

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Junior High School Library

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Sheila Noyes-Miller
Dan Valcour
Michele-Lee Shea

Sturbridge

Mary Bellezza
William Haggerty
Kristen Leo
Susan Kline
Dr. Susan Waters

Holland

Mary Lovett

Brookfield

William Gillmeister
Sharron O'Day

Wales

Michael Valanzola

NOT PRESENT

Megan Cunningham (Bk); Erik Iller (H); Patricia Barnicle, Michelle Fitzgerald (S); Christine Randall (W)

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Erin Nosek, Superintendent; Jeffrey Zanghi, Assistant Superintendent for Learning & Teaching; Michael Lucas, SH Principal; Christopher Starczewski, JH Principal; Mark Wood, Principal Director – Technical; and audience.

Moment of Silence

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in memory of Coach John Pedace.

Welcome

With new members in attendance, Mr. Valanzola asked members to introduce themselves and state the member town represented.

Project 351 & NELMS Scholar Leaders – TJHS

Mr. Starczewski introduced the **Project 351 Ambassadors**: Rebecca Mahon, Avalynne Leneau, Isabella Miles, Alexis Carson and Cadence Boye. These 8th grade social and academic leaders completed high quality community service projects and will maintain engagement with the high school Project 351 Alumnae group as they move to the high school.

The **NELMS** leaders for this year were Rebecca Mahon and Thomas Celuzza. Both students were selected from a number of nominations from teachers recognizing students who exemplified scholarship, leadership, service, humility and being a strong role model for others.

REORGANIZATION

The meeting was turned over to Dr. Nosek for the purpose of reorganization – calling for nominations for the position of Chairman.

Motion 17-72:

Mr. Haggerty nominated Michael Valanzola for the position of Chairman, seconded by Mrs. Leo.

Hearing no others, nominations were closed. A ballot vote was taken.

VOTE: All in favor

Mr. Valanzola thanked the committee for their support and moved forward asking for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

Motion 17-73:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller nominated William Haggerty for the position of Vice-Chair, seconded by Mrs. Leo.

Hearing no others, nominations were closed. A ballot vote was taken.

VOTE: All in favor

Motion 17-74:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller nominated William Gillmeister for the position of Secretary, seconded by Mr.

Haggerty.

Hearing no others, nominations were closed. A voice vote was taken.

VOTE: All in favor

MINUTES

Motion 17-75:

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Ms. Kline, to approve the May 16, 2017 Regular Session minutes as presented.

VOTE: In Favor (01) Abstained (1) O'Day

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dr. Nosek indicated the Financial Report for the period ending May 31, 2017 was included in the packet. There are no budget issues at this time.

Dr. Nosek noted that all five member towns approved both the TRSD and elementary budgets.

3. STAFF REPORTS

• Resignation

Mr. Starczewski announced his resignation as Junior High principal. He indicated he had accepted a position as Principal of the Dudley Middle School. He noted that he had the privilege of working with an extraordinary team during his 6 years at Tantasqua. Dr. Nosek thanked Mr. Starczewski for his dedication to improving the educational experience at TJHS.

• Building Project

Motion 17-76:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Ms. Leo, to approve the recommendation to award the building project to: Mr. & Mrs. Sullivan, 27 Wallace Rd., Sturbridge and to authorize the Chair to endorse the associated contract.

VOTE: All in Favor

• Obsolete Textbooks

Motion 17-77:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Ms. Leo, to declare the textbooks (below) as obsolete.

Text: *Nursing Assistant. A Nursing Approach – 10th edition* – 60 copies

VOTE: All in Favor

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOTE: Motions recommended by and put forth by subcommittees do not require a second.

a. Students – No report.

b. Budget - No report.

c. Technical – No report.

d. Curriculum – No report.

e. By-Law & Policy - Mr. Gillmeister noted the report of the School Committee Self-Evaluation survey was included in the packet. Ten school committee members returned surveys. Based on the information from those responses, the Chair of Bylaw and Policy Subcommittee put forth the following recommendations.

NOTE: Motions recommended by and put forth by subcommittees do not require a second.

Motion 17-78:

Mr. Gillmeister moved that the School Committee take up the topic of its goals and objectives to specifically identify and distinguish the goals and objectives of the District and those of the Committee.

VOTE: All in Favor (voice vote)

Motion 17-79:

Mr. Gillmeister moved that the School Committee should identify topics of interest to Tantasqua Regional School District and conduct trainings in-house on a regular basis. Immediate topics include budget development, parliamentary procedures and other protocols, and the proper role of the member relative to the entire committee.

VOTE: All in Favor (voice vote)

Motion 17-80:

Mr. Gillmeister moved that Tantasqua-Union 61 conduct an introductory training for newly elected school committee members in June of each year specifically tailored to Tantasqua-Union 61 districts.

VOTE: All in Favor (voice vote)

Motion 17-81:

Mr. Gillmeister moved that the Bylaw and Policy Subcommittee be directed to develop special rules for principals to provide oral summaries of their reports.

DISCUSSION:

- 50% of the survey respondents felt that members did not come to meetings prepared.
- A verbal presentation would provide the public an opportunity to hear about the schools' happenings because they don't see the written reports.

VOTE: Majority in favor (voice vote)

Motion 17-82:

Mr. Gillmeister moved that the Bylaws of the Committee be amended to create a Public Relations Subcommittee and that the Bylaw and Policy Subcommittee be instructed to prepare such an amendment for consideration.

VOTE: All in Favor (voice vote)

f. Negotiations – No report.

g. Building & Physical Plant – No report.

h. Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC) - Certified copies of the town votes are being compiled to submit to the state.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS I - No comments.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were included on the agenda:

- Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative – 3rd Q Report (sent electronically)
- Letters to:
 - Police Chief T. Ford – thank you for ensuring safe roads
 - Brookfield & Sturbridge Highway Departments – thank you
 - Adam Thibeault – Congratulations on Skills USA. Mr. Wood indicated that yesterday Adam landed at the SkillsUSA Competition in Louisville, KY. His competition is scheduled on Thursday, June 22nd with awards streamed live on the SKI SkillsUSA website.
 - Maestros – Congratulations and appreciation for performance at the school committee May meeting.
 - MASC Fall Conference details were emailed to members.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Nosek reported on the following:

- Graduation was held on June 4th. A list of post graduate decisions will be provided in the fall.
- Subcommittee Selections – Mr. Valanzola indicated that members will be asked to select their top choices for subcommittees. Mr. Valanzola plans to complete subcommittee assignments during the summer to have the groups in place by the retreat.
- September Retreat – Planning on Saturday, September 16th.
 - Discussions:
 - Consider holding the September TRSC meeting at the end of the retreat?
 - Move Joint meeting to October.

8. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No comments.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - No comments.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Motion 17-83:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Ms. Shea, to commit discussion to the Building and Physical Plant Subcommittee regarding the process to dedicate and name the field in memory of Coach John Pedace and have the Subcommittee report back by the November meeting.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Lucas indicated he would research what other schools have done.

VOTE: All in Favor

11. OPEN FORUM

Mr. Haggerty indicated that he, Mr. Gillmeister and Mrs. Barnicle participated in serving “Class Night” pizza to the students. He suggested the timing for serving the pizza should be re-evaluated. This was the first year that “Class Day” was held in the evening.

12. ADJOURN

Motion 17-84:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller moved, seconded by Dr. Waters, to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 pm.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
William Gillmeister, Secretary

TRSD:pag