

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

Board of Trustees

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
December 9, 2013

*Minutes were approved at the January 13, 2014 Board meeting.*

**I. Routine**

**A. Call Meeting to Order**

At 5:05 p.m., Mr. Quinn, Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

**B. Roll Call of the Board**

Davies' Executive Assistant called the roll of the Board.

*Members Present:* James Bone; Harold Burns; Raymond Chartier; Larry Gemma;  
Robert Halkyard; David Marquis; Paul Ouellette; John Quinn, *Vice-Chairperson*; Robin Smith

*Members Absent:* Andrew Brown; Carolyn Kyle, *Chairperson*; James Segovis, Ph. D.

*Others Present:* Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick; Joanne Andrews; Cheryl Carroll;  
Bernie Blumenthal; Gerry Manning; David Champagne; Susan Paquin;  
Susan Tierney

A quorum was present.

**C. Approval of Minutes**

*Mr. Quinn asked for a motion to approve the November 13, 2013 minutes. Mr. Gemma made the motion; Mr. Chartier seconded the motion.*

**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 5:08 p.m., Mr. Quinn asked for a motion to recess into Executive Session; Mr. Halkyard made the motion to recess into Executive pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42.46-5 (A) (1) and (2) to discuss pending litigation and personnel issues. Mr. Gemma seconded the motion and all were in favor.*

**E. Return to Regular Session**

*At 6:17 p.m., Mr. Quinn asked for a motion to return to Regular Session; Mr. Halkyard made the motion; Mr. Bone seconded the motion and all were in favor.*

*Mr. Quinn asked for a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session; Mr. Halkyard made the motion; Mrs. Smith seconded the motion and all were in favor.*

Personnel matters and financial issues were discussed in Executive Session; 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*  
Report was provided in Executive Session.

B. **Human Resources Report** – *Joanne Andrews, Human Resources Coordinator*  
Report was provided in Executive Session.

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

A. Director's Report

1) **Davies Teachers' Association**

No representation present.

2) **Davies Teacher Assistants' Association**

No representation present.

3) **Blue Ribbon Ceremony – Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>** – *Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Director*  
Blue Ribbon Award lapel pins were distributed to each trustee.

Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick passed around the 2013 Blue Ribbon Schools Award plaque that was received from the United States Department of Education that was signed by Secretary of Education Arnie Duncan. She, Mr. Slemon, and Mr. Flynn attended the ceremony in Washington D.C. on Nov. 18-19. There were a lot of guest speakers during this 2-day event. The main speaker was Arnie Duncan who spoke about the current initiatives in Education at the national level; where we are going with that and what we are doing with those initiatives. The other topics were on the new teacher evaluation system; the common core standards, and changes in instruction that is going on across the country. He talked about the future of education and where we want it to go. He spoke a great deal about career and technical education and the new grant which deals with partnering with the post-secondary institutions.

Interesting enough, one of the guest speakers was a neighbor of ours, the National Principal of the Year at Worcester Technical High School. She did a presentation on career and tech education. This is the same school some of our general assembly members visited. NBC News did a feature story on them. That is the model that we have and that is the career and tech model that Massachusetts has as well as Connecticut. RI's model of career and tech education is totally opposite to what they are doing in MA & CT. That is why the General Assembly members took a tour of Worcester Tech. H. S. Congressman Langevin came in to Davies last week. He spoke with some of the administrators, teachers, and students. The reason for the visit was to congratulate us on the Blue Ribbon Award. He asked questions on why we are special, who we are; what we are doing. The students did an excellent job when he went into two shop areas. Mr. Blumenthal coordinated and facilitated the whole visit. The Congressman will speak to Congressman Cicillini about coming to the school. They should all come.

Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick had a wonderful time; it was an honor to be there; one out of 286 schools. She is ordering some lanyards for the teachers. She is also ordering bumper stickers and will send out a letter to parents asking them to put them on their cars. Hopefully we will get more positive PR. The negative PR has made an impact. In February, she is planning on a dinner with current staff and retirees because they were a part of making this happen. Also, sometime in the Spring, there will be an outdoor field day with the current students and the graduates.

This recognition is for life. They allowed us to use their 2013 logo. They gave us a huge flag and the plaque.

4) **Admission Policy** – *Victoria A. Gailliard-Garrick, Director*  
(See supplemental material: "Davies Admission Policy")

The board asked for a draft of all the changes made to the original and the parts in red are actually language that was added. Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick did speak to RIDE about changing the grade level requirements for the reading, writing and mathematics, and they said we could change them. She recommends that we change the math to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We still have the tiering for the ELL and IEP students, the second-tier testing for those populations, and we can still look at the NECAP scores ELA and Mathematics to determine if these kids are partially proficient.

There is one thing that was added to the policy that wasn't in it at the presentation last month. In the section "Admission Process" on the third page, there is a one-liner that addresses enrollment of siblings but it will need more detailed information. The vote for acceptance was postponed once again until that is done and until the board discusses changing the math grade level requirement to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Mrs. Smith feels that is very important because a lot of the fields where the jobs are like Machining, Computer Programming, they need math. Mr. Quinn got a sense on how the board felt about the 6<sup>th</sup> grade math. They all agreed the requirement should be at that level. Once the language is added to the sibling enrollment, the Board can vote on it in January.

**5) 2013-2014 Entrance Exams – Victoria Gailliard-Garrick, Director**

Mrs. Gailliard-Garrick feels the negative media attention we received over the last month kind of hurt the number of students who are coming in for the testing. For the three weeks we have tested, we had 540 registered and only 412 have been tested. We lost 128 students, no shows. There is a testing coming up this Saturday. As of last week, we didn't even have a 100 signed up yet. She will talk to Mr. Blumenthal about putting something in the paper informing the prospective students and parents that we are testing on Saturday. She is also thinking about adding an additional testing date but not before the bumper stickers and letters are sent home. She wants those parents to know we are a Blue Ribbon school and a high performing school. The numbers registered are low compared to previous years and those tested to date, she does not know who met the criteria. Mr. Gemma asked how many do we need to accept out of those 412. Usually she starts off the school year with about 260 and she goes down the waiting list to keep the total enrollment number to 850-875 to keep our funding.

Mrs. Smith realizes the uphill battle we are always fighting with the trades not getting the recognition that they are respectable professions. She heard that Providence Career and Tech's enrollment has gone way, way down to approximately 300 plus. They are supposed to be at 850 and they have state-of-the-art everything. Mr. Ouellette added that the projection of RI's population is decreasing long-term which means less students in the school systems. Over the next 5-10 years it will be going down, down, down. It's happening in Warwick right now and in Pawtucket as well with talks about closing one of their high schools.

**6) Technical Area Report – Electrical & Health Careers – Gerry Manning, Supervisor of Technical Instruction**

This agenda item was deferred to the January meeting.

**7) Other**

Mr. Blumenthal informed the Board that on Wednesday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m., we are having our CVS Mock Pharmacy ribbon cutting ceremony. Hopefully the trustees can stop by. The Governor will be there as well as some CVS personnel. We will definitely get some positive PR from this event. When you walk into the mock pharmacy, you will feel like you are at CVS. It is quite a facility. Mrs. Smith added as an FYI that CCRI has a Pharmacy Tech program and their math requirement is 12.9. They do not get their curriculum from CVS. They use a third-party vendor.

**V. Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.