

NOTE: When feasible, TRSB meetings are videotaped. These meeting minutes reflect only a basic summary of the meeting topics, discussion, and action. The Vimeo recording of this meeting can be viewed at: <https://vimeo.com/trsd>  
Materials presented at the board meeting may be viewed at:  
[https://trsdpublic.timberlane.net/trsb/\\_layouts/15/start.aspx#/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2Ftrsb%2FShared%20Documents%2FSCHOOL%20BOARD%20MEETING%20AGENDA%20MATERIALS%2F2021%2D22%2F10%2007%2021%20School%20Board%20Meeting&FolderCTID=0x0120004312551B46136E4BA51A2C05822A071C&View=%7BD71C77CA%2D529B%2D49D7%2D8C91%2DE62575BBB707%7D](https://trsdpublic.timberlane.net/trsb/_layouts/15/start.aspx#/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2Ftrsb%2FShared%20Documents%2FSCHOOL%20BOARD%20MEETING%20AGENDA%20MATERIALS%2F2021%2D22%2F10%2007%2021%20School%20Board%20Meeting&FolderCTID=0x0120004312551B46136E4BA51A2C05822A071C&View=%7BD71C77CA%2D529B%2D49D7%2D8C91%2DE62575BBB707%7D)

**TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Regular Business Meeting  
October 7, 2021  
7:18PM**

**Performing Arts Center  
40 Greenough Road  
Plaistow, NH**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Farah opened the October 7th, 2021 meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board to order at 7:18PM and took roll call.

**Board Members Present**

Brian Boyle, Kimberly Farah, Steven Finnegan, Amy Gentile, Barbara Kiszka, Katie Knutsen, Sheila Lowes, Shawn O’Neil and Kristin Savage (arrived at 7:34PM)

**Seated at the Board Table**

Dr. Brian Cochrane, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Christopher Kellan, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (00:15:00)**

**MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned to accept the TRSB public meeting minutes of September 16th, 2021; seconded by Mr. O’Neil. The motion passed 6-0-2 (Mr. Finnegan & Ms. Lowes abstained).**

**MOTION: Ms. Lowes motioned to accept the TRSB public meeting minutes of September 28th, 2021; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 6-0-2 (Ms. Gentile & Mrs. Knutsen abstained).**

**DELEGATES & INDIVIDUALS (00:016:06)**

**Bonnie Bowley, of Danville**, chastised the Board regarding medical exemptions, for “segregating” a section for non-masked people to sit in, continuing to mask the children.

**Oswaldo Hernandez, Jr., of Atkinson**, spoke to the Board wearing a shirt emblazoned with “Unmasked, Unmuzzled, Unvaccinated, Unafraid”. He said the Board should be concerned with the mental health of kids because they are living in fear of getting in trouble for not wearing a mask. He stated that the Board needs to be taken off their pedestal. He said the Teachers Union isn’t all vaccinated either.

**Tracey Hernandez, of Atkinson**, said her son was so scared of not being masked that he thought the police would arrest him. She is concerned about what forced masked wearing is doing to the mental health of children. Kids aren’t scared of the virus; they fear getting into trouble. She stated the government is using Covid to control our children. She stated that the schools are ours (the parents) and not yours.

**Nolan Pelletier, of Plaistow**, stated he is disappointed that the kids are still wearing masks. He stated that people, (families and children) are living their lives outside of the school environment. He said he is not going away, and the Board should let parents make their own decisions.

**COVID-19 UPDATE: (00:25:52)**

TRSD is continuing to use the “level of Community transmission” as determined by NH DPHS. That determination is made up of the “new cases per 100K population over the last 14 days” and “positivity rate over the last 7 days”. Last week, both of those metrics were declining, and it was projected that Rockingham County would soon be in “moderate” due to the positivity rate holding steady around 5-5% and the new cases per 100K trending downwards. Dr. Chan then confirmed that the data for the last week was incorrect.

Mrs. Kiszka asked about positive cases in the schools right now. There are currently 20 positive cases: 19 students and one teacher. There was an outburst by Mr. Hernandez, and it resulted in his being removed from the auditorium.

Mr. O’Neil asked about PCR vs antigen tests. Mr. O’Neil questioned the accuracy of the PCR test and whether the state is using a test with a high rate of false positives. Mr. Finnegan, who works at a hospital, stated that the PCR test is the most accurate type of test. Antigen testing is less accurate.

**FACILITIES UPDATE (00:35:51)**

The board reviewed the Facilities update provided by Mr. Ingoldsby. There is a CIP meeting next Tuesday where the enclosed draft CIP will likely be finalized. There is a joint meeting with the budget committee scheduled for the November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting.

**BOARD COMMITTEES (00:36:35)**

Dr. Farah stated that the workload on the committees is not evenly distributed. Dr. Farah requested to come off the CIP committee which would mean the other Danville Rep, Mr. O’Neil would need to be on it. The Board then discussed the meeting schedules of various groups. Mr. Boyle is on seven committees and could use some relief. Ms. Gentile stated that she would take the wellness committee. Ms. Lowes stated that she couldn’t take on anymore due to all the Union negotiations. Dr. Farah stated she would be reaching out to board members via email.

**ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT (00:41:25)**

Mr. Fantasia spoke to the Board about the Executive Summaries that he had provided to the Board. Relative to the Outdoor Facilities Committee, the Board questioned the need for an outside consultant as they believe it has already been done. Neither Mr. Ingoldsby nor Mr. Fantasia have any idea where this previous information might be. In 2017, the district spent \$50K for an assessment of the fields. Mr. Boyle suggested the district reach out to Mr. Woodworth. Dr. Farah stated this would have to go through the CIP and would need to be budgeted for.

Mr. Fantasia also updated the Board that he had put the \$10K request into the budget. Ms. Lowes asked whether this could be fundraised for. Mr. Fantasia stated they would certainly look to do that moving forward.

The Board then discussed the grant opportunity for the track. Mr. Fantasia laid out a summary of dates and how the grant process works and what would be needed to proceed. The language in the grant states that if we met the qualifications, it would be a minimum of 50% reimbursable. There also appears that there is no cap as to what can be spent.

**MOTION: Mr. O’Neil motioned to certify Mr. Fantasia, of Athletics, and/or Karl Ingoldsby, of Facilities, as the applicant of authority for this grant; seconded by Mr. Boyle.**

There was discussion amongst the board as to who should sign this paperwork. The meeting minutes from the SB meeting must reflect a named person for the paperwork to move forward. There also exists a recent estimate for the track since it was on the warrant a few years ago. Ms. Lowes stated she would see if she could find it for Mr. Ingoldsby. Mr. Boyle withdrew his second. Mr. Ingoldsby will come back before the Board as soon as he has quotes.

**PLAISTOW POLICE REQUEST (01:07:08)**

The Plaistow Police would like the district to employ their own crossing guards. They also requested an MOU and job description for the SRO. The Administration will work on this and come back to the Board for final approval.

**ENERGY COMMITTEE PERFORMAMCE CONTRACTOR SELECTION (01:09:08)**

**MOTION:** Mrs. Kiszka motioned to appoint a small committee to select the performance contractor from the companies that provided qualified responses to our RFP on Sept 28th. The committee will include at least the following members: Brian Boyle, Marc Fournier, Karl Ingoldsby, Lisa Oliver, Mark Sherwood, and Maria Watkins; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 9-0-0.

This committee could take up three additional members for the selection committee, however the window for submitting letters of interest is tight, by noon on Tuesday, Oct 12. Mrs. Kiszka expects to start interviewing the candidate companies next week.

The RFP request was for qualifications, not for a monetary bid.

**BUDGET TRANSFER REQUESTS (01:14:04)**

**MOTION:** Mrs. Kiszka motioned to approve the budget transfer in the amounts and accounts specified in the CFO/BA's budget transfer request dated 10/7/2021 in the amount of \$65K; seconded by Ms. Lowes. The motion passed 9-0-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Lowes motioned to accept the budget transfer in the amounts and accounts specified in the CFO/BA's budget transfer request dated 10/7/2021 in the amount of \$48K; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 9-0-0.

**ADMINISTRATORS REPORT (01:16:15)**

Nothing to report.

**PERSONNEL REPORT (01:16:32)**

**MOTION:** Ms. Lowes motioned to accept the resignations of Mike DiCicco (TRHS Art Teacher) and Sarah Campbell (Technology Teacher, Pollard) with thanks and gratitude; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 9-0-0.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Savage motioned to accept the professional nominations Stephanie Barrows (School Nurse, TRHS) and Megan Palmier (TRHS Art Teacher); seconded by Ms. Lowes. The motion passed 9-0-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Lowes motioned to accept the administrative nomination of Alan Perry (Grounds Supervisor, TRSD); seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 9-0-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS (01:17:52)**

Mr. Boyle stated the CIP Committee just held a very productive meeting. The next meeting is Tuesday. Union negotiations are ongoing.

Mrs. Savage stated there was a safety committee meeting that went well.

Mr. Finnegan stated that Policy met today but nothing to move forward yet.

Ms. Gentile stated that C&A met, and they will have some items to bring forward soon.

Mrs. Kiszka gave an update on the Performance Contract.

Dr. Farah said she has not heard back from counsel on the SAU withdrawal. She also wondered about how the SAU budget will be done this year. Mrs. Watkins will present a SAU Budget to the Board. She asked for the School Board budget for their next meeting.

Dr. Farah also questioned contracts vs letters of agreement in the SAU. Dr. Cochrane will get with Attorney Claussen, explain the situation with SAU personnel and what it was in the past, who was in it in the past, what our current SAU looks like and what he would suggest as to contracts vs letters of agreement. Dr. Farah suggested he should read all the contracts.

**MOTION:** Ms. Lowes motioned to go into non-public under 91-A:3, Paragraph II (e) consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation; seconded by Mrs. Savage. The motion passed 9-0-0.

**The Board was polled:**

Boyle – Yes                      Farah – Yes                      Finnegan - Yes                      Gentile - Yes  
Kiszka – Yes                      Knutsen – Yes                      Lowes – Yes                      O’Neil – Yes                      Savage - Yes

**The motion carried 9-0-0 and the Board entered nonpublic session at 8:38PM.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Boyle motioned to exit the non-public meeting; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 9-0-0.

**The Board was polled:**

Boyle – Yes                      Farah – Yes                      Finnegan - Yes                      Gentile - Yes  
Kiszka – Yes                      Knutsen – Yes                      Lowes – Yes                      O’Neil – Yes                      Savage - Yes

**The motion carried 9-0-0 and the board re-entered public session at 9:12PM.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Boyle motioned to seal the non-public meeting minutes by reason that divulgence would likely affect adversely the reputation of someone other than a member of the board; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 9-0-0.

**The Board was polled:**

Boyle – Yes                      Farah – Yes                      Finnegan - Yes                      Gentile - Yes  
Kiszka – Yes                      Knutsen – Yes                      Lowes – Yes                      O’Neil – Yes                      Savage - Yes

With no other business before the board, Chairman Farah adjourned the meeting at 9:14PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Lancaster  
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Board on 10/21/21.