like to shoot to another route that has another pathway to another central office. It shouldn't happen in two different places at the same time.

The pathway they chose is cost effective for CCRI but it maximizes the opportunity to connect to the Internet providers. It is a pathway that already exists, a maintenance pathway through the back of Davies that goes all the way through. It minimizes cutting down trees and disruption of what is already there. Minimal excavation makes it more cost effective. We asked they approve a route that basically already exists, to connect to the telephone/utility poles that run from RT 123 through the back of Davies. It seems to be the route that Davies gets its connection. This would provide diversity to a point that CCRI is looking for and with the amount of pipes and conduits that we are going to put in here, will provide an opportunity for Davies to possibly get another connection to CCRI's front connection if Davies so chooses. They tried to minimize the damage and follow the pathway that already exists out by the tower that is out there with less damage to the environment. There are a lot of benefits here for both sides.

To clarify the path, Mr. Barrett added there are poles on one side of the property. We would come off the second to the last pole. From that point on, they would start digging. We will run, not through Davies athletic field, to the little hill which is close but not disruptive to any activities. *Mr. Blumenthal asked if they were talking about the wide path that leads to CCRI's soccer field, that whole wide stretch.* The answer was "yes" but just what is required. He asked because it is one of our evacuation routes but it is also our cross country and CCRI's cross country route. We would need to coordinate the time of construction, but we are talking about a couple feet wide of digging. Then there will be manhole covers down. The construction will take no more than two weeks. It is a very quick process once they start. It is minimal construction. It is digging up holes, installing manholes in certain spots, and then laying pipe and putting it back together. It's not that disruptive. *Do the manholes have to remain exposed?* Generally we require them to be exposed but if there is a requirement that says we cover them up, then they can be excavated if they need to be. The utilities will require easy access to them. *Where would the manhole cover be on Davies property?* It is at the end of the run near the tower. It is not in the path that we were referring to.

Mr. Halkyard asked why are we going through this approval process since we are both State agencies. Yes, but because CCRI is an office of post secondary education and Davies is a secondary education office, CCRI has to go through the Properties Committee. Joe Silva is the contact person at the Dept. of Education and he said it will probably take a month or two.

Mr. Nardolillo asked if there will be data security between the two facilities. Mr. Barrett said "yes". It will be your own server and whatever applications we run on it will be just as secured by the security we run at the school.

Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick introduced Mr. Okerholm, Davies Facility Coordinator, and asked him if he had anything to add. He just wants to ensure the safety of Davies students and staff. Mr. Barrett will run the specifications by Davies first to make sure all our concerns are addressed. He made one general comment about Davies staff. Davies is very lucky to have Bill and Sue working at Davies. He found them to be excellent to work with.

Once the Board gives the Director the go-ahead, she and Mr. Barrett will have to sit down and go over the draft agreement. RIDE said to make sure it says "DRAFT" on it.

4) Race-to-the-Top Funding – V. Gailliard-Garrick, Director

(See Supplemental Material: "Transforming Education in Rhode Island: All Students Ready for Success in College, Careers, and Life")

Everyone in the state knows we have a new Commissioner of Education, Deborah Gist. She has been here as our new commissioner for a little over a year. One of her first initiatives as the new commissioner, she created a new strategic plan based on the site visits she had in districts and schools. She talked to many of the stakeholders, political leaders, parents, business leaders, etc. and came up with a strategic plan labeled "Transforming Education in Rhode Island." Through this, she applied for the Race-to-the-Top [RTTT] money. For the first time out for \$125,000,000, RI didn't receive it. The second time out, RI finally did get it for \$75,000,000. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick went to an evening roll-out of the RTTT. On the handout, it lists five areas Commissioner Gist is looking at to implement and roll out to staff as reform initiatives on education in the State of RI.

- **Standards & Curriculum:** Is top priority which involves the nationally-based core standards. 45 or 46 states have signed onto these core standards. They are now in the process of cross-walking the two standards, the current Grade Span Expectations, with the Core Standards; and then they are going to rollout in 2012 the system to the teachers so they can go back, revisit, and revise their curriculum to meet these core standards. The primary focus on this is the assessment piece; making sure the students are assessed on these standards. Right now the weak piece is the local assessment v. the state-wide assessment (NECAP).
- **Instructional Improvement**
- **Educator Effectiveness:** is the most controversial with the unions tying in student achievement in teacher performance and evaluation. Over 100 educators at all levels have been involved in creating an evaluation instrument and the supports necessary in creating effective teachers. We haven't seen the tool yet.
- **Human-Capital Development:** We just received yesterday the scope of work for the budgetary findings. No one has had the opportunity to look at it yet. That is probably where the \$249,000 is going to be tied in and how we are going to use that money. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be putting together a Scope of Work Agreement for the Dept. of Education that they have to submit to the federal government on how we are going to meet these five initiatives. They need to submit it by November 14th so we have a lot of work to do to meet that deadline.
- **School Transformation and Innovation**

5) October Enrollment Numbers – V. Gailliard-Garrick, Director

(See Supplemental Material: “Enrollment by Technical Area, School Year 2010-2011, October 1, 2010;” “Enrollment by Community;” and “Enrollment by Gender.”)

These are the numbers that will go in with the 2012 budget. We are still taking in 9th graders. We have all the initiatives in place to try to keep these kids here at Davies with the support services. We need to maintain our numbers.

Mr. Chartier asked if we lose students through attrition back to their sending district. The students move out of district; they move out of state. Very few return to their sending district. The repeaters tend to return because our standards are higher than our neighboring schools. For instance, in Pawtucket 60 is a passing grade. Davies’ is 70. Cumberland just went from a 70 to a 65. So what happens is you can fail here and go back to your sending district and get promoted to the next grade. You see that at the end of the year with the repeaters. Lowering Davies’ passing grade just isn’t acceptable so she is hoping that the support services initiatives (Extended School Day, Resource Assignment Center, and the Summer Pilot Program) will keep our students here.

During the summer, teachers were hired to work with the students to help them raise their grade which drastically cut down on the number of repeaters. Mrs. Garrick was going to give a report on it at this meeting but had to postpone it due to CCRI needing to address the Board. We are doing things to maintain our enrollment numbers.

How long is the Pawtucket waiting list? Right now it is probably about 55 – 60. The number just went down last week because she was trying to get those replacement numbers in because of the students who were no-shows. At the beginning of the school year we have a number of students who are no-shows. They say “yes” they are going to attend and the first week of school we start going down the list after the Guidance personnel contact them and their district schools and begin replacing them. We just went down the list with another 10 last week before October 1st; wait to see if they come; and if not, start going down the list again.

Mr. Chartier is aware that some students are at Davies not because it is a career and technical school but because their parents do not want them at Tolman or Shea. So those students who are just using Davies as an academic school, they tend to fail their technical shop (select a technical shop because it is going to be an easy technical shop), they will slack off. He doesn’t know how, but we need to start taking in those student who really want to be here in the 9th grade and they aren’t because they were not lucky enough in the lottery. This is a problem especially when Pawtucket is going to start trying to keep their students.

Are there any proposed technical schools coming up in the future? No, absolutely not; however, the Met Center was funded to build a satellite center in Newport, but another career and technical center, absolutely not. They are in the process of looking at career and technical ed. regulations. There are going to be some changes in C & T education. Everything is unknown. There are hundreds of things going on at RIDE and the information has been piecemeal.

Mr. Halkyard added that it seems to him that we are taking a step backwards into the 90’s when they had a say in what students we accepted. Then we got away from that and now we are right back to it again. There is going to be a battle between the teachers keeping the students especially the good ones in order to keep their jobs. Maybe in our 15 minutes, we can talk about a strategy on how to deal with that because it is going to become a huge problem.

The only thing the Director is comfortable with is the parents want their students here so one of our primary focus needs to be on the parents too and make sure they understand what we offer here, academic as well as the technical programs.

6) 2010 Senior Placement Report Update – V. Gailliard-Garrick, Director
(See Supplemental Material: “Davies Graduates: 2010 Placement Data (As of 9/22/10)”)

The School-to-Career Office personnel performed a follow up graduate senior survey. The initial survey was performed in May just before graduation. They asked them, “What are your plans upon graduation?”

On the second page of the handout, 59% are heading to college and 3% are heading to additional technical training so 62% seems to be pretty much be the growth we have seen in the past except for the Class of 2009, which was a little bit higher.

The “related employment” right now is 6%. There are 40 students right now who are “undecided” but 13 of them are actively seeking work in their area. If we see opportunities, the staff calls them. Sometimes it is difficult out there with the employment situation, but they are actively looking. Based on that, if all were placed, the “related employment” would go up to 14% and the “undecided” would drop down to roughly “20%”.

We still have 25% of the students that we consistently see with no direction. They are uncertain; they will get back to us; or they are just headed in some other area that isn’t college or career. When they are here, the staff tries to help them; set them up with some work-based learning, but they are not always anxious or eager to do that.

The “military” is always constant at 4 or 5%.

The colleges our students are going to are primarily in-state colleges. They are going to 2-year but more and more are now starting to look at 4-year schools.

