

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

Regular Meeting
October 21, 2010
7:30 PM

SAU 55 Office
Plaistow, NH

Order

Chairwoman Kosta called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm at the SAU office.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present

Mr. Collins, Madam Chair Kosta, Mr. Mascola, Mr. Paone, Mr. Porcelli, Mrs. Steenson, Mrs. Withee and Mr. Briggs (Student Representative). Absent: Mrs. Aubrey and Mr. Baldwin

Administrators Present

Mr. La Salle, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Feneberg, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Stokinger, Business Administrator
Mrs. Lovett, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Mrs. Killen, Director of Elementary Education
Mr. Strainge, Director of Secondary Education
Mr. Woodworth, Principal, TRHS
Mrs. Dayotis, Principal, Atkinson Academy

Pledge

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

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Mascola, seconded by Mrs. Withee

Voted: To approve the minutes of the October 7, 2010 regular meeting and the October 14, 2010 joint meeting. **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

Delegations and Individuals

Student Council Report

Student Council member, Nick Delfino, updated the board on several high school happenings (Homecoming, Power Pluff, field hockey, and cheerleading). He reported that Mr. and Mrs. Timberlane were crowned at the Homecoming dance and that the high school has a strict no grinding rule at their dances. He went on to report on the Trick or Canning and Waterville Valley event.

School Report

Mr. Briggs, TRSB student representative, reported on the completion of the NECAP testing, a successful Homecoming event, and the high school football's standing of tied for first place (playing Keene this weekend) and the marching band.

Current Business

YEES (Youth Education Employment Services)

Dylan Mullin and Lindsey Jodoin provided an update of their work as student counselors working for YEES. They indicated the program is a quiet and more a behind-the-scenes service fostering student respect. It fits well with the district and presents an approachable technique for the students in the program. As counselors they track their students both day and night encouraging better choices and family participation. They noted relationship building techniques such as fishing, bowling and movies and stated they have a positive interaction with their students.

Mr. Woodworth added that the administration, guidance and special education departments meet with the YEES team on an ongoing basis to modify and coordinate the program to fit their needs. After school and family involvement is key for each student's success. He expounded on truancy issues and how they are dealt

with. Responding to board questions, he provided a count of students enrolled in the program, the mediation process and how YEES is accessible 24 hours a day. Mr. La Salle noted their contracted services are limited by funding. Mrs. Lovett added the service is a great support for at-risk students and plays an important role in family contact. A status report is provided to Mr. Woodworth on a weekly basis. The discussion on the YEES program concluded with a notation of positive changes due to the program, that the middle school is interested in using the services, and with the board's request for an end-of-school-year report on the program.

Elementary Report Card

Mrs. Killen provided a PowerPoint presentation on the pilot report card for the district's elementary program. She reviewed the purpose of a report card which is to report progress on each student three times per year providing detailed feedback for parents, students and teachers. It should also focus on student progress in relation to power standards at a particular grade level; and it is only one part of the reporting system. A report card should be consistent with curriculum, instruction and assessment and should reflect the learning in the classroom that is supported by assessment data.

She reviewed the old system of grading and reporting and then outlined the new pilot program which more closely reflects the student's progress for each standard with more detailed information. She noted that in spring 2009 teachers recognized that the current report cards did not match the classroom learning and in fall 2009 a group of educators developed a standards based report card to address this. Acknowledging the new report card was too big of a change to implement right away; they developed a timeframe and plan to introduce the changes to parents. In April of this year the process was finalized and the teachers gave their blessing to implement it. In June the report card was introduced to the Curriculum and Assessment Committee and in September it received their approval. She is now seeking the approval of the School Board.

Fielding Board questions, Mrs. Killen stated the report card will apply to students in grades kindergarten through grade five and will cover behavioral, emotional and educational categories. Grading codes will change to B-Beginning, D-at grade level, and S-mastery.

Additional questions and responses were provided relative to subject areas, staff involvement in the pilot report card and being a responsible listener to the concerns of parents.

On a motion by Mr. Mascola, seconded by Mrs. Steenson

Voted: To approve the report card pilot program for elementary with changes to include parental feedback noted on the report card. **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

Atkinson Academy Preschool Program

Presenters Mrs. Dayotis and Mrs. Lovett reported on the great success the preschool program at Atkinson Academy has been, despite the many challenges they faced in getting the program up and running (hiring teachers, transportation, tuition, and curriculum). The program has been virtually self-sustained. A slide show was then presented.

Mr. La Salle noted the program was originally funded through ARRA (stimulus moneys). The budgeting process for the 2011-2012 school year proposes to shift the cost of the program back to the district budget. Mrs. Lovett indicated that in an effort to sustain the program, they can charge tuition for students and reallocate SPED staff members to offset the increase in the budget.

Discussion ensued on the number of students in the program, the program's cost effectiveness and Pollard's successful preschool program. Concern was noted over the economic environment and space needs in the future. NESDEC's five year enrollment projection and the fact that the Atkinson program does not replace services from Pollard, but adds a new continuous service was noted. The board expressed their support of the program for the upcoming school year.

Policies

Mr. La Salle presented three policies for second reading and adoption: **JFAB-Admission of Tuition and Non-Resident Students, GCCBA-Professional Leaves of Absence** and repeal policy **GBEAA-Staff Conflict of Interest**.

On a motion by Mr. Paone, seconded by Mr. Mascola

Voted: To approve the second reading and adoption of policies JFAB, GBEAA and (Repeal) GCCBA. **Having**

no further discussion the motion passed unanimously (5-0). (Mr. Collins stepped out of the meeting momentarily.)

Budget

Mr. La Salle updated the board on the budgeting process noting health benefits costs with an average GMR of 9.6%. He reviewed the building aid moratorium indicating the overall sense of state funding is very positive. He then noted the highest maintenance priority as the Pollard kitchen citing safety concerns and its anticipated cost to renovate. Building and site maintenance projects were presented along with locker room renovations at the high school.

He then proposed the board consider presenting the Pollard kitchen renovation as a warrant article charged against the capital reserve fund and the high school locker room as a separate warrant article.

Mr. Stokinger noted the current budget in on track. He then reported on the water pressure issues at Pollard and their successful plan in addressing it (pump, storage tank, and toilet replacements). A long term solution will still be needed, but the noted replacements have addressed their immediate concerns.

NHSBA Resolutions

NHSBA Resolutions were presented with the board given the opportunity to submit their own resolutions by tomorrow.

Administrators Report

Mr. La Salle informed the board of a request from a college student preparing for an advanced degree to collect data from students on teachers who have received the district's teacher orientation training. Mrs. Gustafson will collect the data from students and report the results to the college student. The process will not be imposing and should provide interesting data.

Committee and Reports of the School Board

Mrs. Steenson reported on the Facilities and Safety committee meetings she attended. Mr. Mascola spoke to the recent work on the Policy Committee. Mr. Collins remarked on the October 14th Budget Committee meeting and apprised the board of the October 28th and November 3rd upcoming meetings. He also reminded board members of the SAU work session scheduled for October 22nd. Madam Chair Kosta reported on the Curriculum Committee's meeting and recent activities.

Correspondence

None

Vendor and Payroll

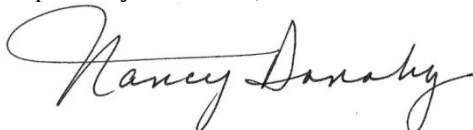
Done

Other

Discussion transpired on the report of a recent act of vandalism to the high school boys' locker room and the consequences to the student involved.

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Kosta adjourned the meeting at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk