

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of Tuesday, December 21, 2010
Library – Tantasqua Senior High School

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Thaddeus France
Deb Maher
Sheila Noyes-Miller

Sturbridge

Pat Barnicle
Michelle Fitzgerald
Gary Galonek
Kathleen Neal
Francis Simanski
Beth Tichy

Holland

Steve Anderstrom
Howard Fife
Eric Iller

Brookfield

James Cooke
William Gillmeister
Barbara Wilson

Wales

Brenda Tooley
Michael Valanzola

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

William Haggerty (S)

ALSO PRESENT

Daniel Durgin, Superintendent; Erin Nosek, Associate Superintendent; Beth Schaper, Assistant Superintendent; Deborah Boyd, Business Manager; Mark Wood, Technical Division Director/Principal; Jennifer Lundwall, Jr. High Principal; Michael Lucas, High School Principal; Megan McIntyre, Michelle Bourget and Desiree Hagen, Student Representatives, and audience.

Holiday Musical Presentation

The Committee enjoyed the holiday performance by the Tantasqua High School Choraleers.

Superintendent's Scholars – Mr. Durgin presented the Superintendent's Scholar Award to Jocelyn Hoye and Michael Julian.

1. MINUTES

Motion 10-115:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to accept the meeting minutes of November 16, 2010 - Regular Session as amended.

Amendment:

- Page 4 – last sentence first section – change name from Prouty to Braude.
- Page 1 – correct Brimfield Committee member name to: Thaddeus France

VOTE: In Favor (15)

Abstained: (2) Galonek, Tichy

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Boyd reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending November 30th. Mr. Simanski asked about the balances in the textbook accounts. Mrs.

Boyd indicated a large textbook order was placed in December, adding that in culinary arts, the serve safe books are ordered for the 2nd semester and the new Computer Tech teacher is reviewing the textbook order.

Mrs. Boyd provided the upcoming Budget Committee meeting & topic schedule beginning on Jan. 3rd.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Students - Students reported on the following activities:

- *It Feels Like Monday* – upcoming episode
- Scavenger Hunt
- Winter Solstice
- NHS Holiday Toy Drive Dec 6th – 17th
- Giving Tree
- 2/18 Blood Drive
- Spring Fling
- Prom, Senior Trip
- Winter Festival
- Pep Rally
- Spirit week
- Fall Sports Updates
- Skills USA
- Food Drive –collected 800 items & \$200
- Leadership Conference Updates

Students wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

b. Budget – Budget meetings being Jan. 3rd.

c. Technical –Mrs. Tooley provided a review of items discussed at their meeting:

- Anticipated changes in freshman math requirements (algebra)
- Student Tech Advisory Committee
- Looking at the possibility of adding electrical teacher. Mr. Durgin noted the electrical program is where most students are turned away.

d. Curriculum - No meeting, no report.

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

f. Personnel – No meeting, no report.

g. Negotiations – No meeting, no report.

h. Building & Physical Plant – The Solar project at the Jr. High was discussed. The Subcommittee has voted to bring forth technical and building needs to the Budget Subcommittee.

i. Ad Hoc Subcommittee – Mrs. Barnicle indicated the Subcommittee hopes to have the Strategic Planning presentation on the January agenda.

4. PUBLIC ACCESS I

Mr. Jimmy Boland representing the Tantasqua Educational Association wished every a very Happy Holiday and assured the Committee that all staff is dedicated to providing the best educational experience to all students.

Mr. Gillmeister wished a Happy Holiday to all staff.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

Coaching Staff 2010-2011 – Mr. Durgin indicated that the list of Warrior coaching staff was included in the packet. Mr. Valanzola asked if candidates could apply for these positions. It was noted that an applicant must send in a letter of interest along with information regarding their related experience.

Common Core Resolution – See Old Business

Memo – Program Advisory Report – As indicated in the correspondence, this agenda item will be added to the June meeting.

Memo – School Budget Liaisons FY2012 – Sent to all member towns' Boards of Selectmen and Finance Committees requesting that each member town consider appointing a Selectmen & a Finance Committee liaison to your schools for the FY2012 budget process.

6. STAFF REPORTS

Motion 10-116:

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Iller, to declare items obsolete: a list of library books presented in a memo from J. Lundwall dated 12/07/10.

VOTE: All in Favor

Mr. Cooke asked how many seniors made varsity basketball. Mr. Lucas indicated 2 seniors made varsity, but he didn't know how many seniors tried out. Mr. Durgin added that as has been discussed in the past, the 12 best players made the team; and that if there are not enough quality players, then seniors and juniors are given preference.

Mr. Lucas provided a current list of TRHS student's college acceptances, noting he is adding schools each day.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Durgin reported on the following

- Workshops re: college prep will be provided for parents and students Jan. 10th and Feb. 7th.
- TRJHS was one of 15 schools recognized in Massachusetts for narrowing the achievement gap for 2 years in ELA & Math. For participation in a "best practice" review, the school will receive a \$10,000 Title I grant.
- First year teacher's mentoring program.
- 1st Annual Thanksgiving Day Survey – Mr. Durgin reviewed the results.

8. PUBLIC ACCESS II - No Comments

9. OLD BUSINESS

Policy IJNDB

Motion 10-117:

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to recommit Policy IJNDB – Acceptable Electronic Network Use Policy, to the By-Law & Policy Subcommittee for the purpose of reviewing and refining the language (which is underlined) on Page 2. Discussion: Mr. Gillmeister indicated he wanted incidents to be better defined and felt the wording didn't belong in that section, but rather create a section on communications with elected officials. He felt that refining the language would best be done at the subcommittee level.

There were extensive discussions.

