

THOMPSON HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

– May 11, 2015 Meeting Minutes –

Meeting Called to Order at 5:35 PM

In attendance:

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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| i. Mr. Daniel Pisaturo | vi. Mrs. Megan Baker |
| ii. Mrs. Lisa Canney | vii. Mr. Scott Antonson |
| iii. Mr. Michael Joyce | viii. Haylee Olson |
| iv. Mrs. Donna Godzik | |
| v. Mrs. Laura Prouty | |

Others in Attendance:

1. Review of April 2015 Minutes

- a. Motion to accept the minutes made by Megan Baker; seconded by Laura Prouty. Discussion – amended dates of Expo & Awards/Scholarship night. Megan Baker motioned to accept the minutes as amended; Laura Prouty seconded. Unanimous in favor.

2. Budget Update

At the last town of finance meeting, it was stated that if the proposed budget passes at the town vote an overall of \$124,000 will be cut from the education budget.

The BoF will send a .86 mill increase to referendum Wednesday, May 27th.

Two special meetings were tentatively set for Wednesday, May 27th at 8:30pm if the budget passes to set the mill rate. And, Thursday, May 28th at 7pm for an additional Budget Workshop if the budget doesn't pass.

Meeting tonight at 6:30- Finance Sub-committee Meeting review the budget update for 2015-16.

Megan Baker suggested that the finance director and Dr. Jolin have worked very closely to create a budget that would consider minimal to no staffing cuts.

3. Events – TMHS Expo night

- a. Mrs. Prouty, Mrs. Godzik and Lisa Canney volunteered to represent the Council. We had 4 parents of 8th graders sign up for more information about the council. Lisa Canney emailed them individually last week to invite them to this meeting.
- b. The expo night was a big success; approximately 20 families were represented.

- c. Mr. Antonson suggested having the evening earlier in the year. Mr. Pisaturo said the promotion committee has already discussed this and will be holding the event in the fall.
- d. Mr. Antonson asked if Ellis is the most competitive school for us? Lisa Canney answered with yes, Ellis pulls more students from Thompson than any other school but this year it is considerably less. Mr. Joyce suggested that students choose it without fully aware of the programs at Ellis and may be choosing it based on decisions of their peers. The return rate to TMHS is approximately 3-4 students/year from Ellis and Killingly Vo-ag.
- e. Mrs. Godzik thinks that the students think that TMHS is harder academically and they just don't realize that all high schools can be academically challenging.
- f. Mrs. Godzik broached the subject that middle school teachers may not be teaching what the students need to know prior to entering grade 9. Mrs. Baker shared that we have had great conversations between the grade 8 & 9th grade teachers to align state standards and improve communication regarding curriculum. Gaps will become smaller over time.

4. AP Tests

- a. 18 students participated in either the AP Calculus test and/or the AP Am. History test. 1 student prepped for the AP Physics tests on his own and we administered that one as well.
- b. Mr. Pisaturo is looking towards adding an AP Physics class in the future. Mrs. Godzik suggested AP Anatomy & Physiology. Mrs. Lisa Canney shared that Physics may be added to the courses offered through College Career Pathways which will allow for students to earn credits for free.

5. **Updated SAT averages for class of 2015.** Lisa Canney shared Preliminary numbers as we start to accumulate data for the class of 2015 show that this is an above average class for Tourtellotte. The SAT scores for this year's seniors have shown that 50% seniors took the test. The average SAT Critical Reading score was a 540 and the average writing score was a 540. In the past ten years, the two classes that showed a similar skew from the national average (about 500) was the class of 2005 that had an average Critical Reading of 528 and Writing of 550, and then the class of 2010 averaged a 540 in Reading and a 540 in Writing.

6. **Graduation date** – The Board of Education set the date for Thursday, 6/18/2015. Mr. Pisaturo shared that it will be outside as usual and the teachers will be dressed in gowns as well.

7. Open Discussion

- a. Mrs. Baker will become a non-voting member as her position is now Assistant Principal.

8. Next Meeting

- a. Next meeting will be scheduled for June 8th, 2015 at 5:30 P.M.
- b. Discussion of positions and roles in the Council
 - i. Vice President position available
 - ii. Parent positions available
 - iii. Community member positions available
- c. Mrs. Canney motioned to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Joyce (all in favor)

Meeting Adjourned at 6:16 P.M. Minutes respectfully submitted by Mrs. Lisa Canney