

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

Regular Meeting
January 8, 2009
7:30 PM

SAU 55 Office
Plaistow, NH

Mr. Baldwin, Chairperson called the School Board meeting to order at 7:30 pm at the SAU office.

Roll call was taken.

Mr. Baldwin led the pledge of allegiance.

Present: Mrs. Aubrey, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Champey, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Kosta, Mr. Mascola, Mr. Paone, and Mr. Delfino

Absent: Mrs. Withee

Administrators Present

Mr. La Salle	Superintendent
Mr. Coker	Director of Secondary Education
Mr. Stokinger	Business Administrator
Mrs. Smith	Assistant Business Administrator
Mrs. McKechnie	Director of Timberlane Learning Center
Mr. Hughes	Director of Facilities

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mrs. Kosta, second by Mrs. Aubrey

- **Voted:** To approve the minutes of the December 4, 2008 meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board and the work session on January 3, 2009.
- **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously**

Delegations and individuals

School Report

Mr. Delfino informed the board of events that greatly impacted the students at the high school. Most notably the ice storm that occurred in December that was so catastrophic it cancelled school for six days. It left many families in the Timberlane District and throughout the state without power for up to ten days. Upon the students' return after the winter break another concern arose; a threat was made and an AlertNow message was sent out to all the families in the district to dispel rumors. Police presence was also increased at school. The day ultimately passed without incident. He went on to say that students are concerned about the amount of days lost this year due to the weather conditions. They are anxiously awaiting the schedule for the senior graduation day and the last day of school.

Current Business

People to People Ambassadors

Mrs. McKechnie reported that traveled to Russia as part of the People to People Communication Science and Disorders Delegation. She traveled with a translator who was able to show the team the Russian culture first hand. She noted the development of international relationships and the knowledge gained through this occasion. She thanked the School Board and the Superintendent for their support in this wonderful professional learning opportunity.

Department of Education, Mr. Edward Murdough

Mr. La Salle introduced Mr. Edward Murdough from the Department of Education, Office of School Building Aid. Mr. Murdough congratulated the district on their long range planning. He reviewed the history of the Building Aid program which was established in 1955 and had always been fully funded.

Mr. Murdough explained that the percentage of funds provided by this program is calculated via a formula which states that, if approved, the Timberlane Regional School District is eligible for 50% school building aid. He continued to explain the monies pay for land, planning, design, studies, architectural fees, etc. He talked about the high performance/green program that encourages the use of green materials and philosophy which is expected to create operational cost savings.

He informed the school board that they are responsible for all the decisions for the project. These are important choices and they must consider the cost, quality and time with realistic expectations. He clarified the importance of a good clerk of the works and a contingency budget. Local authorities should be involved at every step of the process including the planning board, building inspectors and the Fire Chief. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Murdough reviewed the steps and considerations of a building project. He noted the additional incentive options and explained what was required of each. He then reviewed a project timeline.

Mr. La Salle volunteered to filter questions from the school board to Mr. Murdough and share the responses with the board.

The board expressed their appreciation for Mr. Murdough's expertise as well as time and consideration in providing this valuable information.

High School Septic System

Mr. Hughes updated the board on the septic system problem at the high school. He reported the problem was discovered on or about November 15, 2008 on the east side of the high school which handles 50% of the building. He then provided the history of the original installation of the system in 1964. He stated the options considered to address this problem include replacement of the field, adding to the field in the back of the building with additional fields or install a pump station to pump the effluent to the equalization box for the existing system and adding two new fields.

On November 19th, the engineering firm of Civil Construction Management of Newton, NH was consulted to see which option would be the best for the district. The engineer reviewed the plans, chose the installation of the pump station option, and submitted those plans to the State of New Hampshire's Department of Environmental Services (DES) for review.

In early December an RFP for a contractor was developed. Test pits were dug and reviewed by the town building inspector. In January 2009 the plans were completed and were approved by the town. The Department of Environmental Services acknowledged the receipt of the plans from the engineer.

