

## TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, December 16, 2014  
Senior High School Library

Prior to the meeting, members were treated to a Holiday Concert by the TSHS Concert Choir.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

#### Brimfield

Sheila Noyes-Miller  
Dan Valcour

#### Sturbridge

Patricia Barnicle  
Michelle Fitzgerald  
Gary Galonek  
William Haggerty  
Megan Panek  
Jacob Ryan

#### Holland

Elias Gillen

#### Brookfield

James Cooke  
William Gillmeister  
Marie Pecore

#### Wales

Edward Boyce  
Michael Valanzola

### NOT PRESENT

Aimee Campbell (Bm); Howard Fife (H); Dr. Susan Waters (S)

### ALSO PRESENT

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

Mr. Valanzola called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. with members rising to salute the flag.

Mr. Valanzola welcomed Boy Scout Troop #7, in attendance as part of their community learning project.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHOLARS

Dr. Nosek presented certificates of excellence to Kaitlin Silveira and Justin Champeau, the two Superintendent's Scholars. She spoke of each student's accomplishments in their communities.

### 1. MINUTES

#### **Motion 15-35:**

Mr. Ryan moved, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to accept the regular session minutes of November 18, 2014 as corrected.

Correction: Motion 15-33 was made by Mr. Haggerty

VOTE: All in Favor

### 2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Boyd reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending Nov. 30, 2014. She indicated there were no significant concerns going into the winter season.

- The French River Collaborative heating oil bid for next year came in a \$2.28/gal (the current price is \$3.15/gal).

- Water Leak at HS – The damage caused by the frozen coil in the roof system caused extensive damage to ceiling tiles and the locker room. The costs are being covered by insurance.
- Completed audit – copies available.
- 9c Cuts – The Committee discussed the email of 11/26/2014 from Stephen Hemman, ED – MA Assoc. of Regional Schools (MARS) requesting the school committee consider contributing to a MARS legal fund for the purpose of hiring a law firm to interpret the 2010 law and provide assistance in considering appropriate actions to take concerning protecting regional transportation reimbursement.

**Motion 15-36:**

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mr. Cooke, to contribute to a MARS legal fund for the purpose of hiring a law firm to interpret the 2010 law and provide assistance in considering appropriate actions to take concerning protecting regional transportation reimbursement. The contribution amount, as determined by MARS, to be \$500 to \$1,000.

Discussion: Mrs. Boyd mentioned the figure would probably be the \$500 level.

The Committee asked to be provided the credentials of the lawyer chosen by MARS.

VOTE: All in Favor

**3. STAFF REPORTS**

- Mrs. Fitzgerald indicated she had taken a 2-hour tour of the Technical Division and was extremely impressed with the student's projects. The following evening, she attended the Technical Division Open House and also participated in the Thanksgiving dinner at the Cornerstone Café. She encouraged all members to contact Mr. Wood to make arrangements for a tour.
- Mr. Haggerty asked the Chairman to send a letter congratulating the team involved with the production of "Anything Goes" for an excellent musical production.
- MMSI Presentation – Mr. John Smolenski, Senior Field Director of Mass Insight Education (MIE) provided a Power Point presentation detailing the progress of Tantasqua's students in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the 3 year project. MIE focuses on strategies to transform public schools into high performance organizations and to close achievement gaps. Mr. Lucas offered his comments in support of the program, particularly in the areas of Math and Science. Mr. Haggerty commented that these are the types of stories that should be released to the media.
- Trip – Washington D.C. & New York City (April 2015). Details of the trip were included in the packet. Four chaperones to oversee 45-50 students. Cost to students is \$841.

**Motion 15-37:**

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle, to approve the trip to Washington D.C. and New York City as presented.

VOTE: All in Favor

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Students**

Grace McHugh reported on the following student activities:

- Student Council Fall Conference – 11/15/2014. Tantasqua will be hosting the 2016 Conference.
- Student Council – involved with Pathways Bocce' program in Grafton
- NHS & Student Council worked together on the annual toy drive.

