

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, December 15, 2015

Senior High School Library

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Sheila Noyes-Miller

Michele-Lee Shea

Dan Valcour

Brookfield

William Gillmeister

Megan Cunningham

Sturbridge

Patricia Barnicle

Michelle Fitzgerald

Gary Galonek

William Haggerty

Holland

Erik Iller

Wales

Edward Boyce

Michael Valanzola

NOT PRESENT

Sharron Austin (BK); Steve Anderstrom (H); Jacob Ryan (S); Megan Panek (S); 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; Christopher Starczewski, JH Principal; Mark Wood, Principal Director – Technical; and audience.

Following a holiday musical presentation by the Tantasqua Senior High School Band, held in the auditorium, Mr. Valanzola called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. with members rising to salute the flag.

Presentation of Superintendent's Scholars

Mr. Lucas provided a summary of the achievements of the two Superintendent's Scholars, Heather Cho and Chineme Onwubueke. The students will be recognized at the Worcester County Superintendent's Scholars Luncheon on January 5, 2016 at WPI. Dr. Nosek presented the recognition awards for academic excellence.

1. MINUTES

Motion 16-37:

Mr. Boyce moved, seconded by Mr. Barnicle, to accept the regular session minutes of November 17, 2015.

VOTE: All in Favor

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Boyd indicated the Financial Report for the period ending November 30, 2015 was included in the packet and is without concerns. The warmer weather is having a positive effect on the utility/heating line item.

Lunch Prices

Motion 16-38:

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Noyes-Miller, to approve the recommendation to increase student lunch prices at the secondary schools from \$2.75 to \$3.00 effective January 4, 2016.

VOTE: All in Favor

3. STAFF REPORTS

Dr. Nosek noted that due to an MCAS testing schedule conflict, Class Day will become Class Night on June 2, 2016, 6:00-9:00 pm.

Field Trip

Motion 16-39:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Mrs. Noyes-Miller, to approve the High School Field Trip request to the American Museum of Natural History, NY as presented.

VOTE: All in Favor

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Students – No Report.

b. Budget – Mrs. Noyes-Miller reported the subcommittee met and discussed and approved the lunch prices, as well as the funds needed for the turf fields, that will be discussed under the Building & Physical Plant Committee report.

c. Technical – No report.

d. Curriculum – No report. Next meeting scheduled Jan. 4, 2016

e. By-Law & Policy – No report. Next meeting scheduled Jan. 19, 2016

f. Negotiations – No report.

g. Building & Physical Plant – Mr. Galonek indicated the Committee's report/proposal for artificial turf fields was included in the packet. The subcommittee recommends the following three motions:

Motion 16-40:

Mr. Galonek moved:

That for the purpose of paying costs of designing and constructing artificial turf athletic fields, resurfacing the track and making the press box handicap accessible, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, there be and hereby is authorized, under and pursuant to Chapter 71, Section 16(d), of the General Laws and the District Agreement, as amended, the incurring of debt on the full faith and credit of the District by the issuance and sale at one time or from time to time of bonds or notes in an aggregate principle of \$2,100,000.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 16-41:

Mr. Galonek moved:

That within seven (7) days from the date on which this vote is adopted the Secretary be and hereby is instructed to notify the Board of Selectmen of each of the member towns of the Tantasqua District in writing as to the amount of debt authorized thereby and the general purposes for which the debt was authorized and that in connection with such notification be furnished a copy of the aforesaid votes.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 16-42:

Mr. Galonek moved:

That the Tantasqua School Committee vote to appropriate \$50,000 from its School Choice Revolving fund and \$50,000 from its Summer Camps Revolving fund for the purposed of paying for Engineering and Design Services on the proposed artificial turf project.

VOTE: All in Favor

h. Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC) - Mr. Haggerty indicated the Committee met earlier in the evening and discussed strategy on the best way to present the proposed amendments to the Regional Agreement at the member towns' annual meetings.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS I - No comments were made.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Included in the packet:

- Congratulatory letter to the directors, cast and crew of *Once on This Island*

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Nosek reported on the following:

- MCAS Assessment: The state will be transitioning to a new assessment or the "Next Generation MCAS". In order to prepare for this transition, the Junior High will be taking the PARCC paper assessment for Spring 2016. She indicated the 2019 graduating class is still taking the full MCAS.
- The *No Child Left Behind* Act was recently reauthorized by Congress.
- On 12/7/15 Tantasqua hosted the public hearing on the OSV Charter School application. Comments may be submitted to DESE until January 6, 2016.
- The High School was notified by the College Board that Tantasqua was named to the AP Honor Roll. 435 schools across the country and 32 in MA have achieved this status.

8. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No comments.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - No comments.

10. NEW BUSINESS - No comments.

11. OPEN FORUM

Mr. Gillmeister wished all a wonderful holiday.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 16-43:

Mr. Boyce moved, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. William Gillmeister, Secretary