Mr. Hughes projected that if and when the approval by the DES is received, the RFP would go out to the contractors with construction to begin approximately two weeks after the contractor is chosen.

Mr. Hughes then provided a plan set of the proposed set design for the public's review. The board thanked Mr. Hughes for his report.

2009-2010 Proposed Budget

Mr. Stokinger presented the proposed budget for the 2009-2010 school year. He reviewed the default budget which totals \$60,525,404 as opposed to the proposed budget of \$60,628,376 reflecting the difference of only \$102,972. Mr. La Salle noted the difference between the default and the proposed budget is only 1.54% and after the offset of revenue the difference is actually 1.45%. He explained this is a lean budget. He was hoping to start the year with full oil tanks and full stock of office supplies but, with the current high school septic problems he expects that school will begin leaner than usual.

He noted another concern due to the economic conditions; seventeen additional insurance plans were added within the past two months due to employee spouse layoffs. This reflects an estimate annual cost of \$105,000.

He reminded the board that the current group maximum rate from the Local Government Center came in at a 12.3% increase in medical insurance costs and he is hoping that a lower amount is stated in May when the actual rates are set.

The option of increasing the budget could and most likely would cause a loss of teachers. The other option would be to support the current proposed budget considering the actual insurance rates expected in May. With the open enrollment period in June and July the district should be able to make the necessary adjustments before the school year begins.

He went on to say that these additional insurance costs estimates were shared with the budget committee prior to this evening's meeting. It was their position to support the current proposed budget.

The school board can modify the budget at the public hearing on Tuesday, January 13th or at the Deliberative session scheduled on February 5th. Mr. La Salle then reviewed the draft of the warrant which is attached to these minutes.

Policies

Mr. Coker presented the following policies to the board for a second reading. These proposed policies have been posted on the website since the last meeting.

BCA-R	School Board member ethics
BCA-X	School Board member ethics (signature page)
EDCA	Employee use of cellular telephones
GBAA	Sexual harassment and violence- employees
GBEBC	Staff gifts and solicitations
IJO	School community and home relations
IKAA	Interdisciplinary credit
IKE	Placement, promotions and retention of students
JBAA	Sexual harassment and violence – students
JCA	Change of school or assignment
JFAB	Admission of tuition and non-residential students
JH	Student absences and excuses
KA	School community and home relations
KB	Title I parent involvement in education
KHA	Staff gifts and solicitations

On a motion by Mrs. Champey, second by Mrs. Kosta

- **Voted:** To adoption the following policies
- BCA-R School Board member ethics
- BCA-X School Board member ethics (signature page)
- EDCA Employee use of cellular telephones
- GBAA Sexual harassment and violence- employees
- GBEBC Staff gifts and solicitations
- IJO School community and home relations
- IKAA Interdisciplinary credit
- IKE Placement, promotions and retention of students
- JBAA Sexual harassment and violence – students
- JCA Change of school or assignment
- JFAB Admission of tuition and non-residential students
- JH Student absences and excuses
- KA School community and home relations
- KB Title I parent involvement in education
- KHA Staff gifts and solicitations

Mr. Paone stated he would like to see the definition of an employee stated in policies BCA-R, BCA-X, GBEBC, KHA and JFAB. Mrs. Champey suggested the board approve the policies as written and then consult with the

district counsel for the clarification per Mr. Paone's request. The policies can be amended later, if necessary. A discussion ensued.

Mrs. Kosta proposed an amendment seconded by Mr. Paone

- **Voted:** to adoption and approve policies EDCA, GBAA, IJO, IKAA, IKE, JBAA, JCA, JH, KA and KB.
- **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously**

A discussion ensued regarding policy JFAB – Admission of tuition and non-residential students.

On a motion by Mr. Mascola, second by Mrs. Kosta

- **Voted:** To adopt policy JFAB with proposed changes.
- **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously**

NHSBA Delegate Assembly

The board will review the information and submit their suggestions to Mr. Baldwin relative to the proposed resolutions.