- Pep Rally – 1<sup>st</sup> Warrior Rumble was held the day before Thanksgiving.
- Sports Updates
- Festival of Giving Trees – Student Council decorated and donated a “Frozen” themed tree - 12/5/2014.
- Ted Foundation – participation with Turkey Trot

Brytni Simmons reported on technical student activities:

- Food Drive – helped provide food to 39 families
- Tantasqua’s culinary students will participate in the Best Chef Competition -1/25/2015
- Skills USA 2014 Fall State Leadership Conference 11/23-25. A competition was held at the conference. Students who medaled in the competition are listed in the Technical Division report.
- Promotional Poster – Tantasqua students are State Champs and have been awarded an opportunity to participate in the National competition in Kansas City.
- 3-D Printing – Two students, Ryan Burque and Sam Robertson, were in attendance and demonstrated the CAD design program and 3-D printer.

b. Budget

No meeting. The next meeting is scheduled on 1/7/15 to be held at Burgess Elementary in Sturbridge.

c. Technical

Mr. Gillen reported on the Technical Division parent tours of 11/19 and 11/20/14. There are currently 479 students enrolled in technical programs.

Perkins indicators, MCAS results and survey rates were discussed.

d. Curriculum

Mrs. Fitzgerald indicated the report on AP and SAT scores was included in the packet. The subcommittee discussed the following at their meeting of 12/8/14:

- Program of Studies
- Process for adding new courses
- Preliminary discussions on JH Scheduling Model

e. By-Law & Policy

**Motion 15-38:**

Mr. Gillmeister moved to approve for First Reading Policy ADDA – Background Checks.

Discussion: Mr. Gillmeister indicated the revisions to the policy are related to changes mandated by state law.

VOTE: All in Favor

**Motion 15-39:**

Mr. Gillmeister moved to approve for First Reading Policy ADDA-R – DCJIS Model Cori Policy.

Discussion: Mr. Gillmeister indicated the revisions to the policy are related to changes mandated by state law.

VOTE: All in Favor

f. Negotiations

No meeting, no report. Negotiation training to be held Jan. 10, 2014 from 8:00 – 4:00.

g. Building & Physical Plant

The subcommittee met earlier and toured the damage caused by the water leak discussed under the Financial Report.

The subcommittee also reviewed the FY2016 capital improvement plan for recommendations to be made to the Budget subcommittee.

h. Legislative Subcommittee

The subcommittee met last week and will include a report in the next meeting packet.

i. Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC)

The subcommittee is waiting to hear back from Christine Lynch regarding the “one man, one vote” structure.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS I - No comments were made.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were included in the packet:

- Public Body Checklist
- Tantasqua Graduation Rates – Classes of 2012-14
- Memo from D. Boyd re: OPEB Trust. Mrs. Boyd asked members to review the materials for discussion at the January meeting. She indicated the matter was a “hot topic” dealing with unfunded liability
- Newspaper article: Life Scout Logan Melican
- Letter of appreciation from Bay State Health Foundation
- October 1, 2014 Enrollment figures

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Nosek reported on the following:

- All members are welcome to attend the interest based bargaining training on January 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am-4:00 pm in the JHS Library.
- Thanked Reagan Paras and the students of the Concert Choir for the holiday musical presentation provided prior to this meeting.
- Thanked John Smolenski for the Mass Insight Education presentation
- Senator Brewer sponsored the Choral Departments presentation at the State House.
- Secretary Malone has asked to visit district schools on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> as follows: Holland at 9:00 am and Brookfield at 10:30 am.

8. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No comments.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No comments

10. NEW BUSINESS

11. OPEN FORUM

Mr. Gillmeister wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Mrs. Barnicle commented that she attended the Winter Concert and it was wonderful.

12. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion 15-40:**

Mr. Boyce moved, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. William Gillmeister, Secretary

TRSD:pag