

THOMPSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thompson Middle School Media Center

Monday, September 14, 2015

6:00 P.M.

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman William Witkowski called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Members Present:

Robert Bentley
Thomas Angelo
Ellen Corrado
Christopher Eichner
Jacqueline Lajoie
Joseph Lindley
Donna Lynch
William Witkowski

Members Absent:

Kathleen Herbert

Student/Board Liaisons:

Emily Szamocki
Taylor Ware

Also present was:

Dr. Jolin, Megan Baker, Noveline Beltram, William Birch, Neal Breen, Tina Chahanovich, Barbara Macauley, Laurence Prentiss, members of the public, employees of the Board of Education, members of the press.

The Board voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing superintendent evaluation at 6:03pm.

Motion by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Ellen Corrado, to enter into Executive Session.

Motion – Passed. Unanimous.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:05pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

First Selectman Paul Lenky led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Citizens' Comments

Maryanne Mason expressed concern regarding safety with the bus routes for her children.

Kirsten Forrester stated that SHR Solar gave a proposal to the Town for putting up a solar field behind the Town Hall. Ms. Forrester stated that there would be a significant energy savings for both the Town Hall and the school. Ms. Forrester will provide copies of the proposal to the Board.

Jody Houghton asked what the process is for half days when the temperature in the school is very high and if students could be provided with plenty of water. Dr. Jolin stated the nurses were giving students water when needed, and classes were able to utilize the air conditioned auditorium.

William Witkowski introduced the Board/student liaisons, Emily Szamocki and Taylor Ware.

IV. Committee Reports

Joseph Lindley stated that the Tourtellotte Trust received a proposal for replacing the windows in the 1909 Tourtellotte building.

V. Educational Up-Date

A. Superintendent's Report

- Enrollment and Update: The September 1, 2015 enrollment is at 1,001 students.

- Administration, Operations and Maintenance – Dr. Jolin stated that there is a proposal to him from Ms. Baker and Ms. Andersen for a community production of Beauty and the Beast, which will work in conjunction with the Alumni Association and the Recreation Department.
- Oil Tank Update – Bill Birch stated that preliminary drawings for installation are complete and a replacement tank has been secured. The remediation equipment is almost complete and will be operating soon, the fume exhaust system is in operation, and the holding tank and filters are in place.
- Tina Chahanovich, Megan Baker and Noveline Beltram stated that the beginning of school went well for students and staff.
- Marissa Ware stated fall sports have begun. Homelessness Awareness and the Homecoming dance are being planned.

VI. Action Items

Minutes – Regular Meeting, August 10, 2015

Motion by Christopher Eichner, seconded by Jacqueline Lajoie, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting on August 10, 2015.

Motion – Passed. Thomas Angelo abstained.

Minutes – Special Meeting, August 25, 2015

Motion by Christopher Eichner, seconded by Robert Bentley, to approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting on August 25, 2015.

Motion – Passed. Thomas Angelo, Ellen Corrado and Jacqueline Lajoie abstained.

Business Manager Contract Extension/Salary Increase

Motion by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Robert Bentley, to accept the Superintendents recommendation for the Business Manager to be placed on the existing administrator salary scale at \$105,709.

Roll call vote was taken. Jacqueline Lajoie, Yes. Thomas Angelo, No. Donna Lynch, Yes. William Witkowski, Yes. Joseph Lindley, Yes. Robert Bentley, No. Ellen Corrado, No. Christopher Eichner, No.

Motion fails.

Motion by Robert Bentley, seconded Joseph Lindley, to increase the Business Manager’s current salary by \$5,000.

Roll call vote was taken. Jacqueline Lajoie, Yes. Thomas Angelo, Yes. Donna Lynch, Yes. William Witkowski, Yes. Joseph Lindley, Yes. Robert Bentley, Yes. Ellen Corrado, No. Christopher Eichner, No.

Motion passes.

Non-Union Salary Increase

Tabled to the October meeting.

VII. Correspondence

VIII. Citizens’ Comments

Joe Ptaszynski asked for enrollment numbers. He was provided with the enrollment report.

Kirstin Forrester asked if the Communications Academy would be able to video tape Board meetings. Dr. Jolin stated that it would be a budget impact to hire a person to oversee and coordinate.

Donna Godzik asked if street lights can be turned back on for student safety when walking to bus stops.

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Christopher Eichner, seconded by Robert Bentley, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion—Passed. Unanimous.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:08p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle M. Pederson
Recording Secretary to the Board