

Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee
Mt. Everett Regional School
Sheffield, MA
February 4, 2016
Special Meeting

School Committee: Mr. Stewart, Ms. Silvers, Mr. Valentini, Mr. Flynn, Mr. Batacchi, Ms. Bush, Ms. Lartigue, Mr. Sears, Ms. Sparhawk

Absent: Ms. Rundle

Administration: Mr. Hastings, Sandi Hubbard

Press: Julie Ruth, Berkshire Record

Others: Angel Roth, Christine Regan, Karen Frighetto,

The Meeting was called to order by Chair, Mr. Stewart at 6:11 p.m.

2. Consideration of candidates for position of business administrator:

Mr. Stewart explained that an interview committee consisting of Superintendent Hastings, himself, Ms. Sparhawk, Ms. Silvers and Ms. Borwick interviewed Christine Regan, who was the single finalist in the interview process. Ms. Regan used to work at Southern Berkshire Regional School District before moving and becoming the Business Administrator for the Holyoke School District. A number of the other school committee members have met or know Ms. Regan.

Mr. Stewart further stated that currently, Ms. Regan's current contract requires her to give 60 days' notice of intent to leave. If the SBRSD agrees to hire Ms. Regan tonight, the 60 days' notice will bring her to April 4, 2016, which is four days after Mr. Turner is no longer with us.

Ms. Sparhawk moved, seconded by Ms. Silvers, that the School Committee approve the Superintendent's suggestion to hire Ms. Christine Regan as the Business Administrator for the SBRSD, effective as soon as possible.

Mr. Flynn asked if the salary had been negotiated. Superintendent Hastings explained that the salary budgeted for the current Business Administrator would have been \$91,000, plus \$8,500 for John Pulombo. Ms. Regan's salary will be \$96,000 which is an increase of \$5,000, but because of her experience and expertise we will not need to pay \$8500 to the accountant, and instead will be increasing her salary to \$96,000, but still saving the district \$3500.

Mr. Valentini mentioned that he had no problem with the salary that had been negotiated, just needed clarification with the procedure. Does the School Committee negotiate the salary with the candidate or does the Superintendent bring it to the School Committee to approve?

Ms. Silvers seconded what Mr. Valentini had mentioned. Basically the Superintendent and Ms. Regan have to agree on a salary, and bring it forward to the School Committee to approve.

Mr. Stewart stated that the terms of the contract were discussed at the interview. The first contract will be for a three year term. Ms. Silvers suggested that the chart, which was developed a few years ago, be used for figuring out salary increases, etc.

Mr. Sears asked if Ms. Reagan was aware of the reorganization of the business office. Ms. Silvers mentioned that the Executive Evaluation Subcommittee had worked on the reorganization. Also, Ms. Regan is aware of the changes. Ms. Silvers asked Ms. Regan if the \$96,000 per year salary is agreeable. Ms. Reagan acknowledged that it is.

Ms. Sparhawk amended her motion as follows:

The School Committee approves the Superintendent's suggestion to hire Ms. Christine Regan as the Business Administrator for the SBRSD, effective as soon as possible, with an agreed upon salary for the first year of \$96,000 and a three (3) year contract. Mr. Sears seconded.

Vote:

Mr. Flynn	No	Mr. Batacchi	Yes	Ms. Lartigue	Yes	Ms. Sparhawk	Yes
Mr. Valentini	Yes	Mr. Sears	Yes	Ms. Bush	Yes	Ms. Silvers	Yes
Mr. Stewart	Yes						

Motion carries. 8 to 1.

Ms. Silvers asked Ms. Regan if she had any questions for the Committee. Ms. Regan stated that she will notify the Holyoke district of her intent to leave and believes that she will be able to start here within the time frame.

Mr. Valentini would like for there to be an overlap between the two Business Administrators and if there isn't would like to have Mr. Turner work on a per diem basis as needed.

Ms. Silvers would like the Superintendent to get a contract to Ms. Regan as soon as possible so that she gets regular updates on the budget.

Ms. Sparhawk moved, seconded by Mr. Flynn, to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 p.m.
Voted unanimous.

Documents presented:

- *Agenda Special Meeting, February 4, 2016*
- *Copy of candidate's letter of interest with transcript and letters of reference*