Mr. Blumenthal started looking at the graduation rates of our sending districts’ schools because he know when we start looking at strategic planning we will start looking at the mentality of some of our families (why do they want to go to Davies; why don’t they want to go to Davies?). When we look at Lincoln and Smithfield, their graduation rate are very high; their college choices are generally between 90-95%. Central Falls, Shea and Tolman are around 70-75% who are going to college with an even split. Central Falls is at 75% this past year; Tolman was 76%; and Shea is still crunching the numbers or hiding the figures. When we ask why we are not getting any students from Smithfield, there is this notion that Davies isn’t college ready. Well our percentages are below, but they are still high enough and we need to trumpet that. When we start looking strategic planning wise, we need to augment that with certifications.

Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick asked where Mr. Blumenthal received this information. He asked the School-based Coordinators to go to their guidance offices. She doesn’t think the percentages are as high as they are saying it is. Lincoln and Smithfield are in around 80 something % and Central Falls and Pawtucket are little lower than what Mr. Blumenthal reported. Schools have to submit that information for State reporting and if you look at the InfoWorks, it will give you the true numbers. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick’s concern is the low percentages in the categories: Technical Training and Related Employment when we are a technical high school. For many of the programs now, you need advanced training to keep up with the skills, technology, the state of the art, even theory is changing. The more important figure is to look at

the college choices of the students in each area. Dr. Segovis wants that clearly marked out, are they moving on for further training? Davies helped them move on to the next level, otherwise, why give us the money to do what other schools are doing. Mr. Blumenthal will be changing “Technical Training” to “Technical Institutes”. Mr. Chartier added that a student in Electrical may be going to CCRI for the additional training, but on this survey, that isn’t showing up. Mr. Blumenthal needs to find a way to break down those numbers going to college whether it is in their field or in something else. The only problem is if the student discloses that information in their conversations. Mrs. Smith added CCRI, in the financial literature, reports that it has become imperative for a student to have at least a post-secondary degree. When you get an Associate’s Degree in addition to the technical, they get the general education courses, which are supposed to develop critical thinking.

If you look at the Race-to-the-Top handout, the Commissioner’s strategic plan 5-year goals, today 75% of students graduate from high school; 71% of students enroll in post-secondary education, and 81% who enroll in post-secondary education complete the first year. By 2015 she wants those numbers increased to 85%, 77%, and 90% respectively. These are the goals she is targeting so the whole idea of post-secondary education, there is a major push for it.

Dr. Segovis suggested adding another column on the survey for technical post-secondary.

7) Other

NEASC 5-year Focus Site Visit will be coming up in October 2012 and we will need to start preparing for it in the spring of this year. More information will be forthcoming.

IV. 15-Minutes of Strategic Thinking

Mr. Halkyard doesn’t know the answer, obviously, but as Mr. Chartier pointed out, we are going to start seeing our admissions being controlled by the sending schools as opposed to the parents and students. Somehow we have to come up with a strategy to get to the parents who make the decision. Mrs. Hebert mentioned the school’s new brochure and mail them out to the families, not necessarily to the schools. We use to mail them out to the parents when Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick worked in Guidance. We had a parent brochure and a student brochure. The student brochure used to go out with the counselors when they went to the schools for outreach and awareness. The parents’ brochure was mailed. It was very costly because it was huge, over 2000 households. We tried to change our image when the school became and LEA. It was effective because we got a lot of calls and more parents began coming to Future Student Night.

She added that we have to sit down and do a major marketing plan, outreach and awareness, and take some of those ideas that came out of the retreat. We talked about updating our website. We talked about sending the students into the schools with the counselors to do a presentation in their shop uniform, electronics with the robotics. Something that will draw the students here.

We could still have Future Student Night, but do something out into the districts. With the Special Ed. community, we have a transition night. We can have the students do a cooking demonstration or something like that. What we do here and take it out on the road. We need to expand our outreach and awareness program. Right now we are just doing it in the 8th grade, but in the past, we did it in the high schools also. Dr. Segovis asked about the video Mrs. Sullivan had produced.

The summer program we had this summer was a real eye-opener for a lot of students. They were from Pawtucket and Central Falls who rotated through 6 shops. They had no idea. If that

continues, it will be another marketing piece for incoming students. Mr. Halkyard suggested using some of our graduates.

Dr. Segovis would like these ideas put into a basic plan. Do we need the board to help somewhere in this process to help reduce those percentages in the “Undecided” column? He would rather see a quick plan rather than a long strategic one. In the meantime, he will see whether he can get some Bryant resources to help with the video.

Mr. Nardollio recommended looking at the reasons for high percentage of the “undecided” to help us market the right folks.

V. Adjournment

The December meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 7th, at 5:00 p.m.

At 9:32 a.m., Dr. Segovis asked for a motion to adjourn and all were in favor.