

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Meeting of Tuesday, September 15, 2015  
Junior High School Library

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Sheila Noyes-Miller  
Michele-Lee Shea  
Dan Valcour

Sturbridge

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

Holland

Steve Anderstrom  
Erik Iller

Brookfield

Megan Cunningham  
William Gillmeister

Wales

Edward Boyce

NOT PRESENT

Sharron Austin (Bk); Elda Dwyer (H); Megan Panek (S); Michael Valanzola (W)

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. Haggerty called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with members rising to salute the flag.

INTRODUCTIONS - NEW STAFF

Mr. Lucas and Mr. Starczewski introduced new staff members at their respective schools. School Committee members introduced themselves. Mr. Haggerty, on behalf of the Committee, welcomed the new faculty and staff members in attendance.

1. MINUTES

**Motion 16-14:**

Ms. Ryan moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle, to accept the regular session minutes of August 26, 2015.

VOTE: All in Favor

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Boyd indicated:

- All encumbrances to be completed during the upcoming month. She noted that she will be asking the Committee for some line item transfers next month.
- The FY17 Budget forms have been distributed to the principals.

3. STAFF REPORTS

- Mr. Lucas advised the Committee of the upcoming NEASC visit – invitation for Committee members to attend a meeting on Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 1:00 – 5:15 pm. He asked that members email him if able to attend. Mr. Haggerty encouraged School Committee members to attend and asked Mr. Lucas to provide the NEASC panel member names to the Committee. School Committee members may also attend the exit summary meeting.
- Parent meeting regarding South Dakota trip – meeting to see if there's an interest in this trip.
- Committee thanked Mr. Lucas for the list of college acceptances.
- Technical – The Committee asked Mr. Wood why there was a drop in the culinary enrollment numbers. Mr. Wood indicated it was an anomaly.

#### 4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### a. Students

Topics included:

- Skills USA Leadership Conference – Nov 22 – 24<sup>th</sup>
- Cornerstone Café opening 9/16/2015
- Computer Tech Career Day at Framingham State on Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Senior Health Careers
- New Student Orientation & Mentoring programs
- Freshman Elections
- NHS Book Drive
- Student Council Powder Puff – Oct 14<sup>th</sup>
- Homecoming Game & Dance
- Bonfire – coordinated with Sturbridge Fire Dept and Booster Club
- Spirit building

b. Budget – No report. Meeting scheduled for Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7:30 am

c. Technical – No report. Meeting scheduled for Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm

d. Curriculum – No report. Meeting scheduled for Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm

e. By-Law & Policy – No report. Meeting scheduled for Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm

f. Negotiations – No report.

g. Building & Physical Plant – No report. Meeting scheduled for Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm

h. Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC) - No report.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS I - No comments were made.

#### 6. COMMUNICATIONS

Included in the packet:

- Special Education PAC Information
- College Acceptances and numbers attending
- Bully Data Comparison
- MA DESE – Q&A re: Charter Schools

#### 7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Invited Guest – Old Sturbridge Village

Dr. Nosek invited James Donahue, President/CEO and Patrick Sweeney, Development & Marketing, to the table to discuss the OSV Charter School currently under consideration.

Mr. Donahue thanked the Committee for the invitation to discuss the Charter school under consideration. He discussed the vision of OSV which always included an educational component and expansion of educational programs. He indicated the prospectus isn't finalized, but plans included focusing on 12 communities, 5 of which are lower performing districts. The plans is a small school, K-8, with no more than 40 students per grade, with 2 classrooms per grade level. One teaching professional and one paraprofessional would be in each classroom. At this time, they are waiting to hear if OSV will be invited to a full application due in November. If accepted, approval would come in February of 2016 with plans to open the school either in September of 2016 or 2017. 120 students would be accepted the first year with a staff of 14-15 FTE's, with plans to increase by 40 students each year until at capacity. Transportation costs were discussed, OSV is looking at creating their own busing department. OSV is a non-profit,

501(c)(3). It is not the intent to make a profit from the school, but OSV could provide services to the school at a significantly discounted rate. The plan is to have the school contiguous to the village, and currently there are three locations under consideration.

Committee members indicated that their concerns may be premature until the project moves forward; however they did have some questions:

- Seamless transition to the high school – are there plans to ensure the curriculum will align with the high schools?
- Teacher workshops - At one time, OSV ran teacher workshops, would OSV reinstitute those programs? - Mr. Donahue indicated he was unsure why those programs stopped, but noted it was probably a funding-driven decision.
- Sports – Would middle school children play in MIAA leagues?

Dr. Nosek thanked Mr. Donahue and Mr. Sweeney for attending the meeting. Mr. Donahue indicated that if invited back to submit a full application to the DESE, then he welcomes opportunities to speak with local school committees.

Dr. Nosek also reported on the following:

- Distributed: DESE – Student Assessment schedule. Dr. Nosek indicated that the approved school calendar may need further adjustments to accommodate the assessment scheduled.
- MASC Conference is Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>. Members wishing to attend should contact Dr. Nosek's administrative assistant.
- Tri-Soccer shed. Our insurance will cover any insurance related problem with the shed.
- Medical Emergency Response Plan has been submitted.

#### 8. PUBLIC ACCESS II

The school was notified of an incident where a student in Wales was approached by a vehicle asking the student if they wanted a ride. Dr. Nosek indicated the incident wasn't reported to the school for 2 days, and the school had no information about the details. The school immediately notified both the local and state police, once they were informed of the situation by the family. Mr. Boyce indicated there is an ongoing police investigation.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - No comments.

10. NEW BUSINESS - No comments.

11. OPEN FORUM - No comments.

#### 12. ADJOURNMENT

##### **Motion 16-13:**

Ms. Ryan moved, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. William Gillmeister, Secretary