

# TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, September 17, 2013 Library - Junior High School

Mr. Valanzola called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Members rose to salute the flag.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

### Brimfield

Thaddeus France  
Sheila Noyes – Miller  
Dan Valcour

### Sturbridge

James Ehrhard  
Michelle Fitzgerald  
Gary Galonek  
William Haggerty  
Megan Panek  
Beth Tichy  
Susan Waters

### Holland

Howard Fife  
Larry Mandell

### Brookfield

Sharron Austin  
James Cooke  
William Gillmeister

### Wales

Karen Blasco  
Michael Valanzola

## NOT PRESENT

Elias Gillen (H)

## ALSO PRESENT

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

## 1. MINUTES

### **Motion 14-01:**

Mr. Haggerty motioned, seconded by Mr. France, to accept the regular meeting minutes of June 18, 2013.

VOTE: In Favor: (15)  
Opposed:  
Abstained: (2)

### **Motion 14-02:**

Mrs. Noyes – Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to accept the Executive Session meeting minutes of June 18, 2013.

VOTE: In Favor: (13)  
Opposed:  
Abstained: (4)

### **Motion 14-03:**

Mrs. Blasco motioned, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to accept the regular meeting minutes of June 20, 2013.

VOTE: In Favor: (15)  
Opposed:  
Abstained: (2)

### **Motion 14-04:**

Mr. Haggerty motioned, seconded by Mr. France, to accept the Executive Session meeting minutes of June 20, 2013.

VOTE: In Favor: (16)  
Opposed:  
Abstained: (1)

Subcommittee Caucuses:

Chairs of the TRSD Subcommittees FY14:

Curriculum – Ted France

Budget – Sheila Noyes-Miller

Technical – Susan Waters

Negotiation – Howard Fife

Bylaw and Policy – William Gillmeister

Building/Physical Plant – Gary Galonek

Legislative – William Haggerty

RAAC – William Haggerty

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Boyd reviewed the Financial Report in detail for the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Final Expenditures. She indicated 2013 ended in good shape. Mrs. Boyd provided a memorandum recommending, for fiscal year 2013-2014, that if a student is receiving any special needs services, a Special Needs Increment be added to each out-of-district technical tuition.

**Motion 14-05:**

Mr. France motioned, seconded by Mrs. Noyes-Miller, to accept the recommendation for the fiscal year 2013-2014, that if a student is receiving any special needs services the Special Needs Increment of \$1,750 be added to each out-of-district technical tuition.

VOTE: Unanimous

In the spring of 2013 the Building and Physical Plant Subcommittee met and discussed a proposal to convert the In-School Suspension Room, currently the room next to the Tech Division Office, into a suite to include a conference room and an office for the Tech Division Guidance Staff. Presently this staff is housed in the main office area on the first floor. The projected cost of the project would be \$12,500, with a good amount of work to be done by the Tech Division Students, bringing the cost to \$10,000. Over the summer there was an unanticipated resignation in the Tech Division teaching staff and a replacement was hired at a lower salary level, leaving a positive balance in this salary line. The request is that the committee transfer funds from the Teaching Salary Shop Account to the Tech General Maintenance Account.

**Motion 14-06:**

Mr. Galonek motioned, seconded by Mrs. Blasco, to transfer \$10,000 from the Teaching Salary Shop Account #304 to the Tech General Maintenance Account #347 for the Technical Division Project to be completed this fall.

VOTE: Unanimous

3. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Wood provided a memorandum regarding donations, seeking the school committee's approval for the following:

- a. Akuity Technologies of Auburn, MA has made an offer to donate up to 75 used computers to the Computer Technology Department. These computers would be used for the projects of the Freshmen Exploratory students. They will disassemble all computers, doing internet research to find the value of each piece. They would then reassemble the computers back to original working order. Sophomores will work troubleshooting to determine what is causing failures within computers that are earmarked for donation to the C2C Program.

**Motion 14-07:**

Dr. Waters motioned, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to accept the donation of 75 used computers to the Computer Technology Department.

VOTE: Unanimous

- b. Schott of North America, Inc. of Southbridge, MA is donating a used Coordinate Measuring Machine. This equipment uses state-of-the art technology for the inspection of manufactured

materials using optical measuring.

**Motion 14-08:**

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Galonek, to accept the donation of the used Coordinate Measuring Machine from Schott of North America, Inc. of Southbridge MA.

VOTE: Unanimous

Letters of appreciation will be sent to the above companies.

Comments:

- Committee members appreciated the breakdown of the colleges provided in the packet; excellent resource.
- 100 AP Students enrolled, 300 children encouraged to take classes.
- 54 children tried out for soccer, the ones who didn't make the team were looking into cross country.
- Music Program is optional; it is an enrichment program.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Students - Students reported on the following activities:
  - Student Council Homecoming
  - SAT's
  - Snack Shack
  - Field Hockey/Football
  - Field trip to Gillette Stadium
  - Performing Arts – Wizard of OZ
  - Virginia Beach – Chorus
  - Relay for Life
  - Technical student expressed his experience with the school
- Budget - No meeting, no report.
- Technical - No meeting, no report.
- Curriculum - No meeting, no report.
- By-Law & Policy – Report provided in packet

Discussion regarding the School Resources Officer (SRO):

Discussion opposed:

- a. Unclear as to what the individual would do – defining role
- b. Not sure why the SRO would be needed
- c. Should be out of school budget

Discussion in favor:

- a. Parents have a sense of security
- b. Nice offer of which to take advantage
- c. Provide positive learning

**Motion 14-09:**

Mr. Ehrhard motioned, seconded by Mr. Fife, to reject accepting the School Resource Officer on behalf of the Tantasqua Regional School Committee.

VOTE:                In Favor: (9)  
                           Opposed: (8)  
                           Abstained:

A letter will be submitted to the Chief of Police as well as Selectmen regarding the vote.

- Negotiations - No meeting, no report.
- Building and Physical Plant - No meeting, no report.
- Legislative Subcommittee - No meeting, no report.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS I - No comments were made.

6. COMMUNICATIONS - The following correspondence included in the packet was reviewed:

- MASC Legislative Bulletin
- Letter to J. Smolinski, MASS Insight
- Letter to G. Koocher MASC
- Letter to Representative Todd Smola

7. SUPERINTENDENT 'S REPORT - Dr. Nosek reported on the following:

- Great opening day
- Mass General Law Books – Available for pick up
- There will be some changes to the Bullying Prevention Plan/Policy; will be taken up at Subcommittee
- Educator Evaluation System – Overview district wide, phase 1 and phase 2 goal setting
- Field Test Assessment - If approved may replace MCAS

8. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No comments were made.

9. OLD BUSINESS - No comments were made.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Subcommittee caucuses were moved to the beginning of meeting

11. OPEN FORUM:

Discussed the following:

- a. Naviance Software to assist with college searches – it is rolling out and will be ready soon. Other assistance is provided as well as the software.
- b. Concern regarding late notification to the parents of children who have not attended school for that day was discussed. This will be an agenda item next month.

ADJOURN

**Motion 14-10:**

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

VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharron Austin  
Secretary

TSRD: kmm