

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

Regular Meeting
January 7, 2010
7:30 PM

SAU 55 Office
30 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Mascola called this January 7, 2010 meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board to order at 7:30 pm. Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present

Lori Aubrey, Arlene Champey, Robert Collins, Michael Mascola, John Paone, Louis Porcelli and Lisa Withee

Board Members not in attendance

William Baldwin, Elizabeth Kosta and Student Representative Holly Ange

Administrators Present

Richard La Salle, Superintendent of Schools
George Stokinger, Business Administrator
Kelli Killen, Director of Elementary Education
Edwina Lovett, Director of Pupil Personnel
Donald Woodworth, Principal of Timberlane Regional High School
Barry Chooljian, Department Head of Guidance- TRHS

Pledge

Mr. Mascola led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

The board reviewed the public and non-public minutes of the December 17, 2009 meeting.

Motion: Mrs. Aubrey motioned to approve the public and non-public meeting minutes of the December 17, 2009 meeting as written. Mr. Paone seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Delegations and Individuals

Ms. Jackie Efraimson, Community Agent reported that Spirit Week at the high school is scheduled from March 1 through March 6, 2010 as well as other fund raising events during that time. Some of the events will be supporting the Big Buddy Little Buddy program.

Current Business

Department Report from Guidance

Mr. Chooljian introduced two Guidance Counselors, Mrs. Patricia Fanning, TRMS and Mrs. Nancy Stafford, Sandown North which made up the team that addressed questions previously submitted by the board.

Mr. Chooljian reported that college acceptance information is tracked and was provided to the board. This information outlines student's applications to colleges - who were accepted, placed on a waiting list or denied acceptance. He also noted students who have confirmed their college attendance in the fall.

He reviewed the data and noted an increase in the number of students considering a two-year college program. He outlined how the guidance department has noticed this change and adapted their process to include the two-year college choices as well. He noted that four-year college cost with today's economy is a strong reason for the raise in two-year college interest. He outlined a program offered by Northern Essex Community College that offers students a reduced application fee of \$10 if they work with the guidance department at the high school when submitting their application to include their profile and transcripts. He is hoping to encourage other two-year colleges to work with the high school to

accomplish other programs to help students secure their acceptance into the college of their choice.

Mr. Chooljian noted the positive results of the transition program from the middle to the high school. He noted that the polled 9th graders felt prepared and comfortable in the high school setting due to the organized transition program. Mrs. Fanning noted the success of the transition program for the 5th and 6th graders as well. Mrs. Stafford was also pleased with the elementary results and noted that when extra attention was needed for students they were able to provide that support.

Mr. Mascola asked how colleges perceived the Timberlane Regional School District. Mr. Chooljian had asked similar questions of University of New Hampshire. Responses included that colleges are pleased with the applicants' presentation as well as the solid preparation levels including 4 years of Mathematics and Language. The students performed well with guidance from administration. They did express concern for students who relaxed their class load in their senior year. They noted the recommendations from guidance are very helpful and allows the admissions team to get a better understanding due to the consistency of ranking student.

Mr. La Salle reported he had the opportunity to meet with a consortium of college deans to which he inquired what makes the most desirable students. They agreed on the following:

1. Strong Senior year of studies
2. Writing skills
3. Variety of interests

He noted that students with varied interests in school usually perform well in college.

Mrs. Withee expressed her concern for the scheduling of students; scheduling conflicts might result in a senior who did not have the option to take physical education until their senior year, thus it might appear they have chosen a weak senior year schedule. Mr. Chooljian responded by informing the board that his department matches up goals with college expectations. He agreed space is an issue but the increased graduation requirements support the stronger senior year to accomplish receiving a diploma. The discussion continued regarding after school programs and the senior year class schedules.

Mr. Chooljian informed the public that the district has good relationships with public and private colleges; they usually visit annually in the fall. Mr. Collins inquired on the process to create a bridge to a person's alma mater. Mr. Chooljian suggested he contact the school directly, as sometimes local residents conduct interviews for their alma maters as a means to bridge that school to their local district.

