

TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, Sandown
New Hampshire

Regular Meeting
November 3, 2011
7:30 PM

SAU 55 Office
30 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Madam Chair Aubrey called this November 3, 2011 meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board to order at 7:30 PM. Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present

Mrs. Aubrey, Mr. Bealo, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Kosta (7:40 PM), Mr. Mascola, Mr. Porcelli, Mrs. Steenson, and Mrs. Withee. Absent: Mr. Baldwin and Student Representative Ms. Obi.

Administrators Present

Richard La Salle, Superintendent of Schools
George Stokinger, Business Administrator
Kathleen Smith, Assistant Business Administrator
Kelli Killen, Director of Elementary Education
Nancy Barcelos, Principal of Danville Elementary
William Pimley, Interim Assistant Principal of Danville Elementary
Donald Woodworth, Principal of TRHS
Sean Kiley, Assistant Principal of TRHS
Angelo Fantasia, Athletic Director

Pledge

Madam Chair Aubrey led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Madam Chair Aubrey deferred the review and approval of the October 20th meeting minutes until the November 17th meeting.

Delegations and Individuals

Ms. Kaylyn Ryan, Community Agent reported that the Trick-O-Can event has been rescheduled to November 6th, the LEAD fundraiser to November 9th and that LEAD will visit a District elementary school to read to students.

Current Business

Department Report – Danville Elementary School

Mrs. Barcelos and Mr. Pimley presented a PowerPoint presentation on “A Day at Danville Elementary.” They highlighted ways in which they build community emphasizing hands-on experience, curriculum connections, and implementing fine arts and technology into the classroom. They stated that education today is not a process of remembering; but growing 21st century problem-solving skills through Everyday Math and assessments (including self assessment), and unit testing. Students demonstrate their level of understanding project-based learning through research, presentation and artwork. They provided examples of grade-level projects and learning techniques.

Budget

Mr. Stokinger distributed copies of a preliminary budget reflecting the most recent calculations of the proposed 2012-13 district budget. He reviewed category totals in comparison to the current budget (salaries, retirement, insurance benefits) and justification for increases and decreases.

Mr. La Salle proposed adding a lead groundskeeper position noting how the grounds are currently juggled between custodial and maintenance positions. Inside buildings are exceptionally maintained; however, the outsides need additional focus. The position would not require new funding, but would be paid for via other areas of budget reduction. A second proposal would be the continuation of preschool programs throughout the district. The Atkinson program has been a wonderful resource to special education and to the district for choice-in tuition. Pollard has an inclusionary classroom (½ step towards a full program). The proposal would be to create a morning preschool session at Danville Elementary and staff the program with the ½ time position at Pollard and adding a ½ position to the Danville kindergarten position. This would also serve as a revenue source from tuitioned students.

Enrollment projections were discussed as well as projection accuracy in relation to predicting long term staffing needs. Clarification of the grounds position was given whereas the position is a vacated position still carried on the books. Library paraprofessional positions (five positions cut from last year's budget) are currently carried forward in the proposed budget; however, full deliberations on whether or not to reinstate those positions have not been completed. Building level grounds responsibilities were clarified: each building is responsible for its own grounds maintenance. The newly proposed position would be responsible for all schools. Mr. Mascola noted the equipment used to maintain grounds and snow removal are not adequate for the task. Mr. La Salle responded this would be addressed with the new position that would be of leadership nature, certified in lawn chemicals, etc.

Mr. La Salle acknowledged the presence of Mr. Woodworth and Mr. Fantasia relative to a proposed warrant article for improvements to the high school athletic area. The article proposes a five-year bond for \$4 million to address substandard conditions that directly impact the health and physical education and sports programs at the high school. Mr. Woodworth and Mr. Fantasia highlighted curriculum opportunities as well as the need for teaching stations, a fitness center, dance opportunities, an athletic training center, appropriate locker rooms, and secure areas. The lack of space has an immediate and direct affect on student offerings as well as accommodations to other school athletic teams, including having enough bathrooms and changing areas. Timberlane's Division I program should be able to offer better building accommodations. Title IX requirements (equality for male and female athletes) cannot be met with the current situation. Design layout was discussed that included the repurposing of some areas and increasing the footprint of the athletic area as well as the \$4 million cost and five year bond plan. The first year is a small interest payment (under \$90k). Mr. Fantasia stated the proposed plan addresses the storage issues his department currently struggles with, adequate space for both girl's and boy's locker rooms, and office space for staff members which will also provide supervision for students – a good design that he can support.

Timing of the project was reviewed relative to construction phasing to accommodate seasonal usage over a fifteen month period of time. The mini gym (which was not part of the first plan) is included in this proposal due to structural concerns and also because it captures the new area needed. The topic of educating the public (providing educational and facility needs justification) was discussed resulting in Mr. Collins offering the services of the Community Relations Committee. Mr. Porcelli noted that information and promotional techniques should come from the board first; including the development of a good program outlining the proposal as well as justification for it that can be broadcast online and electronically. Others concurred.

Other future projects were noted: exterior of the PAC, window replacement, infrastructure, special education, science, and home technology department spaces at the high school (consistent with changes to repurpose high school to a middle school). Capital projects: building a new high school and converting existing high school to a middle school. Discussion ended with Mr. Porcelli indicating his support to move forward with the project.

Policies

Mr. La Salle presented the following policy for a second reading and adoption by the board:

- JKAA Use of Restraint

Motion: Mr. Mascola motioned to approve the second reading and adoption of policy JKAA Use of Restraint. Mrs. Kosta seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. La Salle then presented the following policies for a first reading consideration by the board:

- EDC Authorized Use of School Owned Materials
- EEAF Special Use of School Buses
- JLC Student Health Services
- JLCD Administering Medication to Students

Motion: Mr. Mascola motioned to approve the first reading of the following policies:

- EDC Authorized Use of School Owned Materials
- EEAF Special Use of School Buses
- JLC Student Health Services
- JLCD Administering Medication to Students

Mrs. Withee seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Administrators Report

Mr. La Salle indicated he has received several inquiries regarding student drug issues and recent arrests at the high school, thus he invited Mr. Woodworth, Mr. Kiley and Mr. Fantasia to report on the programs, both instructional and preventative as well as the enforcement techniques used regarding this topic. Mr. Woodworth indicated the collaboration of numerous individuals in addressing this issue. He noted programs in place as well as diligent efforts in prevention and enforcement. Mr. Fantasia spoke to the instructional piece (substance use and abuse, making good decisions), and Mr. Kiley to the enforcement/statistical piece (ED317 form, 2005-2011 58% decrease in incidents, diligence in awareness, peer involvement, need for transitional programs, home links, and social aspect). Mr. Woodworth stated that substance abuse is part of the fabric of our culture and it will continue to be, thus they will continue to work hard on both preventative and enforcement measures. A dialogue transpired on the availability of drugs and alcohol as well as the areas students might go to participate in their use, national statistics for alcohol abuse in families (1 in 4), and peer reporting. Areas for improvement include transitional programs throughout high school not just from middle to high school, and increased family/community outreach.

Personnel

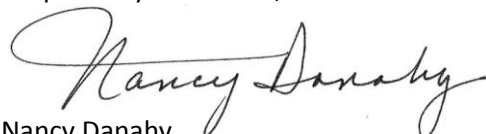
None

Committee and Reports of the School Board

Mrs. Steenson reported on middle school athletic championships and sportsmanship. Mr. Collins reported the Community Relations Committee will meet in a couple weeks; Budget Committee to meet with department heads. Mr. Bealo attended Technology Committee meeting.

Madam Chair Aubrey announced a review of school board goals will be on next meeting's agenda, thus board members should review and be ready to discuss. Having no further business before the board Madam Chair Aubrey adjourned the meeting at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk