

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING – FY16 BUDGET – 3/17/2015

Location: Junior High Cafeteria

The Public Hearing on the Tantasqua Regional School District FY16 Budget was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Budget Subcommittee Chair, Sheila Noyes-Miller.

Dr. Nosek and Mrs. Boyd provided an overview of changes and additions from the FY15 and prior budgets and discussed the impact of those adjustments.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Wednesday, March 17, 2015

Junior High School Library

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Aimee Campbell
Sheila Noyes-Miller
Dan Valcour

Brookfield

James Cooke
William Gillmeister
Marie Pecore

Sturbridge

Patricia Barnicle
Michelle Fitzgerald
Gary Galonek
William Haggerty
Megan Panek
Jacob Ryan
Dr. Susan Waters

Holland

Howard Fife

Wales

Edward Boyce
Michael Valanzola

NOT PRESENT

Steve Anderstrom, Elias Gillen (H)

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, Principal Director – Technical; Grace McHugh and Brytni Simmons, Student Representatives and audience.

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

1. MINUTES

Motion 15-63:

Mr. Boyce moved, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to accept the regular session minutes of February 25, 2015.

VOTE: In Favor (13)
Abstained (2) Cooke, Fife

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

- Mrs. Boyd reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending Feb. 28, 2015. She indicated there were no significant concerns.

- FY16 Budget Votes:

The following motions made by subcommittee, no second required.

Motion 15-64:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller moved to approve the Tantasqua Regional School District FY2016 Total Operating Budget at \$21,100,552.00.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 15-65:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller moved to approve the Tantasqua Regional School District FY2016 Net Operating Assessment at \$11,627,324.00 distributed as follows:

Brimfield	Brookfield	Holland	Sturbridge	Wales
\$2,136,867	\$1,442,760	\$1,480,105	\$5,870,542	\$697,050

.VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 15-66:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller moved to approve the Tantasqua Regional School District FY2016 Transportation Assessments at \$548,728.00 distributed as follows:

Brimfield	Brookfield	Holland	Sturbridge	Wales
\$123,178	\$107,350	\$72,901	\$189,157	\$56,142

.VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 15-67:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller moved to approve the Tantasqua Regional School District FY2016 Debt Assessments at \$109,292 distributed as follows:

Brimfield	Brookfield	Holland	Sturbridge	Wales
\$19,462	\$16,345	\$13,298	\$52,296	\$7,891

.VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 15-68:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller moved to approve the FY16 Capital Improvement expenditures as presented of \$484,000 from School Choice funds.

VOTE: All in Favor

- School Bus Cameras – Mrs. Boyd indicated she was seeking support of using cameras on school buses. At this time, McCarthy (bus service for Brimfield, Brookfield, Holland and Wales) has cameras on most vehicles, but they are not using them because the schools have not approved their use. Sturbridge doesn't have cameras on their buses at this time. Mrs. Boyd indicated that the elementary school committees have approved use of cameras.

Motion 15-69:

Mr. Ryan moved, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to approve use of cameras on all Tantasqua buses.

Discussion: Mr. Gillmeister agreed to have the Bylaw & Policy subcommittee review this issue and develop a policy to come for vote before the full Committee.

Q. When would the school begin using the cameras? A. When equipment is available and a policy is in place.

VOTE: All in Favor

3. STAFF REPORTS

- Mr. Starczewski discussed the school-wide writing goal at the Junior High.
- Overnight Trip

Motion 15-70:

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve the overnight trip – Boys Varsity Baseball trip to Cooperstown, NY on April 18, 2015.

VOTE: All in Favor

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Students

Grace McHugh reported on the following:

- Sports updates
- Cheerleading competition results
- Spring sports try-outs
- Student Council
 - MASC Polar plunge
 - Special Olympics basketball game
 - “Spread the word to end the word” campaign
 - Relay for Life

Brytni Simmons reported on the following:

- Technology competition
- Skills USA competition

b. Budget – Motions made under #2 Financial Report

c. Technical – No meeting, no report.

d. Curriculum – Mrs. Fitzgerald indicated the subcommittee met with Mr. McGuiness to discuss different models of high school scheduling. She will provide a more in-depth report in next month’s meeting packet.

e. By-Law & Policy

The following motions made by subcommittee, no second required.

Motion 15-71:

Mr. Gillmeister moved to approve for Second Reading and adoption: Policy GCCD – Domestic Violence Leave Policy.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 15-72:

Mr. Gillmeister moved to approve for Second Reading and adoption: Policy JIC - Student Discipline.

Motion 15-73:

Mr. Cooke moved, seconded by Mrs. Pecore, to refer Policy JIC back to the By-Law & Policy subcommittee to review whether the policy should include an appeal to the School Committee and make comments and references to MGL.

Discussion: Mr. Gillmeister stepped away from his role as Chair of the subcommittee and commented that he was in support of this motion.

VOTE: All in Favor

f. Negotiations

Mr. Fife reported negotiations with the teacher's association are ongoing with the next session scheduled March 25th. Mr. Valanzola commented that all parties felt the new IBB (Interest Based Bargaining) process was a positive experience.

g. Building & Physical Plant – No meeting, no report.

h. Legislative Subcommittee – No meeting, no report.

i. Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC)

Mr. Haggerty indicated there was no meeting, but the next meeting is scheduled on April 2nd.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS I

No comments

6. COMMUNICATIONS

The following items were included in the packet:

- Telegram.com – FCC Net Neutrality
- Open Meeting Law training invitation – March 19, 2015

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Nosek discussed the following:

- Legislative Bulletin – March 5, 2015
 - Governor's Budget Recommendations
 - Funding for Chapter 70, General Aid to Education
 - Regional transportation, Homeless Student Transportation and Special Education Circuit Breaker
 - Metco & Charter School Reimbursement
 - Accounts not funded in H1
 - Special Ed Inflation Rate Freeze
 - Day on the Hill 4/29/15
- Last day of school (with no further closures) June 19th
- All region Instrument Concert
- District-wide AED review. Dr. Nosek asked Mr. Starczewski to comment on the emergency that occurred. Mr. Starczewski indicated that on February 11th, a female student was found unresponsive. The school's emergency response team was called to duty, CPR was performed, 911 called, and the AED was utilized to regain the student's heartbeat. The student was brought by ambulance to the hospital. The student has recovered from the incident and has returned to school. Mr. Starczewski indicated he was glad the emergency plan was in place and he was thankful for the outcome. Dr. Nosek indicated there are a good number of teaching staff trained in CPR/AED.

8. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No comments.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No comments

10. NEW BUSINESS

- “Public Relations – Good Stories” – Mr. Valanzola indicated that when attending one MASC conference, he and fellow member, Mrs. Barnicle, saw a magazine from another school which was a promotional piece to highlight the school’s “good stories”. Mr. Valanzola felt this was a project which could engage the business technology students and sought permission to put together a subcommittee to begin conversations about creating this type of public relation materials. Hearing no objections, he asked that anyone interested in serving on this subcommittee contact him.
- Massachusetts Vocational Association New Teacher Award 2015 – The Committee asked that a letter be sent to Louis Lariviere congratulating him on the award.

11. OPEN FORUM

- April Meeting (falls during school vacation): Wednesday, April 29th

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 15-74:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Mr. Boyce, to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
William Gillmeister, Secretary