Mr. La Salle noted that students are being accepted at a number of colleges and due to the current economic culture they are deciding on their 2nd and 3rd choice colleges; it is a financial decision. Mr. Chooljian noted that more information on scholarships is being provided and the December financial aid meeting was attended by 100 parents. He noted the on-line financial aid site, webinars and the presentation to parents are tools for the financial programs and costs for college.

Mrs. Fanning noted that *Bullying in School* programs are the focus; this program includes students, nurses, bus drivers, teachers and administrators. Anyone who comes in contact with students is educated on bullying. The TRMS is conducting a survey to understand student's perspective of bullying as well as by-standers, victims and responders. We have a zero tolerance policy.

Mrs. Stafford noted that the elementary students are receiving education on bullying in the classrooms. The education centers on the students' perceptions of bullying and the need for students to understand and become educated on all forms of bullying. They noted that attitudes concerning bullying have changed since this program began.

Mrs. Champey thanked the guidance department as a whole. Since she is a parent of a recent graduate she thanked them for the number of programs and guidance counselors through all four years and she congratulated the department on a job well done.

Mrs. Aubrey expressed her appreciation of the tremendous work done by all the transition teams. She has noticed positive results of their efforts.

Mr. La Salle recognized *Mr. Barry* Chooljian who has been selected by the National High School Coaches Association and the National Federation of State High School Associations as *National Coach of the Year in the Sport of Wrestling*. He will

be recognized on the cover of the spring issue of Coaches Quarterly Magazine and the award recognizes his career coaching record, community service, and involvement in other school athletics. He will also be featured in the National High School Hall of Fame Museum which features coaches and athletes in 20 high school sports. In March of 2010 the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships in Omaha, Nebraska and Mr. Chooljian will be recognized with a third award for his accomplishments as the Timberlane Wrestling Coach representing our region in the country. Among the significant team accomplishments during Mr. Chooljian career are an unprecedented 17 New Hampshire and 7 New England team championships and a career coaching record of 385 wins, 40 losses and 5 ties.

2010-2011 Budget

Mr. Stokinger reviewed the 2010-2011 proposed budget by noting the adjustments that have been made since the first draft. He noted that the default budget of \$62,838,543 is larger than the proposed budget of \$61,764,677 which is \$73,866 dollars less than the default budget.

Mr. Stokinger then read aloud RSA 40:13: *Use of Official Ballot- IX.(b) "Default budget" as used in this subdivision means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, as determined by the governing body, unless the provisions of RSA 40:14-b are adopted, of the local political subdivision.*

He clarified the default programs address the needs of students to allow them to attend school. He talked about transportation costs, discussing how they are reimbursed in some cases. He then discussed the need for a time collection system to bring the district in compliance with the Department of Labor.

Mr. La Salle recommended accepting draft 4 of the proposed 2010-2011 budget.

Motion: Mr. Paone motioned to approve the fourth draft of the 2010-2011 budget, seconded by Mrs. Champey. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Warrant Articles

Mrs. Champey expressed her concern regarding the Timberlane Teachers Association union agreement that will appear on the warrant. She would like to see that as the only warrant article to mark the importance of passing the union agreement.

Mrs. Withee expressed her concern regarding the kitchen renovations for Atkinson Academy. She clarified if the kitchen renovation did not appear on the warrant would Facilities assume the renovations at Atkinson Academy and put Pollard School on the warrant article for the 2011-2012 school year?

Mrs. Champey shared her concern that if the article failed no work could be done to improve the kitchen situation at Atkinson. She inquired if funds can be diverted in an emergency situation? Mr. La Salle stated that consideration could be extended if safety is a factor or service could not be provided without repairs of some type.

Mr. La Salle recommended accepting articles 1 through 5 and article 7.

Motion: Mr. Porcelli motioned to approve for the 2010 warrant articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7, seconded by Mrs. Aubrey. With no further discussion, the motion passed 6-1, (Mr. Paone opposed).

Mr. Stokinger corrected the list of 2010 March election openings noting the Plaistow Budget Committee member Hardave Dhaliwal is serving a 1 year appointment since he replaced a former budget member and whose term expires 2012.

Motion: Mr. Collins motioned to approve for the 2010 warrant article 6, seconded by Mr. Porcelli.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Paone noted that the district is in desperate need of a new school and maintenance costs are growing out of control. He believes that voters will want to repair any safety issues and ensure the well-being of students. He believes that voters will support the renovations for the kitchen at Atkinson Academy.

Mr. Mascola then read from article six the notation after the article. *(The funds for this article come from existing money*

in the District's Capital Reserve Fund, not from additional taxes. This article therefore will not increase the 2010 tax rate.)

Mr. Collins voiced his opinion stating that he believes it is important to have article six on the warrant and he does not believe it will take away from the TTA contract.

Mrs. Aubrey inquired about the safety concerns. Mr. La Salle stated that the kitchen at Atkinson Academy is inadequate which creates difficult and uncomfortable work space for staff. He believes upgrades to the equipment would produce a better product. Acoustically the area where students eat is loud since it is a former gym, the heat is inadequate and the close quarters present an uncomfortable space with air quality issues. It is not an immediate danger to students.

Mr. Collins inquired if the facilities budget is been trimmed, can they renovate a kitchen within the proposed facilities budget. Mrs. Withee explained that if it was necessary it would be done and other projects would be delayed.

Having no further discussion the motion passed 4-3, (Mrs. Aubrey, Mrs. Champey and Mr. Porcelli opposed).

Technology Curriculum

Mr. Mascola noted that this is a second reading on the 2010-2011 Technology curriculum.

Motion: Mr. Paone motioned to accept the second reading of the Technology curriculum, seconded by Mrs. Champey. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously 7-0.

NHSBA Delegate Assembly

Mr. Mascola informed the board he will be attending the January 16, 2010 NHSBA meeting in Concord and asked board members to review the assembly material and send inquiries by email or phone.

Administrators Report

None

Personnel

Mr. La Salle recommended accepting the nomination of
Meaghan McQueen TRHS English Teacher

Motion: Mrs. Aubrey motioned to accept the nomination of Meaghan Mc Queen, TRHS English Teacher, seconded by Mr. Paone. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously 7-0.

Mr. La Salle then recommended accepting the retirement requests of

Kerry George	Danville	Grade 1	8 years with the District
Joyce Peavey	AA	Music Teacher	22 years with the District
William Tilton	TRHS	Guidance	29 years with the District

Motion: Mrs. Aubrey motioned to accept with regret the retirement requests of
Kerry George Danville Grade 1 8 years with the District
Joyce Peavey AA Music Teacher 22 years with the District
William Tilton TRHS Guidance 29 years with the District
seconded by Mr. Paone. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously 7-0.

Committee and Reports of the School Board

Mr. Porcelli noted the Technology committee was canceled on December 22nd.

Mr. Paone (alternate Budget committee member) reported the budget committee voted on removing the science renovations at the high school but when put to a vote, it did not pass.

Mrs. Champey noted the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for January 21, at 4:30 PM at the SAU office.

Mr. Collins attended the Community Relations Committee meeting on January 7th and discussed the school year calendar, Town Board Selectman communications, School Board Notes. The next meeting is scheduled for February 28.

Correspondence

Mrs. Caruso as well as Mr. & Mrs. Merrill's correspondence was reviewed.

Vendor and Payroll

Done

Other

Mr. Mascola noted the future meeting dates

The Public Hearing is scheduled on	January 14 @ PAC	7:00 PM
Filing period for candidates begins	January 20 th	
TRSB public meeting	January 21 @ SAU	7 ³⁰ PM
Filing period for candidates ends	January 29	

Motion: Mr. Collins motioned to enter into a non-public session regarding a personnel issue under RSA 91:A.3.II (c), seconded by Mrs. Aubrey. With no further discussion, the board was polled and entered into a non-public session at 9:00 pm.

Motion: Mrs. Champey motioned to exit the non-public session, seconded by Mrs. Aubrey. With no further discussion, the board was polled and exited the non-public session at 9:55 pm.

No action was taken during the non-public session.

Having no further business before the board Mr. Mascola adjourned the meeting at 9:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk