

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of Tuesday, June 15, 2010
Library – Tantasqua Junior High School

Mrs. Neal convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance rose to salute the flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Geoff Earls
Sheila Noyes-Miller

Sturbridge

Michele Fitzgerald
Gary Galonek
Kathleen Neal

Holland

Steve Anderstrom
Howard Fife

Brookfield

James Cooke
Barbara Wilson

Francis Simanski
Beth Tichy

Wales

Brenda Tooley
Michael Valanzola

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mark Richter (Bm), William Gillmeister (Bk), Eric Iller (H), Pat Barnicle, William Haggerty (S)

ALSO PRESENT

Daniel Durgin, Superintendent; Ted Friend, Associate Superintendent; Beth Schaper, Assistant Superintendent; Deborah Boyd, Business Manager; Tim Prouty, Technical Division Principal; Jennifer Lundwall, Jr. High Principal; Michael Lucas, High School Principal; Michelle Bourget and Jordan DeSousa, Student Representatives; and audience.

MINUTES

Motion 10-64:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Cooke, to accept the meeting minutes of May 18, 2010 - Regular Session.

VOTE: In Favor (12)
 Abstained: Wilson

FINANCIAL REPORT

FY2010 - Mrs. Boyd reviewed the May 31, 2010 Financial Report included in the meeting packet. She indicated the shortfall of \$141,000 in transportation funding was as anticipated earlier in the year. Administrators also reduced spending in hopes to replenish funds in the E & D Account.

FY2011 - Mrs. Boyd indicated that the Budget Subcommittee and met and voted on a recommendation to respond to the 4% reduction (\$131k) in Chap 70 funding for FY2011. She indicated the Budget Subcommittee was presented with options for budget and revenue adjustments.

Revenue/Budget Adjustments:

Chapter 70	(\$216,000)
Technical Tuition	\$ 50,000 - increase in tech enrollment
Cafeteria Revolving	\$ 30,000 – insurance and custodial
Administrative Support	<u>\$ 33,000</u> – retirement & office reduction
Remaining Balance to Cover	\$ 103,000

The Budget Subcommittee reviewed the following options to cover the remaining balance as follows:

Option 1 – reduce insurance budget line item by \$50,000 by charging the cost of insurance for special education transportation employees to the elementary budgets; and vote \$53,000 more from School Choice reserve toward the operational budget.

Option 2 – use the projected additional \$85,000 expected in transportation toward the Chap 70 shortfall (do not further reduce transportation assessments to member towns) and vote \$18,000 more from School Choice reserve toward the operational budget.

The Budget Subcommittee voted to recommend Option 2 to the full committee.

Motion 10-65:

Mr. Simanski motioned, seconded by Mrs. Noyes-Miller, to accept Option 2 which adjusts the FY2011 Total Operating Budget to \$19,109,274.00 and reflects revenues as follows:

Chapter 70	\$7,673,757.00	- \$131K
Tuition Tech Division	450,000.00	+ \$50K
Investment Income	100,000.00	
Misc. Income	40,000.00	
Cafeteria Revolving	30,000.00	NEW
Medicaid Reimbursements	67,000.00	
E & D	250,000.00	
School Choice	483,000.00	+ \$18K
Total Revenues	9,093,757,00	

VOTE: In Favor (12)
Opposed (1) – Cooke

Motion 10-66:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Cooke, to approve the FY2011 Capital and Technology Requests (School Choice Use) as presented, in the amount of \$217,000.00.

VOTE: All in Favor

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Students - Michelle Bourget and Jordan DeSousa reported on the following student activities:

- Yearbook
- *Tomahawk Newsletter*
- Community Service Learning – Pancake Breakfast
- Graduation was held June 6th
- Scholarships received in graduating students

Mrs. Neal asked if there were any objections to adjusting the agenda to allow the three groups to present their trips to the Committee. Hearing none, Mrs. Neal asked Mrs. Costello to present the proposed music department trip.

Music Trip – Mrs. Costello discussed the proposed trip for the Choraleers to embark on a Concert Tour of France and Belgium during the April 2011 vacation period. There are 40

seats available (25 seats for Choraleers, 15 for chaperones and other music students) with a cost of \$2,995 per attendee.

Motion 10-67:

Mr. Earls motioned, seconded by Mrs. Noyes-Miller, to sanction the Music Department trip to France and Belgium during the 2011 April school vacation, as presented.

Discussion – There was extensive discussion regarding the following issues:

- Whether the trip is put out to bid
- Cost to students
- Fundraising activities
- Costs not included, e.g., passports, lunches, beverages, tips to drivers, travel insurance and incidental personal expenses
- Deposit date
- Number of other sanctioned Music Dept trips.

VOTE: In Favor (6)
 Opposed (6) Anderstrom, Fife, Simanski, Tooley, Valanzola, Wilson
 Abstained (1) Cooke

Motion fails to pass.

Science Department Trip – Mr. Kelly discussed the proposed trip to Costa Rica during the February 2011 school vacation period. The group would consist of 8 – 10 students with 4 – 5 adults. The cost will be between \$1,800 - \$2,000 with additional costs of \$10-15/day for snacks, drinks, and any meals not included in the price.

Motion 10-68:

Mr. Simanski motioned, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to sanction the Costa Rica trip as presented by Steve Kelley.

Discussion – The same issues as discussed during Motion 10-67 were also discussed for this trip.

VOTE: In Favor (10)
 Opposed (2) Anderstrom, Fife
 Abstained (1) Cooke

Motion 10-69:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald, to exempt up to three (3) faculty members the amount of travel related expense, as provided by MGL 268A, 23(b)(2), as the benefit provided is for the advancement of the educational experience for students.

VOTE: In Favor (7)
 Opposed (4) Anderstrom, Fife, Tooley, Valanzola
 Abstained (1) Cooke

Motion 10-70:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Earls, to reconsider Motion 10-67.

Motion was rejected by the Chair – motion must come from the prevailing side.

Motion 10-71:

Mr. Simanski motioned, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to reconsider Motion 10-67. (Music Trip to France & Belgium).

VOTE: In Favor (7)
Opposed (4) Anderstrom, Fife, Tooley, Valanzola

Motion 10-67 Reconsideration (to sanction the Music Trip to France & Belgium).

Discussion – There was extensive discussion relative to:

- the committee approving one trip while rejecting another,
- trip won't run if there is not enough committed students
- the educational opportunities that these trips provide to students.

VOTE: In Favor (7)
Opposed: (4) Anderstrom, Fife, Tooley, Valanzola

Motion 10-72:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Earls, to exempt Mrs. Costello the amount of travel expenses related for the Music Trip, as provided by MGL 268A, 23(b)(2), as the benefit provided is for the advancement of the educational experience for students.

VOTE: In Favor (7)
Opposed (4) Anderstrom, Fife, Tooley, Valanzola
Abstained (1) Cooke, Wilson

Spain Trip - Ms. Helena Páez discussed the proposed Andalucian Fiesta trip to Spain during the April 2011 school vacation period. The group would consist of 24 students with 4 adults. The cost will be \$2,913 with additional costs for snacks, drinks and personal expenses.

Motion 10-73:

Mrs. Fitzgerald motioned, seconded by Mr. Earls, to sanction the Andalucian Fiesta trip to Spain, as presented.

VOTE: In Favor (9)
Opposed (2) Anderstrom, Fife
Abstained (1) Cooke

Motion 10-74:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Earls, to exempt Ms. Páez the amount of travel expenses related to the Andalucian Fiesta trip to Spain, as provided by MGL 268A, 23(b)(2), as the benefit provided is for the advancement of the educational experience for students.

VOTE: In Favor (7)
Opposed (4) Anderstrom, Fife, Tooley, Valanzola
Abstained (1) Cooke, Wilson

b. Budget – Votes taken under Financial Report.

c. Technical – Mrs. Tooley reported the Technical Subcommittee met with the General Advisory Committee on May 24th. Items discussed:

- DOE requirement regarding tools provided to students.
- Technical Division Admission Policy
- OSHA certification
- Skills USA
- Enrollment for school year 2010-11 is 367
- New Program: Hospitality Management
- Building Project has been approved for next year.
- Concerns, guidelines and professional training for renovation projects involve lead paint
- Increase in enrollment in electrical department created an off-site transportation problem
- Concerns over student/teacher ratios.

With the Chair's approval, Mr. Durgin responded to the report. He indicated the state's recommended student-teacher ratio is 15:1, adding that Bay Path's ratio has been consistent at 20:1. After discussing with Mr. Prouty, the administration will keep the ratio at 15:1 as recommended by the state. Mr. Durgin also indicated that the carpentry division has a larger vehicle, but fewer students, so the electrical and carpentry vehicles will be switched to accommodate the student numbers.

d. Curriculum – No meeting, no report.

e. By-Law & Policy – No meeting, no report.

f. Personnel – No meeting, no report.

g. Negotiations – Meeting with custodial unit is scheduled for June 29th.

h. Building and Physical Plant – Mr. Durgin reported the Subcommittee voted 3-0 to move forward with the Solar Panel energy project

i. Ad Hoc Subcommittee (Strategic Planning) – No report.

PUBLIC ACCESS I – No comments

COMMUNICATIONS – None

STAFF REPORTS

Donation

Motion 10-75:

Mr. Valanzola motioned, seconded by Mr. Cooke, to accept with appreciation the donation of \$100 from an anonymous donor to support the honor roll banquet.

VOTE: All in Favor

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Durgin reported on the following

- Senior Variety Show
- National Honor Society induction ceremony

- All Arts Day – May 26th
- Grants Received
- Pilot Program – An optional Summer math maintenance program for up to 40 incoming 7th grade students (blackboard connect)
- Graduation – June 6th - the power went out temporarily, making the graduation one to remember.
- Personnel retirements
- Holland has approved the FY2011 TRSD budget.
- Summer Reading Program
- Last meeting for Ted Friend – he has accepted a Superintendent position in Sutton. Mr. Durgin, administrators and Committee members wished him good luck in his new position.

PUBLIC ACCESS II - No Comments

OLD BUSINESS - No Comments

NEW BUSINESS

Building Project – Mr. Prouty released the names of the individuals awarded the building project (garage/addition) for next school year: Mr. & Mrs. Dominic Malizia, 30 Findlay Rd., Fiskdale, MA.

Custodial Position – Mr. Durgin recommended the creation of a new (shared) position. The position would be split between Tantasqua and the District/Union as follows: Facilities Manager .5 FTE (shared) and 2nd shift Lead Custodian .5 FTE (Tantasqua). Because of a (custodial) retirement, this would result in a reduction in custodial staff at Tantasqua by .5 FTE. The Committee discussed prior administrative directives that the Principals and Business Manager would take on the duties of the former position of Facilities Manager. Mr. Durgin indicated that with seven school buildings throughout the district – some older and in need of attention, the administration re-visited the approach. The upcoming retirement allowed for the consideration of other options and although Principals and administrators could dedicate some time to facilities, they didn't have the knowledge of facilities and building operating systems that a Facilities Manager/Lead Custodian would have. Because this position includes a split between all schools, elementary School Committees will need to approve the position.

Motion 10-76:

Mr. Anderstrom motioned, seconded by Mrs. Noyes-Miller, to create a new position of Facilities Manager (.5 FTE – salary split between all schools) / Lead Custodian (.5 FTE – Tantasqua), pending approval by all school committees.

VOTE: In Favor (9)
 Opposed (3) Cooke, Tooley, Valanzola

Solar Project – Mr. Durgin reported the bid opening was extended for the Solar Project, but as reported in the Building & Physical Plant report, the subcommittee supported going forth with the project based on expected energy savings. Mr. Durgin asked for Committee endorsement moving forward with the project.

Motion 10-77:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Simanski, to give support to the administration to move forth with the Solar Panel Project.

VOTE: All in Favor

Retirement – Mr. Prouty read his letter notifying the Superintendent and Committee of his decision to retire, effective July 1, 2010. Committee members wished him well.

September meetings – Although the Committee traditionally does not meet in the summer months, it does usually meet within the first week of school. A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 1st.

ADJOURN

Motion 10-78:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Earls, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
William Haggerty, Secretary
TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

TRSC:pag