

THOMPSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thompson Middle School Media Center

Tuesday, October 11, 2016

7:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman William Witkowski called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Members Present:

Shawn Brissette
Kathleen Herbert
Jody Houghton
Donna Godzik
Linda Jarmolowicz
Joseph Lindley
William Witkowski

Members Absent:

Thomas Angelo
Christopher Eichner

Student Liaison
Jordon Sroczenski

Also present was:

Dr. Jolin, Megan Baker, Noveline Beltram, Neal Breen, William Birch, Chris Scott, Scott Sugarman, members of the public, employees of the Board of Education, members of the press.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Middle School student Giovanni Couture led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Citizens' Comments

Theodore Smith stated that he would like to see homogeneous grouping in the high school, would like to see the curriculum evaluated every three years, and would like to see an effort to make a program for the gifted students. Megan Baker recognized Jordon Sroczenski as the high school student of the month for October.

IV. Committee Report

The Policy Sub-Committee met prior to the regular meeting. Discussion was held regarding weighted grades, athletic transportation policy, lunch account collection process, student cell phone use, water bottles, cell phone use, perfect attendance and facilities use.

Joseph Lindley stated there is a lot going on with Tourtellotte Alumni. There is Career Day on October 14th, there will be soccer games on Saturday, October 15th, as well as an Alumni concert that night. Joe will come up with a summary report regarding the work that has been completed in the Tourtellotte building.

V. Educational Update

Enrollment

The October 1st enrollment for the district is at 1,002 students from 1,015 students in September.

Superintendent/Administrator Reports

Noveline Beltram recognized Carol Rossetti for her great work with Fortezza at Community Day and thanked all administrators for being at that event.

Christopher Scott stated that he attended Community Day and was happy to be a part of it. He thanked Mr. Justin Leclerc and the Middle School chorus for their participation. Mr. Scott stated there are many field trips happening in the Middle School including: Natures Classroom, Rocky Neck, Mystic Seaport and Fort Hill corn maze. Mr. Scott also stated that the half-day hat day has been implemented as a way to raise money to give back to the community.

Autism Program Update

Lisa Rice, Mary Ellen Jones and Katie Butler presented an Autism Program update.

Communications Plan Update

The Communications Coordinator provide the Board with a 2016-2017 Communications Campaign Plan update. Discussion will be held at the November meeting.

Instructional Hours

Thompson is in compliance with the State regarding the number of instructional hours for the school year.

Student Liaison Report

Jordon Sroczenski thanked Mrs. TenEyck and Mr. Shelton for their hard work and dedication with the high school cross country team. On behalf of Mrs. Ouillette, Jordon thanked many students for being a part of Community Day and Tourtellotte Expo Night. The 8th grade leadership presentation was on September 28th. On October 7th students and adults participated in the homelessness awareness program and raised \$2,700. On October 26th, the QVJC cross country championships is being held in Woodstock.

VI. Action Items

Minutes

Motion by Linda Jarmolowicz, seconded by Jody Houghton, to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2016 Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

2017 Board of Education Meeting Dates

Motion by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Donna Godzik, to approve the 2017 Board of Education Meeting Dates as presented.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Budget Transfers

Motion by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Shawn Brissette, to approve the budget transfers as presented.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Request to Board of Selectmen – Solar Alternatives

Motion by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Donna Godzik, to ask the Board of Selectmen to expand the scope of the Building Committee to include solar, windmill power, and other alternative energy sources.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Tuition Reimbursement

Motion by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Jody Houghton, to approve the request of tuition reimbursement for Mr. Scott Sugarman as requested.

Motion- Passes. Unanimous.

Maternity Leave

Motion by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Donna Godzik, to approve the maternity leave request of Alycia Godzik, MRFES technology teacher.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Paternity Leave

Motion by Jody Houghton, seconded by Donna Godzik, to accept the paternity leave request of Scott Sugarman, Pupil Services Director.

Motion Withdrawn by Jody Houghton, seconded by Donna Godzik.

To be tabled to next meeting.

VII. Correspondence

William Witkowski read a letter from the Concerned Citizens of Not Another Power Plant group, asking if the Board of Education is aware of the potential impact of a power plant and ask the Board to oppose it.

William Witkowski read a letter from the Thompson Secretary Union Local 1303-130 Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO.

VIII. Citizens' Comments

Steve Herbert would like to know if a meeting will be set up with the Boards to discuss solar issues.

Theodore Smith would like enrollment for all three schools. He also would like to know why teachers receive a \$500 increase for a master's degree. This will be researched and information will get back to Mr. Smith.

Megan Baker stated that WINY is hosting 2 more student interns.

Jody Houghton asked about the gifted and talented students. Dr. Jolin stated there may be two in the district but will get confirmed numbers.

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Linda Jarmolowicz, seconded by Shawn Brissette, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion—Passed. Unanimous.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

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

BOE Approval of Minutes: