

# THOMPSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Thompson Middle School Media Center Regular Meeting Minutes

**Monday, February 10, 2020**  
**7:00 PM**

**Attending Members:**

William Witkowski  
Linda Jarmolowicz  
Shawn Brissette  
Kathleen Herbert  
Jody Houghton  
Thomas Angelo  
Valentine Iamartino  
Danielle Carlson

**Absent Members:**

Donna Godzik

**Also in attendance:**

Melinda Smith, Robert Gentes, Noveline Beltram, Christopher Jones, Steve Knowlton, Amy St. Onge, school employees, members of the public.

**I. Call to Order**

Kathleen Herbert called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Emily Angelo led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Citizens' Comments**

Jessica Bolte stated that she appreciates the childcare during the meetings.

Sylvie Hanshaw stated that there is an issue in the high school regarding vaping and cell phone use by students. Melinda Smith stated that the administrative team is working to resolve those issues. Discussion was held.

**IV. Student Spotlight/Report**

Emily Angelo and Cole Coderre update:

Upcoming Events

- February 12<sup>th</sup> – Leadership Team Meeting
- February 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> – Modern Music Performs Lyrical Love Grams
- February 25<sup>th</sup> – PSAT's Grade 10
- March 4<sup>th</sup> – TMHS Pop's Concert
- March 6<sup>th</sup> – Midnight Madness
- March 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> – Beauty and the Beast

**V. Approval of Minutes**

a. January 13, 2020

**Motion** by Linda Jarmolowicz, seconded by Jody Houghton, to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2020 minutes as presented.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

b. January 21, 2020

**Motion** by Jody Houghton, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2020 minutes with two minor errors to be changed.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

c. January 27, 2020

**Motion** by Jody Houghton, seconded by Danielle Carlson, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 minutes as presented.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

**VI. Sub-Committee Update**

a. Board of Trustees Update

Kathleen Herbert stated that the Board of Trustees meeting was held on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Discussion was held around window replacement of the 1909 building, bird remediation, and H-VAC.

b. Alumni Association Update

Thomas Angelo stated that there is an Alumni meeting coming up soon and a report will be given at the March meeting.

**VII. Superintendent Report**

a. Enrollment Update

The February 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment is at 982 students.

b. TMS Essay Contest Winners

Lucy St. Germain and Zahara Moore were recognized for their recent contest winning essays regarding Martin Luther King, Jr.

c. Classroom Temperature Report

Tabled to the March meeting.

**VIII. Administrator Reports**

a. The administrators gave their school/department reports. Discussion was held regarding the Special Education budget.

**IX. Old Business**

None.

**X. New Business**

a. Resignation of Board Vice-Chairman

**Motion** by Danielle Carlson, seconded by William Witkowski, to accept with regret, the resignation of William Witkowski as vice-chairman of the Board.

**Motion – Passes. Thomas Angelo and Jody Houghton opposed.**

b. Vote of Board Vice-Chairman

Thomas Angelo nominated Shawn Brissette as vice-chairman of the Board, seconded by William Witkowski. No more nominations were made.

**Motion** by William Witkowski, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to close nominations.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

All in favor of Shawn Brissette as vice-chairman of the Board of Education. **Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

c. Approval of Golf Co-op with Putnam

**Motion** by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Jody Houghton, to approve the golf co-op with Putnam.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

d. Approval to allow Superintendent to approve further Co-ops

**Motion** by Jody Houghton, seconded by Valentine Iamartino, to allow the superintendent of schools to approve future co-ops when needed.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

e. Approval of 2020-2021 School Calendar

**Motion** by Thomas Angelo, seconded by Danielle Carlson, to approve the 2020-2021 school calendar as presented.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

**XI. Correspondence**

a. Ask Me Anything Forum

There is a Town forum on March 4<sup>th</sup> for Ask Me Anything and all are invited to attend. A pot luck dinner and child care will be provided.

**XII. Citizens' Comments**

Jessica Bolte asked why professional development days are not on Fridays any longer. Melinda Smith stated that student and staff attendance is poor when there is a half-day professional day on a Friday, so she moved those days to Wednesdays to avoid poor attendance.

Ms. Bolte also asked if there could be a tour of the facilities to see the parts of the schools that are recommended for remodeling in the next budget. Mr. Birch could provide a tour and this will be brought up at the next budget session.

Ms. Bolte asked Ms. Spinelli if the track conditions are keeping students from participating in sports. Ms. Spinelli stated that the condition of the track is not keeping students from joining the team, but it would be nice to have home meets.

The next budget workshop will be held on February 24<sup>th</sup> in the middle school media center.

William Witkowski thanked everyone who reached out to him and his wife regarding the death of Susanne's mother.

**XIII. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Thomas Angelo, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to adjourn the meeting at 8:49pm.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**