

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of Tuesday, January 19, 2016
Junior High School Library

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Sheila Noyes-Miller
Michele-Lee Shea
Dan Valcour

Sturbridge

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

Holland

Steve Anderstrom
Erik Iller

Brookfield

William Gillmeister *

Wales

Edward Boyce
Michael Valanzola

* Arrived 7:35

NOT PRESENT

Sharron Austin, Megan Cunningham (Bk)

Although Brookfield members, Sharron O'Day and Megan Cunningham, were not present at the January meeting, they were representing the Tantasqua School Committee at a Brookfield meeting discussing the Tantasqua turf project.

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Erin Nosek, Superintendent; Jeffrey Zanghi, Assistant Superintendent for Learning & Teaching; Deborah Boyd, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Business; 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 16-44:

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mr. Boyce, to accept the regular session minutes of December 15, 2015 as amended.

Amendment: Motion 16-37 correct to Mrs. Barnicle from "Mr."

VOTE: In Favor (9)

Abstained: (4) Anderstrom, Panek, Ryan, Waters

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Boyd indicated the Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2015 was included in the packet and is without concerns. The warmer weather in December led to a positive effect on the utility/heating line item.

3. STAFF REPORTS

CPR Smart School Designation

Motion 16-45:

Mr. Boyce moved, seconded by Ms. Ryan, to designate Tantasqua Regional Junior High School as an American Heart Association CPR Smart School.

Discussion: Participants will not be fully CPR certified but will be educated in lifesaving actions. The CPR Smart training will be woven into the physical education program.

VOTE: All in Favor

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Students – Students reported on the following:

- Skills USA - upcoming district competition
- Tantasqua's participation in the Worcester's Best Chef competition – 1/31/16 at Mechanic's Hall in Worcester
- Business Professional program
- Fundraisers:
 - Giving Tree
 - Toy Drive
 - Sock Drive to distribute to homeless shelters
- Student Council – cookies to teachers
- Finals week
- Music-A-Thon - Jan. 23, 2016
- School Spirit – updates
- Sports updates
- Mr. Starczewski indicated the students who participated in the Project 351 program will present at a future Committee meeting. The 351 Project was launched by Governor Patrick and includes one 8th grade student from every town to form the foundation of a strong base of future community leaders.

b. Budget – Mrs. Noyes-Miller reported the subcommittee will wrap up its meetings in the local communities with a meeting in Wales on Feb.10th. The subcommittee will bring forth the proposed budget to the full committee for a vote at the February meeting.

c. Technical – Dr. Waters indicated the subcommittee met prior to this meeting and will bring its report to the February meeting.

d. Curriculum – Mrs. Barnicle indicated the subcommittee met on Jan. 4, 2016 and discussed the following topics:

- Budget – no major impact to the curriculum from this year's budget.
 - One education support paraprofessional will be added
 - More wireless technology to provide 100% access
 - No new AP courses
 - One New Media Literacy (2 sections) will be added
 - Latin II added
- Sr. High Internship Program
 - Program is reserved for seniors
 - Internships may be done during the summer, school vacations, weekends, after school or during school day.
 - Credit: 2.5 for alternate days, 5 for every day.
 - Mr. Lucas provided a list of this year's participants
 - Discussed: More structured reflection for participating students.
- Book: "Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be: An Antidote to the College Admissions Mania" by Frank Bruni. Copies have been ordered for the subcommittee to be discussed at their next meeting with the possibility of organizing a community forum on the topic.

e. By-Law & Policy – No report. Next meeting scheduled Jan. 25, 2016

f. Negotiations – Negotiations begin Feb 6, 2016 with Service Employees International Union, Local 888 and the Custodial & Food Service Unit.

g. Building & Physical Plant – Proposals are due on the turf project on Jan. 29th. Mr. Galonek indicated the subcommittee will meet on Feb. 6th to review any incoming proposals with the hope to narrow down to 3-4 proposals for final review.

h. Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC) - Mr. Haggerty indicated the Committee met January 14, 2016 and voted unanimously to propose to the full committee to return the agreement name to the original format being “Agreement for Regional School District for the Five Towns of Brimfield, Brookfield, Holland, Sturbridge and Wales”. Mr. Valanzola asked if there were any objections, hearing none, proclaimed the name change adopted. Mr. Haggerty indicated that Mr. Gillmeister had worked on a streamlined document which will be presented at the town meetings. There will be three articles submitted at the town meetings. The Committee asked that the streamlined document be shared with members.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS I - No comments were made.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Included in the packet:

- AP Honor Roll Press Release
- TRSD Membership List FY16
- MASC Legislative Bulletin
- Letter from SEIU Local 888 re: Negotiations
- Letter to SEIU Local 888 re: Negotiations
- SWCEC FY15 Annual Report
- SWCEC FY15 Auditor’s Report

Mr. Boyce requested SWCEC documents be provided to members electronically to provide a link in an effort to save paper and postage costs. Mr. Valanzola polled the Committee, hearing no objections, proclaimed the request adopted.

7. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Nosek reported on the following:

- Accountability Status – DESE 2015. The JHS & Vocational division are Level II schools, the HS is a Level I school, up from a Level II. State-wide: 29% Level I, 51% Level II, 18% Level III, 2% Level IV and 2 districts schools are Level V. Of the district’s elementary schools, Wales and Sturbridge are Level I schools, the remainder are Level II.
- Upcoming Ted Event – January 29th at the Publick House – an evening of decadent desserts and music.
- ½ Professional Day scheduled on Jan. 26th – a Grant Writing Workshop funded by Ted.
- School Calendar – will require modifications with the PARC & MCAS testing dates finalized. A request to amend will be presented at the February meeting.

8. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No comments.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - No comments.

10. NEW BUSINESS - No comments.

11. OPEN FORUM

Mr. Gillmeister arrived late. He reported he had attended the Brookfield Board of Selectmen's meeting where the field turf project was discussed. He reported Brookfield voted 3-0 to support the turf project. Members asked if there were any concerns voiced at the meeting. Mr. Gillmeister indicated discussion included installing more natural fields to allow for sufficient rotations and field lighting was discussed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 16-46:

Ms. Ryan moved, seconded by Mr. Boyce, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. William Gillmeister, Secretary

TRSD:pag