

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
June 18, 2026
7:00 PM

Superintendent's Office
Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Board Members Present

Don Woodworth, Katie Knutsen, Shawna Manthorn, Marianne Springer, Alyssa Kowalczyk, Mark Sherwood

Excused Absence: Paul LeCain, Jack Sapia, Shawn O'Neil

Seated at the Board Table

Justin Krieger, Superintendent

Sandra Allaire, Assistant Superintendent

Chris Martin, Executive Director of Operations and Special Projects

Administrators Present:

Maria Watkins, Business Administrator/CFO

Lucy Canotas, Director of Elementary Education

Kurt Schweiss, Director of Music and PAC

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the public meeting minutes of 6/4/26.
Seconded by Mrs. Manthorn Motion passed: 4-0-2 (Springer, Kowalczyk abstained)

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MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve the non-public meeting minutes of 6/4/26. Seconded by Mr. Woodworth Motion passed: 4-0-2 (Springer, Kowalczyk abstained)

STUDENT, STAFF, FAMILY SHARE

Mr. Schweiss, along with two students, came to talk about the two commissions. Mr. Schweiss had approached the Timberlane Music Association back in the fall with a commissioning opportunity with a company called Sing Me a Story. The company identifies a critically ill child and then asks the child to write and illustrate their own story. It is then given to a composer who composes music based off that story and given to a school to perform that music. Timberlane was the recipient of that. They also commissioned a jazz piece of music. The two high school students were part of both premiers, and they talked about their experience and the process.

Mrs. Springer attended the premier and commented on the very moving end and how everything was very well done.

Mr. Sherwood thanked them for what they have given to Timberlane and hopefully they have received it in kind.

DELEGATES & INDIVIDUALS

Kaitlyn Hilbert of Atkinson spoke to the Board as a concerned parent. She is also a member of the Atkinson Academy PTA. She stated at their last PTA meeting, it came to their attention that there will be proposed changes to the unified arts program. They had many concerns about these proposed changes and none of them could see the benefit. Some concerns they have is that its going to divide the school and disrupt the current collaboration they have. She asked the Board to direct the administration to talk to the staff and communicate with them as to why this is happening. They are also concerned about their kids because some really like one unified art or dislike one and they will have to have six straight days of one. They are concerned there will be some kind of behavioral issues as a result. She also cited some regulations and school district policy.

Laura McKellar of Atkinson spoke out for all of the other parents who could not attend the meeting tonight. They are all extremely concerned that their children will not have the weekly variety they've had. She has no idea why this has been decided. She highly encourages whoever proposed this, that it be revisited.

MOTION: Mrs. Manthorn motioned to move the remaining 24 minutes to the end of the meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Kowalczyk. Motion passed: 6-0-0

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CURRENT BUSINESS

A. 2026-2027 Music Department Calendar

Mr. Schweiss presented the proposed Performing Arts Center calendar for the following school year for their review and approval.

Mrs. Manthorn thanked him for moving the start time of the concerts to 6:30 pm this year. She also mentioned that the last time he was here, he mentioned a letter received from some folks who rented the PAC. She asked Mr. Schweiss if it is possible to get some type of list of an update every now and then about how frequently the PAC is rented out and what the revenue aspect of that is.

Mr. Schweiss stated he could absolutely do that.

MOTION: Mrs. Manthorn motioned to approve the 2026-2027 Proposed Music and Drama Schedule of Events. Seconded by Mr. Sherwood. Motion passed: 6-0-0

B. CTI Contract

Dr. Martin explained the purpose of the agreement is to continue working with Control Technologies Inc. for the next three years. Mr. Brander, Mr. Sapia and Mr. Sherwood have all been briefed on the agreement and concur with moving forward for another three years. They do preventative maintenance for the building automation systems that controls the HVAC in our buildings. All 9 buildings now have controls installed. The district has a good working relationship with them. It helps streamline the warranty and guarantee process they have with the products we have already installed and paid for.

MOTION: Mr. Sherwood motioned to approve entering into a 3-year contract with Control Technologies, ending on June 30, 2029 for a total cost of \$65,430.00. Seconded by Mrs. Kowalczyk Motion passed: 6-0-0

C. Elementary Physical Education Curriculum Revision – First Read

Mrs. Canotas explained they have been working through PE and approved the PE standard changes. She provided a generalized chart to show where the teachers placed the skills within the K-2 grade span and then the 3-5 grade span. There is a lot of consistency as they build their skills at the similar time. She explained the only thing that has changed is the students will be skilled at statements section.

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MOTION: Mrs. Springer motioned to approve the first read of the Elementary Physical Education Curriculum revisions. Seconded by Mrs. Manthorn. Motion passed: 6-0-0

D. Elementary Enrollment Update

Mrs. Canotas explained a couple of things have changed but not by much. She mentioned what is not represented in the document is that we have allocated a teacher at Danville who will work with both grade one and grade two. She will not have a homeroom, but she will be a third teacher on those grade levels. She has been at Danville so she is not a new hire. If we were to go over the class size, we would come back and either ask to waive the policy or have an additional teacher.

E. Budget to Actual Report

Mrs. Watkins reviewed the Budget to Actual Report. She stated for the month of June, as far as of today, they have spent \$11.7 million. We are at \$77.7 million as of today in expenses. The projection is still \$82 million - \$82.5 million of our fiscal 26 budget. They are projecting to spend what the budget is. She also stated they have received about \$3 million in June which is the final payments from the towns. That completes the revenue income for the year, leaving about \$5.8 million.

Mrs. Watkins referred to the authorization they received from the Board to place all the debt for food service and tuition into collections. They have placed about \$170,000 into the collection agency. They have collected about \$40,000, which is about 24% of that debt. She stated it is an amazing effort and thanked the Board for authorizing them to go that route and thinks it has paid off.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Dr. Martin spoke on how impressed she was with the professionalism of the teachers at Pollard. The contractors mentioned it and they deserve a shout-out as do the teachers in the 200 wing at the high school. The facilities division has been extraordinarily busy.

Mrs. Allaire gave some highlights on the end of the school year. They ended the year with our teachers and paraeducators over the past two days with two professional learning days. That was time well used and well spent. They have high levels of engagement and collaboration.

Mr. Krieger provided a couple updates. One is in follow-up from a previous meeting around screen time. He spoke with Mr. Henderson about what they are investigating and what the potential cost for more tools to monitor those things. He said the fee is really nominal. It is about \$6,500 a year. It would be a three-year contract that would be an add-on to the current contract they have. He stated it is fairly robust in its reporting. It is just not total screen time.

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He said if it is the will of the Board, they would be able to find that money and potentially move forward with that for next year.

Mr. Krieger informed the Board that the NH Dept. of Education put out an RFP, and they are going to be doing district mapping for every public school district in NH. It will be interactive mapping with critical response group. It will be tied into all of our emergency service areas in our localized area. It is a unique and a safety-first type of thing here in NH. When folks come out and visit and walk the spaces with them, they will certainly bring it to the Safety Committee to tie them in.

Mr. Krieger brought two bills to their attention that were passed in the legislature and are on the governor's desk. The first is HB 1300 is the tax cap. The other is HB 1610 addresses the unassigned fund balance and the amount of calculation, the impact on taxes from year to year.

Mr. Krieger spoke to the potential changes and shifts to the UA model. They began talking about this as an administrative team in the winter and were really focused on the relational rationale for this right now. He said, if he was a unified arts teacher at the elementary level, he would see up to 500 kids across a week. They are looking to change that and get that ratio down to about 100 kids a week. There is also an instructional rationale to this idea. They are looking to chunk things down into smaller sections for kids. They see a deep relational, instructional, and fiscal impacts with it.

Mrs. Kowalczyk asked if the decision has already been made to disperse this to all four elementary schools for next year. Mr. Krieger said they settled yesterday on a model where they are looking at a six-day cycle.

Mrs. Knutsen said that since Mr. Krieger has taken over as superintendent, any decision he has ever made has been well thought out, and he has gotten collaboration from all the stakeholders involved, and it has never been crammed down anyone's throat. She said she has full confidence that whatever he and his team decide to roll out, it will be well thought out and in the best interest for the district and students.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mr. Krieger spoke about Paul Biron. He wanted to bring Paul Biron to the Board as assistant principal for Pollard Elementary. They met Paul through a search process for a principal position and had asked him about potentially being interested in this Assistant Principal position which he was. We were happy to hear that and he's met Mary and has been vetted through some different staff teams. He taught in Nashua and has experience as an elementary school administrator in Londonderry, Chester, and Andover.

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MOTION: Mrs. Manthorn motioned to approve the professional nominations of: Christopher Andrews, PE/Health Teacher, TRMS; Paul Biron, Assistant Principal, Pollard School; Corryn Lachance, Elementary Teacher, Pollard School; Meghan Rodger, School Nurse, Sandown Central; Skylar Terry, Elementary Teacher, Pollard School; Regan Carpine, Elementary Teacher, Pollard School. Seconded by Mr. Sherwood Motion passed: 6-0-0

MOTION: Mrs. Manthorn motioned to approve the professional resignation of Cheryl Remlin, Elementary Teacher, Danville Elementary School. Seconded by Mr. Sherwood Motion passed: 6-0-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Woodworth offered some observations of going to the graduations. He said it has been great. The high school graduation is the product of everybody's work around the district and it is showcased in these events. You get a real sense of community from everybody being there and a sense of pride.

Mrs. Knutsen attended the high school graduation and the students were so well spoken with their speeches.

Mr. Sherwood attended the high school graduation and what he enjoyed the most was the interpersonal relationships between students, teachers, and paras.

Mrs. Manthorn was able to attend the high school graduation and the 8th celebration. She heard from parents of the transitioning students there was a lot of information provided it gets them engaged earlier. She also mentioned that she and Mr. Woodworth had the opportunity to be judges for the 8th grade poetry slam. She was a semi-finalist round judge. There were some folks at the SAU who participated.

Mrs. Kowalczyk stated the Policy Committee has a meeting scheduled on July 2nd. She was able to volunteer at Pollard for the senior clap-out which was amazing. She had never witnessed any of that before.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Kowalczyk asked Dr. Martin about the event that happened at Pollard School. Dr. Martin stated that the work is now complete and clean.

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DELEGATES AND INDIVIDUALS (cont'd)

Laura Moll of Atkinson stated she is not afraid of change and is very open-minded. She understands things have to progress in order to improve. She stated it is helpful to understand some of the benefits. That is what she was really curious about. There was no notification that came from the school about this so she thinks the communication piece is lacking. She has a son and daughter. Her daughter would probably do fine, but she is concerned about her son behaviorally. She worries about him going weeks without gym class unless there is another way to build in some more dedicated movement. Her concern is not so much having the consecutive days, but more about the gaps that will be there.

Melissa Raymond of Atkinson has two children at Atkinson Academy. They first heard about this from teachers. She doesn't think it sounds like it is a full plan. She said there are positives to it, she just feels like we are rushing into this into the fall.

Laura McKellar of Atkinson appreciated the Board's comments tonight. She is a supporter of change when it is rolled out well. If they are going to do this change which she is still against, she is open to talking more about it. She would like to know how they are going to assess if it's working or failing so they would know when to pull the trigger either to revert or continue. She is concerned about discipline also. She also wants to know how they will ensure that the kids are getting the same holiday spirit throughout the year in the art class.

Molly Conroy of Atkinson is a parent, a graduate, a resident and a teacher within the Timberlane district. She teaches at Atkinson Academy. She was very surprised to hear this news that they were going to be shifting to this type of schedule. Mr. Harris brought it to their attention at a staff meeting. There isn't anyone in the entire school building who was in support of this plan and they were not given one reason why this would be a good idea. A lot of concerns were expressed. She is concerned about trying to cram it all in into six days, only to have to relearn everything in order to reengage with the content.

Mrs. Knutsen mentioned if anyone ever has any problems, to please speak directly to Mr. Krieger and seek to understand and ask questions.

There was no further public business. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Mahoney
Recording Secretary

Approved by the School Board on August 13, 2026