

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://livestream.com/trsd/trsb/videos/225929488>

Materials presented at the board meeting may be viewed at:

<https://public.timberlane.net/sau/trsb/Shared%20Documents/SCHOOL%20BOARD%20MEETING%20AGENDA%20MATERIALS/2021-22/09%2016%2021%20School%20Board%20Meeting/Agenda%20Packet%209%2016%2021.pdf>

TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Regular Business Meeting
September 16, 2021
7:03PM

Performing Arts Center
40 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Chairman Farah called the September 16, 2021 meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board to order at 7:03PM, took roll call and then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present

Brian Boyle, Kimberly Farah, Amy Gentile, Barbara Kiszka, Katie Knutsen, Shawn O'Neil, and Kristin Savage

Seated at the Board Table

Dr. Brian Cochrane, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Christopher Kellan, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (00:06:13)

MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned to accept the TRSB public meeting minutes of September 2nd, 2021; seconded by Mr. Boyle. The motion passed 6-0-1 (Mrs. Knutsen abstained.)

DELEGATES & INDIVIDUALS (00:06:41)

Jack Sapia, of Atkinson, came before the board to request use of the baseball field for collegiate play on a Sunday. No facilities are needed.

Jackie Wydola, of Atkinson, advised the Board that she would continue to come to these meetings even though her daughter has been removed from the district. She went on to speak about the petition and usurping parents' rights.

David Kiley, of Atkinson, spoke about his interpretation of the NH Constitution and advised the board that it protects him from them.

Calvin Bales, of Danville, was there to speak for no masks. He began swearing, insulting the board and he refused to yield the microphone. Ultimately, he was escorted out of the meeting by the police.

Michael Boucher, of Atkinson, spoke about the petitioners outside interests and the fact that this petition will be very costly to all taxpayers. Further, if their allegation is that students are not in harm's way from the virus, what about teachers and other staff? There is no option for remote learning should the experiment result in the need to close the school down.

Jeanette Walling, of Plaistow, shared her personal experiences after having Covid twice. She favors masking to slow the spread. She asked what the plan is when students are exposed.

Sebastian Cannard, of Sandown, stated that he graduated from TRHS but still has a sibling in the schools. He spoke in favor of masking.

Melissa Marr, of Plaistow, brought her 3.5-year-old son with her to show the board that he is not and was not receiving the intervention services that he needed. She said the special education department is in dire need of more help. She said she would always advocate on behalf of her children.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE (00:33:36)

Ms. Kaylie Sheffield gave detailed updates on what is going on at each school in the district. She said that the petition she mentioned last time has died down, but students would very much like to meet with the Administration about slight changes to the dress code.

SCHOOL RE-OPENING UPDATE: (00:37:20)

Dr. Cochrane stated there has been a change to the guidance on quarantining and as a result, students may not necessarily be required to quarantine. There will be a lot less letters going out because of this change but the dashboard will have that information and will be kept up to date. Weekly updates will be sent on Friday evenings. Also, the Administration received an email from the NH DOE, Commissioner Edelblut, stating that schools must offer in person education five days per week. There will not be any means by which the district would be able to pivot to remote instruction. Mr. O'Neil is concerned that students will fall behind with "busy work" and requested a plan so that students would receive classroom instruction while at home. Mrs. Knutsen asked if there is a policy wherein if a certain percentage of the school population is out sick, the schools would close for the day? Mr. Kellan stated that typically the school nurses would be contacted by the DHHS if this were an issue. Dr. Cochrane also discussed the changes in quarantining. The board also reviewed the legal opinion on accommodations. Mr. Kellan went over the individual process for accommodations for students again.

FACILITIES UPDATE (00:55:09)

The board reviewed the Facilities update provided by Mr. Ingoldsby. The Board also reviewed the proposed Supervisor's position that was requested at the last meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Boyle motioned to add the position of Building & Grounds Supervisor; seconded by Mrs. Savage. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ATHLETIC DEPT HALL OF FAME CEREMONY (00:56:43)

The Board reviewed the Executive Summary provided by AD Fantasia. Approximately half of the total was reimbursed for the last Hall of Fame Ceremony but due to Covid it is very difficult to predict how much they will be able to return this time. The board questioned whether this is something that AD Fantasia could just put in his budget for next year. The Board also asked the CFO to investigate whether a revolving fund could be set up for this event. Mrs. Watkins stated ticket sales could be transferred. The Board requested that the CFO and the AD come back to the Board with more information. The Board discussed Mr. Sapia's request for the use of the ball field.

AD HOC ATHLETICS FACILITIES COMMITTEE (01:11:37)

Invites have gone out to persons to join the committee to review all structures, fields, grounds, locker rooms, windows, grants, etc. Dr. Cochrane addressed the tic-toc video challenge which is encouraging students to rip soap dispensers from the walls. Mr. Ingoldsby stated that on Monday every single soap dispenser in both the girls' and boys' bathrooms were missing.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT (1:18:00)

Dr. Cochrane explained a budget transfer request for \$75,715 for Chromebook adapters and bags for the

elementary schools. There was discussion about whether this is really needed given the state’s most recent guidance. This is the direction that the administration is heading in the 1:1 initiative for elementary school students so it could still be used, regardless of Covid related remote instruction. Mrs. Allaire explained to the Board that they were able to leverage some grant funding for other programs that freed up these funds for this use/transfer.

MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned that those budget transfers in the amounts and accounts specified in the CFO/BA’s budget transfer request dated 9/16/2021 be accepted; seconded by Mrs. Savage. The motion passed 7-0-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (01:30:58)

Curriculum & Assessment reviewed some curriculum that is being reworked but there is nothing to bring to the board at this time.

CIP group met, very productive meeting. Mr. Boyle thinks there will be some numbers to the board in the next meeting. The board requested that the CIP meeting be on Tuesday, rather than Wednesday.

Safety is meeting on the 9/28/2021.

MOTION: Mrs. Savage motioned to go into non-public under 91-A:3, Paragraph II (C) matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person and (I) Consideration of legal advice in writing or orally even when legal counsel is not present; seconded by Mr. Boyle. The motion passed 7-0-0.

The Board was polled:

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

The motion carried 7-0-0 and the Board entered nonpublic session at 8:32PM.

MOTION: Mr. O’Neil motioned to exit the non-public meeting; seconded by Mr. Boyle. The motion passed 7-0-0.

The Board was polled:

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

The motion carried 7-0-0 and the board re-entered public session at 9:47PM.

MOTION: Mr. O’Neil 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. Boyle. The motion passed 7-0-0.

With no other business before the board, Chairman Farah adjourned the meeting at 9:49PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Lancaster
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Board on 10/7/21.