

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, October 21, 2014
Junior High School Library

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Aimee Campbell
Sheila Noyes-Miller
Dan Valcour

Sturbridge

Patricia Barnicle
Gary Galonek
William Haggerty
Jacob Ryan
Dr. Susan Waters

Holland

Howard Fife
Elias Gillen

Brookfield

James Cooke
William Gillmeister
Marie Pecore

Wales

Edward Boyce
Michael Valanzola

NOT PRESENT

Larry Mandell (H); Michelle Fitzgerald, Megan Panek (S)

Mr. Valanzola called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with members rising to salute the flag.

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Erin Nosek, Superintendent; Jeffrey Zanghi, Assistant Superintendent for Learning & Teaching; Deborah Boyd, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Business; Michael Lucas, SH Principal, Christopher Starczewski, JH Principal; Mark Wood, Technical Division Director; Grace McHugh and Brytni Simmons, Student Representatives and audience.

ELECTION - SECRETARY

Mr. Valanzola called for nominations for the open position of Secretary.

Mr. Cooke nominated William Gillmeister.

Mr. Ryan nominated Susan Waters.

Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Valanzola closed nominations and called for a vote in open session.

VOTING: Mr. Gillmeister 9; Dr. Waters 5

1. MINUTES

Motion 15-16:

Mrs. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mr. Boyce, to accept the regular session minutes of September 16, 2014 as amended.

Amendment: Pg 5, under Section 11, 3rd bullet – should read “Mrs. Barnicle”.

VOTE: All in Favor

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Boyd reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending Sept. 30, 2014. She indicated the Title I funds hadn't yet been applied; therefore the related line items appear with negative balances.

Out-of-district Technical Tuitions/Special Ed

Mrs. Boyd recommended that an increment of \$1,750 be added to each out-of-district technical tuition, if that student is receiving any special needs services.

Motion 15-17:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle, to approve that a Special Needs increment of \$1,750 be added to each out-of-district technical tuition, if that student is receiving any special needs services.

VOTE: All in Favor

Solar Net Metering

Motion 15-18:

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mr. Gillen, to enter into an agreement with Solar City as presented by Mrs. Boyd, as detailed in a memo dated 10/10/14. Approval is conditional upon a positive recommendation by Tantasqua's legal counsel.

Motion 15-19:

Mr. Cooke moved, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to postpone the vote to the next meeting to allow time for legal counsel's review and recommendation.

Discussion – the Committee invited Miles Hovis, Solar City's representative, to the conversation asking him whether the rate quoted in the agreement would be affected by a month's delay. Mr. Hovis indicated he would not be able to guarantee the rate if the vote was delayed.

The Chair allowed extensive discussion.

VOTE (Motion 15-19): In Favor (6) Opposed (8) Motion Fails

VOTE (Motion 15-18): In Favor (9) Opposed (5) #15-18 Motion adopted.

3. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Lucas was asked to provide the speaker's name at the James Otis Lecture Series in Boston.

Mr. Gillmeister reminded everyone that September 17th was Constitution Day.

Committee members commented on the Sports Lit Class visit to Fenway Park.

Committee members asked for a copy of the Program of Studies.

Mrs. Barnicle commented that she enjoyed seeing all the activities going on with the Technical Division.

Black Hills Field Trip – 2015

Mr. Lucas reported that travel and lodging costs are covered for the chaperones. The chaperone costs add approximately \$200 per student. Four staff members will be needed.

Motion 15-20:

Mr. Boyce moved, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve the Black Hills Field Study Trip.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 15-21:

Mr. Ryan moved, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to exempt the four staff members chaperoning the Black Hills Field Study Trip: Robert Jefferson, Stephen Thompson, Michelle Breuer and Toni Berthiaume, from the conflict of interest laws.

VOTE: All in Favor

Donation

Motion 15-22:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle, to accept with appreciation, donations from the Booster Club as detailed in a memo to Dr. Nosek from Mr. Lucas, dated October 2014.

VOTE: All in Favor

Obsolete Equipment

Motion 15-23:

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mrs. Noyes-Miller, to declare the Technical Division's Blodgett Double Deck Oven obsolete.

VOTE: All in Favor

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Students

Brytni Simmons reported on the technical student activities:

- Culinary – cake decorating; Chef's on the Common
- Framingham State College visit
- Millbury Apprentice training

Grace McHugh reported on the following student activities:

- Sports
- National Honor Society – “pack-a-pack” project; food drive
- Student Council - “Trunk of Treat”
- Fine Arts programs
- MASC Conference

b. Budget

Mrs. Noyes-Miller indicated the subcommittee's meeting is Oct. 28, 2014 to review the Central Office budget.

c. Technical – No report. The next meeting will be scheduled following the November 6, 2014 Program Advisory Meeting.

d. Curriculum – No report. Meeting is scheduled Oct. 27, 2014.

e. By-Law & Policy – Mr. Gillmeister indicated the subcommittee will be bringing some policies before the Committee at the next meeting.

f. Negotiations – No meeting, no report.

- g. Building & Physical Plant – No meeting, no report.
- h. Legislative Subcommittee – No meeting, no report.
- i. Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC) – The minutes from the October 2, 2014 meeting were included in the packet.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS I - No comments were made.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were included in the packet:

- Letter from Sturbridge Board of Selectmen to Joseph Beveridge, Football Coach
- Tantasqua Class of 2014 College Acceptance List
- Strategic Plan documents & copy of PowerPoint presentation – Dr. Nosek indicated she will plan to come back to the Committee with updated information.
- Cafeteria Data – Mrs. Boyd indicated the program still runs in the black, but she will be looking at why participation rates are down. She indicated she is concerned that only 53% of the students eligible for free/reduced lunch actually get school lunches. Mr. Haggerty suggested that the Student Council might be able to help with this information.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Nosek reported on the following:

- MASC Conference in November – members interested shall alert Superintendent's office to register for the conference.
- November 18th meeting – a reminder that the Joint meeting with Union #61 shall precede the Tantasqua meeting.
- November meeting – will present an in-depth look at the MCAS and other student performance data.
- Update on Superintendent's Goals
 - Goal 1 – Student Learning Goal
 - Meetings have occurred with all three Principals and plans are in place to monitor the lowest performing students with work occurring to ensure student growth. JH – 9/20/14; SH – 10/16/14; TD – 10/17/14
 - Goal 2 – Professional Practice Goal
 - Working with Leadership Team for ideas for future PD
 - August/September – ALICE Training
 - October – Curriculum Summit – “Initiative Integration”
 - Goal 3 – Enrichment Opportunities for Students
 - Ongoing discussions/explorations of ideas – Edgenuity meeting on 10/2/14
 - Goal 4 – 3-Year District Improvement Plan
 - Survey seeking parent input – Online in November
 - Establish “Technology Leadership Committee” – seeking the goal of technology integration.

8. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No comments.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No comments

10. NEW BUSINESS

Brookfield/Sturbridge Line Surveying

Motion 15-24:

Mr. Cooke moved, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to hire a surveyor to determine the town line along the access road and have the Technical Division install markers/signage.

VOTE: Voice Vote as declared by Chair - Failed

11. OPEN FORUM

Motion 15-25:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Mr. Cooke, that the Chairman appoint a special committee of three to make a recommendation regarding the exemption granted by the appointing authority to the Commissioner of the DESE to serve as Chairman of the Board of PARCC. Such report shall be made to the full committee no later than the January 2015 meeting of the committee.

Motion 15-26:

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mr. Fife to postpone Motion 15-25 indefinitely.

VOTE: In Favor (9) Opposed (3)

State Senate Seat Debate

All were invited to attend the State Senate Seat debate between Rep. Anne Gobi (D) and Michael Valanzola (R) at the Wales Elementary School on October 22, 2014.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 15-27:

Mr. Ryan moved, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. William Gillmeister, Secretary

TRSD:pag