

APPROVED PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

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://vimeo.com/trsd>
Materials presented at the board meeting may be viewed at: [School Board Meeting Agenda Materials](#)

Timberlane Regional School Board Meeting Minutes

Regular Board Meeting
May 7, 2026
7:00 PM

Performing Arts Center (PAC)
Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Board Members Present

Marianne Springer, Shawn O'Neil, Katie Knutsen, Jack Sapia, Alyssa Kowalczyk,
Mark Sherwood

Excused Absence: Paul LeCain, Don Woodworth, Shauna Manthorn
Cameron Stack, Student Representative

Seated at the Board Table

Justin Krieger, Superintendent
Sandra Allaire, Assistant Superintendent
Ginger Drechsel, Director of Student Services

Administrators Present:

Mark Pedersen, Director of Secondary Education
Ken Henderson, Director of Technology
Fran DeCinto, Director of Human Resources
Maria Watkins, Business Administrator/CFO

Mrs. Knutsen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

RETIREE RECOGNITION

Mr. Krieger recognized the retirees for SY 25-26. The retirees are as follows: Donna Boretti, Kenneth Clark, Elizabeth Ellis, Robyn Ficek, Wanda Fratus, Diane Gagnon, Audrey Grew, John Heffernan, Linda Mahoney, Christine Paradis, Deborah Pierce, Susanne Tewell, Kimberly White, and Alison Yankowskas. A special celebration was held from 6:30 – 7:00 before the public meeting began. Mr. Krieger announced they have got about 300 total years of service retiring from the district this year. He introduced each retiree and they were called up on stage

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and given a framed copy of their original contract and they were thanked by the individual Board members for their years of dedication.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Mrs. Springer motioned to approve the public meeting minutes of 4/16/26. Seconded by Mr. O'Neil Motion passed: 4-0-2 (Sherwood, Kowalczyk abstained)

DELEGATES & INDIVIDUALS

MOTION: Mr. O'Neil motioned to move the 30 minutes to the end of the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sherwood. Motion passed: 6-0-0

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Krieger presented Cameron's report. Cameron is at his Rho Kappa Banquet. Cameron will be recognized as a New Hampshire School Board member as a Student Representative of the Year across the state of NH. AP tests have started at the high school. During the Mental Health Awareness Week, Danville had a walk-a-thon and some extra recess with music that was played. Sandown North had Family Math Night. Grade Two students from Atkinson Academy will have a walking field trip next week. On April 23rd, Pollard held an academic showcase called "America the Beautiful". There were 140 8th grade students who attended the Washington, DC trip and they had an awesome experience.

CURRENT BUSINESS

A. TRHS Public Speaking Curriculum Changes (Second Read)

Mr. Pederson presented the curriculum revision for a second read. He indicated there have been no changes since the first read.

MOTION: Mr. O'Neil motioned to approve the second read/adoption of the TRHS Public Speaking curriculum changes. Seconded by Mr. Sapia Motion passed: 6-0-0

B. K-12 Math Competencies Revisions (First Read)

Mrs. Allaire presented this. In accordance with Policy IGA, they are requesting acceptance for a First Read. She explained updates to the ED 306 rules prompted a new cycle of curriculum review across all subject and content areas this year. The Mathematics Department had already begun this work and has now entered a formal review process for this content area.

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MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the First Read of revisions to the K-12 Math Competencies. Seconded by Mrs. Springer. Motion passed: 6-0-0

C. Music Department Overnight Trip Spring 2027

Mr. Schweiss, Director of Music and PAC presented this. The Music Department is requesting approval to plan and implement a multi-day, overnight trip to Orlando, Florida at Disney World to perform. It would take place across five days in April of 2027. The marching band will be marching down Main Street in Disney World. There is fundraising planned and will have no impact to the district budget outside of any mandated special education accommodations. This trip has been run for decades, every four years.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the Music Department's overnight field trip request to Orlando, FL for five days in April 2027. Seconded by Mrs. Kowalczyk. Motion passed: 6-0-0

D. Student Screentime Overview

Mrs. Allaire mentioned two Board meetings ago, the Board had a discussion regarding the impact, potentially, of the use of digital devices, specifically screen time with regards to student learning outcomes. A survey was put together and given to a total of 347 staff members consisting of teachers, school counselors and related service providers. They had a 77% response rate across all grade levels.

(Mrs. Drechsel excused herself from the meeting at 7:30 pm)

Mrs. Allaire walked the Board through the responses and data connected to each of the questions. The responses at the elementary level indicate there was minimal time where students are currently learning on screens. She noted as students get to middle and high school, there is an increase in screen time. At the high school level, the majority of research is being done digitally. They also use the computers for State assessments and testing.

Mr. Sapia shared some research he found. He stated there is a plethora of information that supports getting back to pencils, paper and books. He is not stating they should get rid of technology, nor does the research suggest that, but it should be used sparingly and in certain areas. Mr. Sapia provided a clip from a Senate hearing of one of the witnesses testifying, Dr. Horvath. Dr. Horvath spoke on the impact of technology on American youth.

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E. Change of Title: Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator

Mr. Krieger explained that Timberlane has moved more to a model that asks all building administrators, including principles, to serve in the role as instructional leader. They have moved away from designating curriculum work solely to the assistant principals.

He is seeking School Board approval to change the title of assistant principals at the elementary level from Assistant Principal / Curriculum Coordinator to “Assistant Principal.” He explained this will enable the district to issue contracts in the most accurate manner possible and the job description titles will match the titles in Infinite Visions.

**MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the title change from Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator to Assistant Principal. Seconded by Mrs. Kowalczyk
Motion passed: 6-0-0**

F. Change of Title: Technical Support Specialist

Mrs. DeCinto explained that last fall, the Budget Committee approved the request to change the title and duties of the current Technical Support Specialist position to a Senior Technology Specialist position. They need a higher level of technology expertise and accountability to support the elementary schools. They will provide guidance, direction and support to the Technical Support Specialist to ensure tasks are completed effectively. They will also oversee and coordinate technology projects at the elementary schools.

Mr. Henderson also mentioned that this would create a career step to keep those good techs. There are currently two at the elementary level and this position would be one of the two.

**MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the title change from Technical Support Specialist to Senior Technical Specialist. Seconded by Mr. O’Neil.
Motion passed: 6-0-0**

G. ED 306/Policy Updates

Mrs. Allaire provided an update on the policy changes aligned with the revised ED306 requirements.

H. Policies

1. Mrs. Allaire presented the second read of Policy KEC: Challenged Materials.

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Mrs. Allaire presented Policy KEC-Challenged Materials for First Read. The revisions include renaming the policy, consolidating instructional and library materials that were previously separate policies, and removing procedural language to establish a standalone procedure. The only change from the First Read is they added new verbiage at the bottom of the policy directing parents to Policy IGE per a request from the School Board at the previous meeting.

Mrs. Knutsen also commented on a concern brought forth by a School Board member at the previous meeting as to whether the Board can adopt a policy as a First and Second Read in the same meeting. Mrs. Knutsen explained they found no verbiage that said a policy had to go to a First Read and then to a Second Read.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the Second Read/Adoption of Policy KEC: Challenged Materials. Seconded by Mrs. Kowalczyk. Motion passed: 6-0-0

2. Mrs. Allaire also posted a Notice to Repeal on the agenda. The Policy they are seeking to repeal is Policy IJM-Challenged Materials. This policy duplicates the original language of KEC: Challenged Materials which is currently under full revision. A full Board is required for a vote to repeal. This will be on the next agenda.

I. FY2027 Schedule of School District Monthly Payments

Mrs. Watkins presented the FY2027 schedule indicating the financial needs of the Timberlane Regional School District as they are estimated for the first six months of the coming school year.

Mr. Krieger informed the Board this schedule has been provided to the town's Board of Selectmen and stated this will be a continued topic of conversation.

9. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Krieger visited the Sandown Board of Selectmen and he will be going to visit Plaistow this coming Monday. For each town, he wants to highlight some positive things that are happening in that specific school or with students who are from that town or staff. He is also outlining 3 fiscal years. They are discussing the Deliberative Session in terms of the survey with the Board members. The conversation about the Deliberative Survey was well received in Sandown. There is some alignment and some learning that can continue with the Boards of Selectmen. They launched the Deliberative Survey and so far they have received over 400 responses across the four towns. The survey is open until June 30th.

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Mr. Krieger updated the Board on the Danville Principal position. Applications will close mid-May. Mrs. Allaire and Mrs. Drechsel will lead that interview process and they have a goal of making a determination of the principal of Danville by the end of May.

Mrs. Allaire mentioned that last month, Mr. Pederson and Ms. Puchlopek hosted four days of open drop in sessions for teachers at the Middle and High School to have conversations about the ED306 changes. On Monday, May 11th at 6:00 pm, they will be hosting an open forum in the high school library for parents to learn about the changes that connect to competencies for credit at the high school level.

10. Personnel Report

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the professional nominations of: Elizabeth Hughes, English Teacher, TRHS; Andrea Trudeau, Science Teacher, TRHS; Johanna St. Pierre, English Teacher, TRMS; Olivia Arangio, PE/Health Teacher, TRMS; Emily McLaughlin, Social Studies Teacher, TRMS Seconded by Mrs. Kowalczyk Motion passed: 6-0-0

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the professional resignation of Lauren Mann, Math Specialist, Atkinson Academy. Seconded by Mrs. Kowalczyk Motion passed: 6-0-0

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the renomination of Katherine Mittica, Elementary Teacher, Sandown North. Seconded by Mrs. Kowalczyk Motion passed: 6-0-0

11. Committee Reports

Mrs. Springer stated the Curriculum & Assessment Committee will meet on June 3rd. She attended the Career Exploration Day.

Mrs. Kowalczyk stated Policy Committee will meet on June 4th. She gave a shout out to the Academic Night held at Pollard School. The kids were very excited to show their work and she hopes they can do that each year.

Mr. O'Neil stated the next CIP meeting will be held on June 11th.

Mr. Sapia mentioned the Facilities Committee and the CIP Committee will meet next week. He attended Mental Health Week. He stated it is so important for parents to be aware of what their

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kids are going through. When these events happen, it is worth the time to listen to these speakers. He gave kudos to the faculty for putting this on.

There was no further School Board business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Mahoney
Recording Secretary

Approved by the School Board on May 21, 2026