

**Thompson Board of Education**  
Regular Board of Education Meeting

Minutes

Monday, December 11, 2017

Thompson Middle School Media Center  
7:00pm

In attendance:

Kathleen Herbert  
Donna Godzik  
Shawn Brissette  
Valentine Iamartino  
Linda Jarmolowicz  
Joseph Lindley  
Jody Houghton

Absent:

Thomas Angelo  
William Witkowski

Student Liaison:

Jordon Sroczenski

Also in attendance: Melinda Smith, Bill Birch, Neal Breen, Scott Sugarman, Christopher Scott, Laurence Prentiss, members of the Board of Education.

**I. Call to Order**

Vice-Chairman Kathleen Herbert called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Jordon Sroczenski led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Citizens' Comments**

Jordon Sroczenski introduced Trish Tupaj as the Teacher of the Quarter.

**IV. Committee Update (William Witkowski and Thomas Angelo phone called in to the meeting)**

- Policy Sub-Committee Meeting - Shawn Brissette stated that the Policy Committee recently met to discuss the non-resident tuition policy which is up for approval.
- Tourtellotte Board of Trustees – Joseph Lindley stated that the window project is moving along.
- Alumni Association – Thomas Angelo stated that the Alumni Association would be meeting soon to discuss fund-raising ideas. A newsletter will be handed out in January highlighting special events.
- Election of Board Officers – **Motion** by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Valentine Iamartino, to open nominations for Board of Education Officers.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

Nomination from Kathleen Herbert for William Witkowski to remain Chairman, seconded by Jody Houghton.

**Motion** by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to keep the current slate of officers as William Witkowski, Chairman; Kathleen Herbert, Vice-Chairman; Donna Godzik, Secretary.

**Motion** by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Joseph Lindley, to close nominations.

Roll call vote was taken. Jody Houghton, Yes. Donna Godzik, Yes. Joseph Lindley, Yes. Kathleen Herbert, Yes. Linda Jarmolowicz, Yes. William Witkowski, Yes. Shawn Brissette, Yes. Thomas Angelo, Yes. Valentine Iamartino, Yes.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

## V. Educational Update

### A. Superintendent/Administrator Update

- YES Program Presentation – Loay Sibaa Channel – Kerry Murray from Council of International Exchange gave a presentation about the program and TMHS student Loay Sibaa Channel talked about his experience and the process in the exchange program.
- Enrollment Update – The December enrollment is at 1,005 students from 1,013 in November.
- Student Liaison Report:
  - November 16<sup>th</sup> – TMHS Got Talent Show
  - November 17<sup>th</sup> – Peer Point Training
  - November 21<sup>st</sup> – Powder Puff Prep Rally
  - December 5-22 – Art Showcase on Display at the Thompson Library
  - December 7<sup>th</sup> – Virtual High School Offering
  - December 8<sup>th</sup> – Progress ReportsSeniors are busy sending out college applications and some students have already been accepted to college.  
CMEA All Regional Auditions were held on November 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Administrator Reports –
  - Laurence Prentiss:
    - The second grade collected 500 cans and goods for TEEG.
    - Congratulations to the CAPSS Award recipients, Lily Peckham and Dylan Bryniarski.
    - Mr. Prentiss thanked Mrs. Tupaj and her marketing class for their volunteerism in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms teaching Junior Achievement Economic Curriculum.
    - The elementary school concert will be on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am and 1:45pm.
  - Christopher Scott:
    - Acknowledged the band and chorus for their hard work getting ready for their holiday concert.
    - The concert will be on December 13<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium.
    - The grab-and-go breakfast program has been going well but would like more students to take advantage.
    - The PTO has been supportive with different school and community events. They raised \$145 for the CT Children’s Medical Center.
  - Ian Polun introduced Trish Tupaj to give the Board a brief overview of the Junior Achievement Program.
  - Scott Sugarman:
    - Updated the Board on the out-of-district numbers.
    - Medicaid reimbursement is improving.
    - Title IV Grant was recently submitted. The focus from the grant funds is to create a mindfulness/yoga program to students. Several staff members have expressed interest in becoming trained as the instructor.

Joseph Lindley said a few kind words about Mr. Beltram, who has recently passed away.

**VI. Action Items**

*Minutes*

*Regular Meeting, November 13, 2017*

**Motion** by Donna Godzik, seconded by Jody Houghton, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 13, 2017.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

*Special Meeting, November 28, 2017*

**Motion** by Linda Jarmolowicz, seconded by Donna Godzik, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on November 28, 2017.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

*2018-2019 Budget Calendar*

**Motion** by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Valentine Iamartino, to accept the 2018-2019 Budget Calendar as provided.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

*Non-Resident Tuition Policy*

**Motion** by Jody Houghton, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to accept the Non-Resident Tuition Policy as presented.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

*Retirement – Beverly Houle, Payroll Secretary*

**Motion** by Joseph Lindley, seconded by Donna Godzik, to accept with extreme regret and well wishes, the retirement of Beverly Houle.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

*Resignation – Ryan Jennings, MRFES Phys. Ed. Teacher*

**Motion** by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to accept the resignation of Ryan Jennings.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

**VII. Old Business**

Kathleen Herbert stated that she would be the BOE representative for the Economic Development Commission's Branding Subcommittee.

**VIII. Citizens' Comments**

**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 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Danielle Pederson

BOE Approval:      January 8, 2018