Administrator's Report

Mr. La Salle informed the board that the district received information from counsel that this year's warrant should not display any recommendation information according to RSA 32:5v-a.

Mrs. Champey expressed her concern that the residents expect to see that information and the lack of this information might cause a problem. A discussion ensued and Mr. La Salle noted that he would provide additional information at the public hearing.

Personnel

Mr. La Salle recommended accepting the retirement requests of

- Ellen Beckwith AA Media Generalist with 35 years with the district
- Noreen Burns THRS Mathematics with 21 years with the district
- Marilyn Prell TRHS English with 29 years with the district

On a motion by Mr. Kosta, second by Mr. Mascola

- **Voted:** To approve the retirement with great appreciation of
- Ellen Beckwith AA Media Generalist with 35 years with the district
- Noreen Burns THRS Mathematics with 21 years with the district
- Marilyn Prell TRHS English with 29 years with the district
- **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously**

Mr. La Salle recommended the request for childrearing leave of absence for Laurie Gulla, Sandown North Occupational therapist for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year.

On a motion by Mrs. Champey, second by Mr. Brown

- **Voted:** To approve the childrearing leave of absence for the 2008-2009 school year for Laurie Gulla- Sandown North Occupational therapist.
- **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously**

Other

Mr. La Salle informed the board that due to the recent ice storm all district schools were closed for a total of six days resulting in the last day of school scheduled for June 26th. Should additional school closure days be warranted the potential to operate outside the 2008-09 budget would arise; staff members need to complete the 2008-09 school year before July 1, 2009, thus budget obligations prohibit extending the school year beyond that date. He then offered the following options:

- Eliminate early release days from the remaining calendar
- Add time at the end of each day
- Attend school on the professional development day on March 10th (*which is also and Election Day with voting scheduled to take place at Pollard School.*)
- Schedules make up time during scheduled school vacations (*February or April*)

- Have the students attend classes on Saturdays

All options were discussed as was the consensus that the board's decision be communicated to all staff and students as soon as possible.

On a motion by Mr. Brown, second by Mrs. Kosta

- **Voted:** To approve March 10, 2009 as a school day and use April vacation days (as needed) beginning with Monday to make up additional school closure days.
- **Having no further discussion the motion passed with seven in favor and one opposed (Robert Collins)**

Mr. La Salle recommended changing the graduation date to June 19, 2009.

On a motion by Mrs. Kosta, second by Mrs. Champey

- **Voted:** To approve June 19, 2009 as the scheduled graduation date for the 2008-2009 school year.
- **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.**

The information regarding the school calendar and graduation date will be posted on the TEN, published in the Eagle Tribune and elementary newsletters, and distributed via the AlertNow messaging system..

Committee and Reports of the School Board

Mr. Collins reported that an *Evening with Danville* is scheduled for January 28, 2009 at 7 pm at the Danville Elementary School. Town officials and district administrators will be in attendance.

Mrs. Champey attended the negotiation committee meetings and reminded the public that the next policy committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday January 14, 2009 at 4:30 PM.

Mrs. Kosta attended the professional development committee meeting. The curriculum committee will meet on January 14, 2009 at 6:30 PM.

Mr. Mascola attended the budget committee meeting and reminded the public the next safety meeting will be on January 20, 2009 at 10:00 am at the SAU building.

Mr. Baldwin noted the public hearing on the budget is scheduled for January 13, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the PAC and the Deliberative Session is scheduled for February 5, 2009 also at 7:00 pm at the PAC.

Correspondence

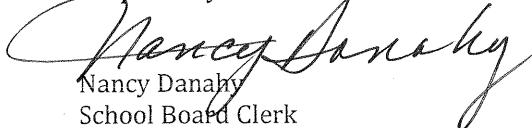
None

Vendor and Payroll

Done

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Baldwin adjourned the meeting at 10:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk

