

# TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, October 16, 2012  
Library - Junior High School

Mr. Valanzola called the meeting to order at 7:48 p.m. following the Joint Committee Meeting.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

### Brimfield

Sheila Noyes-Miller  
Thaddeus France

### Sturbridge

Pat Barnicle  
James Ehrhard  
Michelle Fitzgerald  
Gary Galonek

### Holland

Larry Mandell  
Howard Fife  
Elias Gillen

### Brookfield

Sharron Austin  
James Cooke  
William Gillmeister

William Haggerty  
Beth Tichy  
Dr. Susan Waters

### Wales

Michael Valanzola  
Karen Blasco

## NOT PRESENT

Dan Valcour - Br

## ALSO PRESENT

Erin Nosek, Superintendent; Jeffrey Zanghi, Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Teaching; Deborah Boyd, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Business; Michael Lucas, High School Principal; Christopher Starczewski, Junior High Principal; Mark Wood, Technical Division Director/Principal; Grace Korman, Will Katsogridakis and Jacob Ryan, Student Representatives and audience.

Mr. Valanzola asked if there were objections to changing the order of the agenda to allow the students to present their reports as the Joint Committee meeting ran longer causing the Tantasqua meeting to start later than usual. Hearing no objections, Mr. Valanzola invited the students to present their reports.

## 3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Students - Students reported on the following activities:

- Student Council Activities
- Homecoming
- Spirit Week
- Revamping Pep Rallies
- Sports Updates
- Skills USA Officer elected
- Be Like "Brit" fundraiser
- Culinary - Chowder Fest Competition at Bay Path Nov 4<sup>th</sup>
- Field trips - culinary, architecture & carpentry

**1. MINUTES**

**Motion 12-84:**

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to accept the regular meeting minutes of September 18, 2012 as amended:

Amendments:

- Pg 4, 1<sup>st</sup> section, 4<sup>th</sup> bullet - change to read: "...indicated we are a school culture....."
- Pg 4, Mtn 12-62 - add period to end of first sentence following the Motion.
- Pg 5, Mtn 12-66 - change wording to: "....., to commit Motion 12-65 to the By Law & Policy....."

VOTE:	In Favor	13
	Abstained	3

**2. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mrs. Boyd reviewed the Financial Report for the month ending September 30, 2012. She indicated that the snow plow bid came in under budget. As mentioned at the last meeting, Mrs. Boyd indicated the requested line item transfers were posted on the back of Financial Report cover page.

**Motion 12-85:**

Mr. Cooke motioned to make the recommended Budget Transfers as approved by the Budget Subcommittee.

No second required as a motion submitted by a Subcommittee.

VOTE: All in Favor

**3. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

b. Budget - Mrs. Noyes-Miller indicated the Subcommittee did meet to discuss the Budget transfers made in the prior motion. In addition, the budget meetings will travel to the member towns and that schedule has been emailed to the full Committee.

c. Technical - Dr. Waters reported the Subcommittee met on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> and discussed the following:

- Technical Div Improvement Plan - focus on:
  - Curriculum - alignment to recently revised frameworks, development of student portfolios and SkillsPlus software
  - Professional Development - Use of SkillsPlus, differentiated instruction, learning styles and addressing needs of non-traditional students.
  - Recruitment/Retention -provide student support through graduation.
- Enrollment - Over the past 5 years, student enrollment has increased from 296 to 405, representing an increase of the total high school student base from 24% to the current 34%
- Placement Rate - A follow up survey (86% response rate) detailed a positive placement in either a 2 or 4-year college or employment connected to their studies at the overall rate of 95.16%
- College Planning Materials - A 4-year plan that begins with an interest inventory and is followed up every year. (Technical Director’s Monthly Report)

- d. Curriculum - Mrs. Fitzgerald indicated the Subcommittee met on Oct 10<sup>th</sup>. The Subcommittee discussed meeting structure changes that would result in more productive meetings. The committee will ask for reports on the subject matter prior to meetings, allowing time to ask specific questions. Mrs. Fitzgerald indicated the up-front prep would allow for more meaningful discussions.

**Motion 12-86:**

Mr. Ehrhard motioned, seconded by Mr. Cooke, to commit to the Curriculum Subcommittee #6, #7 & #8 of Mr. Cooke's proposed goals for the Superintendent presented during the joint meeting, as they relate to curriculum and to report back to the full committee by the end of the year.

