

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Junior High Library

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Delia Brower
Sheila Noyes-Miller
Dan Valcour

Sturbridge

Patricia Barnicle
Mary Bellezza
Michelle Fitzgerald
William Haggerty
Susan Kline
Kristen Leo
Dr. Susan Waters

Holland

Mary Lovett

Wales

Christine Randall
Michael Valanzola

Brookfield

Megan Cunningham
William Gillmeister
Pamela Fitzgerald

NOT PRESENT

Cheryl Raymond, Erik Iller (H)

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Erin Nosek, Superintendent; Deborah Boyd, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Business; Michael Lucas, SH Principal; Sean Gilrein, Interim JH Principal; Mark Wood, Principal Director – Technical; Mr. James Whalen, District's Selectmen Representative; and Matthew Sexton, Student Representative.

NOTE: This meeting followed the Joint Meeting of the Tantasqua & Union #61 Committees. The motion numbers are continued from that joint meeting.

OUTSTANDING MAVA STUDENT – Matthew Sexton

Dr. Nosek reviewed the achievements of Matthew Sexton during his time at Tantasqua and presented the Outstanding Massachusetts Vocational Association's award to Matthew Sexton.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Valanzola called the meeting to order at 7:42 p.m. with members rising for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. MINUTES

Motion 18-72:

Mrs. Kline moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle to approve the April 25, 2018 Regular Session minutes as presented:

Amendment:

VOTE: Voice vote – Motion passes
 Abstained – Brower, Haggerty, Noyes-Miller

Motion 18-73:

Mrs. Kline moved, seconded by Mrs. Leo, to approve the April 25, 2018 Executive Session minutes.

VOTE: Voice vote – Motion passes
 Abstained – Brower, Haggerty, Noyes-Miller

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Boyd indicated the Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2018 was included in the packet. At this point in the year there are no significant concerns and it is expected the E&D level will be maintained. Looking at next year, if the MSBA grant application is approved, Tantasqua will be required to fund a portion of the accelerated repair project (Junior High) and the Budget Subcommittee will revisit the issue as needed.

Motion 18-74:

As Chair of the Budget Subcommittee, Mrs. Noyes-Miller moved to approve the recommendations for FY18 surplus funding as follows:

Toward FY19 E&D	\$ 200,000
Security/Surveillance	\$ 200,000
HS Auditorium Sound Upgrade	\$ 100,000
OPEB	\$ 100,000
Reduce School Choice Use	Up to the \$375,000 budgeted

NOTE: Clarification: Each of the above figures are considered "up to, not to exceed" amounts

VOTE: All in Favor (Voice vote)

4. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Wood commented that 19 students participated in 16 events in the Skills USA competition. Five medals were achieved. These numbers represent an increase over prior years.

Mrs. Barnicle noted she enjoyed reading the updates on the Chestnut Project. Mr. Valanzola commented that he'd attended the Ted brunch on May 6th where the Chestnut Project was highlighted.

At Mr. Gillmeister's request, Mr. Lucas commented on the professional development with Landmark, regarding feedback for special education teachers supporting students with language-based learning disabilities.

Motion 18-75:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to approve the trip for Andrew Houle to compete at the SkillsUSA National Competition in Louisville, KY. The trip is scheduled June 25-29, 2018. Additionally, that any staff member involved as advisor/chaperone for the trip shall be exempt from the conflict of interest law regarding the cost of the trip.

NOTE: Andrew Houle was the top finisher of the State Competition in the category of Job Skills Demonstration.

VOTE: All in Favor (Voice vote)

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Students

Mathew Sexton reported on Technical Division student activities:

- Business Technology – mock businesses
- Mechanical Design – finishing portfolios
- Architecture Program – working on tiny house projects
- Carpentry Program – finishing garage project and salt box shed
- Culinary – continuing working at the Cornerstone Café and summer jobs in the industry
- Electrical - Motor labs
- Health Program – preparing for finals and hands-only CPR
- Hotel/Rest Management – mock hotel presentations
- IT – hardware review and refurbishing equipment in the district
- Manufacturing – Working on end of year projects and coop programs

Matthew indicated this is his last meeting and he thanked the Committee members for their support and opportunity to be involved.

Taive Muenzberg had a conflict and was unable to attend the meeting.

b. Budget – Actions taken under Financial Report

c. Technical – No meeting, no report

d. Curriculum – No meeting, no report

e. By-Law & Policy –

As Subcommittee Chair, Mr. Gillmeister presented the following recommendations of the By-Law & Policy Subcommittee in the form of motions not requiring a second.

Motion 18-76:

Mr. Gillmeister moved to accept the following Policies for Second Reading and Adoption:

- Policy AC – Non-Discrimination (Amended)
- Policy GBA – Equal Employment Opportunity (Amended)
- Policy GCF – Professional Staff Hiring (Amended)
- Policy JB – Equal Educational Opportunities (Amended)
- Policy JFBB-1 – School Choice (Amended)

VOTE: Voice vote – Motion passes

Motion 18-77:

Mr. Gillmeister moved to accept Policy File: BAA, Evaluation of School Committee Operational Procedures, on Second Reading and Adoption.

VOTE: Voice vote – Motion passes

Motion 18-78:

Mr. Gillmeister moved to strike Policy AAA, School District Legal Status, and accept for first reading Policy File: AA, Tantasqua Regional School District Establishment and Governance Documents.

VOTE: Voice vote – Motion passes

The next By-Law & Policy subcommittee meetings are scheduled on May 23 and June 6, 2018.

f. Negotiations – To be discussed in Executive Session.

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

6. PUBLIC ACCESS I - No comments.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were included in the meeting packet:

- Legislative Bulletin: House Ways and Means Budget Recommendations, H. 4400
- Letter of congratulations to Hugo Sandin, student, for finishing first in the State Competition in the category of Business Law & Ethics.
- SWCEC – Quarterly report sent to members electronically.

8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Nosek provided the following report:

- MSBA application for funding – a team was sent to the school to review and affirm the conditions as represented in the application. The MSBA will vote on the submissions at their June 27th meeting.
- School Resource Officer (SRO) – Dr. Nosek and Mr. Valanzola met with four of the five district Police Chiefs (Note: Holland was scheduled to attend, but needed to cancel due to other pressing business.) The purpose of the meeting was to begin discussions about an SRO and overall school security. The Police Chiefs were all appreciative for the invitation and open discussion format. The Chiefs will work together to put forth a proposal and have agreed to continue discussions on an SRO and other security matters.
- Building Repairs Update – Dr. Nosek reported the High School art room which suffered substantial damage this winter was scheduled to be completed. The ceilings are to be put back in and fire alarm testing will be conducted. She indicated she was confident that the building will soon be fully operational.
- Junior High Principal – The finalist, Gregory Sturges, has accepted the position with a start date of July 1, 2018. Mr. Sturges is currently the Assistant Principal at the Dudley-Charlton School.

9. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No comments.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - No comments.

11. NEW BUSINESS

The TEA Unit A has voted to ratify the contract as presented to the Committee. Mr. James Whalen, the District’s Selectmen representative was present and included in the following vote.

As Subcommittee Chair, Mr. Valcour presented the following recommendation of the Negotiations Subcommittee in the form of a motion not requiring a second.

Motion 18-79:

Mr. Valcour moved to ratify the TEA Unit A Contract and direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the district.

VOTE: All in Favor (includes Mr. Whalen’s vote)

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion 18-80:

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to enter Executive Session at 8:40 pm as provided under:

- MGL Chapter 30A § 4 to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto; and
- MGL Chapter 30A § 21A(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position as so declared by the Chair

Further, the Committee intends to reconvene in Open Session.

A roll call vote was taken.

YES – Barnicle, Bellezza, Brower, Cunningham, Fitzgerald, Gillmeister, Haggerty, Kline, Leo, Lovett, Noyes-Miller, Randall, Valanzola, Valcour, Waters

NOTE: Mr. Valanzola indicated that while Mr. Whalen, the District’s Selectmen representative, is allowed at the negotiation table and included in the vote on the contract, he is not involved in Executive Session discussions.

Motion 18-81:

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to move out of Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. and return to open session.

A roll call vote was taken.

YES – Barnicle, Bellezza, Brower, Cunningham, Fitzgerald, Gillmeister, Haggerty, Kline, Leo, Lovett, Noyes-Miller, Randall, Valanzola, Valcour, Waters

NOTE: The motions related to entering and exiting Executive Session are also included in the Executive Session minutes.

13. NEW BUSINESS (Continued) - Unit B Contract Ratification

As Subcommittee Chair, Mr. Valcour presented the following recommendation of the Negotiations Subcommittee in the form of a motion not requiring a second.

Motion 18-82:

Mr. Valcour moved to ratify Memorandum of Agreement between the Tantasqua Education Association- Unit B and direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the district.

VOTE All in Favor (includes Mr. Whalen’s vote)

14. OPEN FORUM - No comments were made.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 18-83:

Mr. Gillmeister moved, seconded by Mrs. Leo, to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
William Gillmeister, Secretary