

THOMPSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thompson Middle School Media Center

Monday, May 8, 2017

7:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice-Chairman Kathleen Herbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Members Present:

Members Absent:

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

Thomas Angelo

Student Liaisons:

Jordon Sroczenski
Taylor Ware

Also present was:

Dr. Jolin, Megan Baker, Ian Polun, Noveline Beltram, Neal Breen, William Birch, Laurence Prentiss, Christopher Scott, Scott Sugarman, members of the public, employees of the Board of Education, members of the press.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Thompson Middle School National Junior Honor Society students led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Citizens' Comments

Valerie Krogul of the teachers union gave the Board a spreadsheet of renewal rates for insurance for Thompson employees which could save the district money. Bill Witkowski stated that the Board will look into this.

Jordon Sroczenski introduced Channing Boss as the Student Spotlight of the Month for May.

IV. Committee Report

Joseph Lindley stated that the Board of Trustees are behind on the window project, but are hopeful the project can begin in the summer.

Motion by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Joseph Lindley, to move to Action Item C-2, the appointment of the next Superintendent of Schools.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

V. Educational Update

The May 1st enrollment remains constant at 989 students.

Dr. Jolin stated that the annual town meeting will be on Monday, May 15th at the public library, and the referendum will be May 23rd.

Jordon Sroczenski and Taylor Ware:

- May 12th – Junior Achievement Breakfast – Sophia Prouty will be the key note speaker
Great East Music Festival
- May 15th – Senior Showcase Pictures
- May 16th – Mock Car Crash
Progress Reports go home
- May 19th – Prom at the Sturbridge Host
- May 22nd - Whale Watch
- May 26th – District Wide Memorial Day Observance
- May 30th – Roger Williams Zoo trip for grade 10
Music Banquet
- May 31st – Annual Athletic Banquet and the Thompson Speedway
- June 1st – Awards and Scholarship Night
- June 2nd – Mystic Aquarium Field Trip
Summa-Stunna - Carnival event at the softball field
- June 12th – Senior Walk and Commemorative Picture with Dr. Jolin

Christopher Scott highlighted recent events which included a faculty versus student faculty volley ball game, anti-bullying assembly with singer/song writer Tim Charron, Nation Junior Honor Society Relay-for-Life event is coming up on May 20th. The PTO had a color-a-thon fundraising event. District wide student artwork is being displayed at the Thompson Library for viewing.

Noveline Beltram handed out a program to the Board regarding an upcoming concert by the 4th grade. The kindergarten classrooms will be equipped with white boards thanks to a sweepstake the PTO recently won. The Camp Invention will be starting at the beginning of the summer.

Scott Sugarman has an IDEA grant that is being finalized. Mr. Sugarman stated that there is a CT Special Education Co-op funding formula being discussed state wide which will help districts with student reimbursement for Special Education.

VI. Action Items

Minutes

Motion by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to approve the minutes of the combined meeting of the Boards on March 23, 2017 as presented.

Motion – Passes. Christopher Eichner, Jody Houghton, Donna Godzik and Kathleen Herbert abstained

Motion by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Jody Houghton, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 3, 2017 as presented.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Maternity Leaves

Motion by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Donna Godzik, to approve the maternity leave requests from Caitlyn Adler and Stefanie Doktor.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Workers Comp/Liability Insurance Agreement

Motion by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Joseph Lindley, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Thompson and the Thompson Board of Education for Worker's Compensation and Liability-Auto-Property Insurance.

Motion – Passes. Christopher Eichner abstained.

Appointment of the Superintendent of Schools

Motion by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz to appoint Ms. Melinda Smith as the new Superintendent of Schools.

Motion – Passes. Christopher Eichner abstained.

Contract Negotiations for New Superintendent of Schools

Motion by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Jody Houghton, to authorize to enter in to contract negotiation for the new superintendent, and authorizes Martin & Associates to assist in the process.

Motion – Passes. Christopher Eichner abstained.

VII. Correspondence

None.

VIII. Citizens' Comments

Donna Shaw recognized the high school as having a positive atmosphere amongst students and staff. She stated Ms. Ouillette set up a skype with author Laura McBride for students and staff. Ms. Shaw invited the Board to come through the high school to see the good things going on.

Megan Baker thanked Ms. Shaw for her kind words, and also thanked Cindy Ouillette, Tracy Williams, and Katie Jambard for setting up the author skype.

Michael Krogul wished the Board luck in the coming town meeting. He also would like the Board to have open conversations during bus contract negotiations.

Donna Godzik announced that the TMHS girls' softball team has made it to States.

IX. Adjournment

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

Motion—Passed. Unanimous.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

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

Approved by the BOE: June 12, 2017