VOTE: All in Favor

- e. By-Law & Policy - Mr. Haggerty reported the Subcommittee met Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The following issues were discussed:

- Special Rules of the Committee/Good of the Order

**Motion 12-87:**

Mr. Haggerty motioned to amend the Special Rules of the School Committee Number One to make "For the Good of the Order" (11) and Adjournment as (12); and that the following language to added to #1:

- **Before Public Access, the Chair shall read Standing Rule #5:** Public Access is a grant of privilege of the Committee and members who wish to address the Committee must do so with respect. Comments shall be limited to two minutes and the Committee is under no obligation to respond; and
- **Before "Good of the Order",** the Chair shall remind the membership that this is an opportunity to offer comments or observations about the School Committee and its work. Motions may be made during this session to establish New Business for a subsequent meeting or to refer a topic to a subcommittee. Members are limited to two minutes each and the session shall be limited to 15 minutes.

No second required as a motion submitted by a Subcommittee.

VOTE: All in Favor

**Motion 12-88:**

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to amend the motion by changing the wording "*Good of the Order*" to "**Open Forum**".

The amendment was adopted by unanimous consent.

Mr. Haggerty suggested incorporating the wording shown as bullet points in Motion 12-87 onto the posted agenda.

- Policy BEC - Executive Session

**Motion 12-89:**

Mr. Haggerty motioned to accept as first reading policy amendments to Policy BEC - Executive Session, as submitted.

No second required as a motion submitted by a Subcommittee.

Discussion -- amendments are to conform with recent changes in the law pertaining to Executive Session.

There was a question regarding the time period to respond to requests for release of Executive Session minutes. The Subcommittee will check to be sure the policy complies with the law prior to a request for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading adoption.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Policy Amendments to conform with recent legislation passed and signed into law pertaining to transgender students.

**Motion 12-90:**

Mr. Haggerty motioned to accept as first reading amendments to the following policies, as submitted:

- AC - Non-discrimination
- ACA - Non-discrimination on Basis of Sex
- GBA - Equal Employment Opportunities
- GFC - Professional Staff Hiring
- IJ - Instructional Materials
- JB Equal Educational Opportunities
- JBA - Student to Student Harassment
- JFBB - School Choice

No second required as a motion submitted by a Subcommittee.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Policy Amendment to comply with "Michael's Law" (Chap. 69, §8A)

**Motion 12-91:**

Mr. Haggerty motioned to accept as first reading policy amendments to Policy EBC - Emergency Plans, as submitted.

No second required as a motion submitted by a Subcommittee.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Topics to be discussed at:
  - Oct 30<sup>th</sup> meeting - Student Health Services and Requirements; School Uniforms; Development of Union/Regional Joint Meeting Standing Rules of Operation; Review of Suggested policy for process to develop mutual goals for School Superintendent; Purpose and Philosophy of the Interscholastic Athletic Program.
  - Nov 29<sup>th</sup> or other subsequent meetings: Review of Regional School Agreement, including the issue to school committee representation, and a policy on Alternative education in light of the new law regarding suspension/expulsion.

ADJOURN

**Motion 12-92:**

Mr. Ehrhard motioned, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. and move all agenda items not addressed to the next meeting.

Mr. Valanzola asked that the motion be withdrawn to allow a vote on the field trip posted under Staff Reports, needed to allow adequate time for fundraising activities.

By unanimous consent the motion was withdrawn.

**6. STAFF REPORTS**

- Field Trip

**Motion 12-93:**

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to approve the *Exploring America: Rockin' Philly Tour 2013* field trip and to provide supervisory staff exemption from the conflict of interest law.

VOTE: All in Favor

**Obsolete Books**

**Motion 12-94:**

Mr. Haggerty motioned, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle, to declare obsolete the following books as requested by the Principals:

- Glencoe Health, McGraw Hill, 1996 (51)
- Junior High Library - List provided
- Senior High Library - List provided

VOTE: In Favor (16)  
Opposed ( 1)

**ADJOURN**

**Motion 12-95:**

Mr. Haggerty motioned, seconded by Mrs. Austin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharron Austin  
Secretary