VOTE: In Favor 6
 Opposed: 9 Motion failed

Motion 10-118:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle to approve Policy IJNDB – Acceptable Electronic Network Use Policy for second reading and adoption.

Motion 10-119:

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Simanski, to amend Motion 10-118 as follows:

Page 2 – first full paragraph. To remove the clause: “, in some instances, “

Motion 10-120:

Mr. Valanzola motioned, seconded by Mr. Cooke, to amend the proposed amendment (as presented in Motion 10-119) as follows:

Page 2 – to replace the first full paragraph with the following:

Users may only use the system to communicate with elected representatives on issues related to a class assignment or project and/or to communicate with elected representatives only for school/district related activities and/or issues.

VOTE: All in Favor

VOTE: All in Favor (Motion 10-119)

VOTE: All in Favor (Motion 10-118 as amended by 10-120)

Policy JICH

Motion 10-121:

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to approve Policy JICH – Alcohol and Drug Use for Second Reading and adoption,

VOTE: All in Favor

Common Core Resolution

Motion 10-122:

Mr. Cooke motioned, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to forward the Common Core Resolution to the MASC for consideration and to add at their next conference agenda. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas: Scholastic achievement is vital to success of students in the Commonwealth

Therefore be it resolved that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees shall file legislation before the General Court to override the July 21, 2010 vote of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopting national education standards; i.e. the Common Core standards in English Language arts and mathematics and furthermore retain the MCAS assessment based on the state’s own curriculum frameworks as the standard for scholastic achievement in Massachusetts.

Motion 10-123:

Mr. Valanzola motioned, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to amend Motion 10-122 to also forward the resolution seeking support of State Representatives within the TRSD jurisdiction and asking them to file the legislation on behalf of Tantasqua Regional School District.

VOTE: All in Favor

VOTE: All in Favor (10-122 as amended by 10-123)

10. NEW BUSINESS

March Meeting Schedule

Motion 10-124:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to change the meeting date in March to the 16th.

VOTE: All in Favor

Energy Manager Report

Mr. Durgin introduced Dave Nameika, who replaced Mr. Lucas as the manager of the energy program. Mr. Nameika reviewed the energy savings achieved since the beginning of the program in April 2008. The energy savings to date = \$494,366.00. Mr. Durgin added that once the contract with EEI concludes in March 2012, the school will see a significant savings in overall cost.

Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative Amendment

Motion 10-125:

Mr. Valanzola motioned, seconded by Mrs. Noyes-Miller, to amend the SWCEC agreement as follows:

Paragraph one of section three shall be amended by omitting the word “annually” in the first sentence. Said sentence shall henceforth read:

Educational Collaborative Board. The School Committee of each Member Town and District shall appoint one person from its own membership to form a Board to be known as the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board).

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion 10-126:

Mr. Valanzola motioned, seconded by Mr. Cooke, to further amend the SWCEC agreement as follows:

Paragraph six of section three shall be amended by omitting “four (4)” in the second sentence and replacing it with “eight (8)”. Said sentence shall henceforth read:

A quorum shall consist of eight (8) voting members, and the Board may act by a simple majority of members present and voting unless otherwise required by law or by this agreement.

VOTE: All in Favor

Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

Mr. Durgin indicated that per state requirements, schools must adopt a Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan. He asked for a vote of support for the plan as presented.

Motion 10-127:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Cooke, to accept the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan as presented.

Motion 10-128:

Mr. Cooke motioned, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, to amend the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan to include a new section as follows:

X. Monitoring

At the start of each school year the administration should forward to the school committee an annual report on the number of bullying or cyber-bullying incidents and number of incidents referred to the police that occurred in the previous school year. The report shall also list the type of disciplinary actions taken against students or staff. Finally, the senior high and junior high principals shall give an estimate to the amount of their time spent on curbing bullying.

Discussion – there was extensive discussion regarding a non-funded mandate and the required timeframe for action as well as the type of information released in a report.

VOTE: In Favor (2) Cooke, Gillmeister
Opposed (15)
Abstained: (1) Valanzola Motion failed.

Discussion on 10-127 – Mr. Cook indicated that he had other concerns and amendments. Mr. Simanski recommended an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to further review the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan. Mr. Valanzola agreed that obviously there are concerns and agreed with Mr. Simanski’s recommendation.

Motion 10-129:

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Iller, to submit Mr. Cooke’s and other Committee member concerns associated with the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan to the By-law and Policy Subcommittee for their review and recommendations to come back to the full committee in February or March.

VOTE: In Favor (11)
Opposed (2)

VOTE: Motion 10-127 In Favor (15)
Opposed (2) Cooke, Gillmeister

Mr. Valanzola asked that the public comment period be closed immediately and commented on the process of voting on a plan that was to be submitted as presented.

Junior High Roof

Motion 10-130:

Mrs. Noyes-Miller motioned, seconded by Mr. Gillmeister, pursuant to the Article submitted in a memo from D. Durgin, dated 12/14/2010, to transfer from available school choice funds, a sum of money up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for the repair of the Tantasqua regional Junior High School Roof.

Discussion: Mr. Simanski commented that he was chagrined that funding of this project didn't come before the Budget Subcommittee. He added that the subcommittee may have looked at different funding options. Mr. Cooke expressed his concerns over state funding shortfalls and asked whether the vote could be delayed. Mr. Durgin indicated a delay could jeopardize the state's reimbursement opportunities.

Motion 10-131:

Mr. Gillmeister motioned to delay consideration and remand the issue to the Budget Subcommittee for review and recommendation.

There was no second to the motion.

VOTE: (Motion 10-130) All in Favor

ADJOURN

Motion 10-132:

Mr. Gillmeister motioned, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

VOTE: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Noyes-Miller, Vice-Chair
TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

TRSC:pag