

# Thompson Board of Education

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Thompson Middle School Media Center

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

7:00 pm

In attendance:

Absent:

Thomas Angelo  
Shawn Brissette  
Donna Godzik  
Kathleen Herbert  
Jody Houghton  
Linda Jarmolowicz  
Valentine Iamartino  
William Witkowski

Joseph Lindley

Student Liaisons:

Emily Angelo  
Cole Coderre

Also in attendance: Melinda Smith, Megan Baker, Noveline Beltram, William Birch, Robert Gentes, Ian Polun, Laurence Prentiss, Christopher Scott, Scott Sugarman, members of the public.

## I. Call to Order

Chairman William Witkowski called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

## II. Pledge of Allegiance

Valentine Iamartino led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## III. Citizens' Comments

- Kristine DiPasquale commented on how she feels about the lack of safety in the middle school classrooms.
- Danielle Carlson commented on the lack of discipline in the school district.
- Marie Byfield explained to the Board her reasonings for recently withdrawing her children to be homeschool.
- Chris Plaza explained the need for having a para who can physically take care of her sons needs. She is also worried about the behavior of other students in the classrooms.
- Pamela Nachtigall expressed her concerns regarding the disruptive behavior in her children's classrooms and is wondering what is going to be done to address the negativity in the middle school.
- Jodi Towne stated that the children deserve a good education and to be safe throughout the school day and would like to know what parents can do to help.
- Keith Poplawski asked what the next steps would be for parents to address the issues in the middle school. Bill Witkowski stated that he will meet with the superintendent and plans will be put in place and parents will be notified.

## IV. Committee Up-Date

Finance Sub-Committee Meeting – Kathleen Herbert gave an update on the current budget as a result of the Finance Sub-Committee meeting prior to the regular meeting.

**Motion** by Jody Houghton, seconded by Donna Godzik, add budget transfers to Action Item E.

**Motion Passes. Unanimous.**

**Motion** by Donna Godzik, seconded by Jody Houghton, to add the removal of Referral and Investigation Forms from the Bullying Policy to Action item F.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

## V. Educational Update

### A. Superintendent Update

- Enrollment Update – The October 2018 enrollment is at 988 students.
- Budget Update & Adjustments FY19 – Robert Gentes gave an update on the FY 19 budget.
- TMHS Peer Point – High School Senior Dan Langlois gave a presentation on a new initiative in the high school regarding daily tutoring services for the students.
- Assessment Reports – Curriculum Director Ian Polun gave an update on State test scores.
- Student Liaison Report:
  - Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> NHS Homelessness Awareness Sleep Out HS Track
  - Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> Football Homecoming Game
  - Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> QVJC Cross Country Championships - Woodstock Fairgrounds
  - Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> QVJC Cross Country Championship Rain Date
  - Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> HS Career Day and Homecoming Dance HS Gym 7:00 pm
  - Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> Tourtellotte Alumni Weekend- Soccer / Basketball Games am and Concert 6:30 pm
  - Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> Tourtellotte Weekend - Cow Plop Raffle 10:00 am and Tiger Dash 5K 11:00 am
  - Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> HS Grades Close (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter)
  - Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Report Cards Sent Home (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter)
  - Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> Quinebaug Valley Music Festival Plainfield 3:00 – 6:00 pm  
HS Winter Coaches Meeting HS Gym 6:00pm
  - Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> HS Winter Mandatory Parent Player Meeting HS Gym 7:00 pm
  - Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> HS Sport Physicals and College Information Night Auditorium 6:30 – 8:00 pm
  - Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> HS Veterans Day Observance Cafeteria 12:00 pm  
Senior Portraits 3:00 – 8:00 pm and HS Picture Retakes 12:30 – 2:00 pm
  - Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> CMEA All Eastern Music Festival Auditions E.O. Smith HS
  - Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> No School (Veterans Day)
- Administrator Report  
The administrators gave updates to the Board on activities happening in their schools.

## VI. Action Items

### A. Minutes – September 10, 2018

**Motion** by Donna Godzik, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2018 meeting with one minor change.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

### B. Agreement – Child Nutrition Program

**Motion** by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Jody Houghton, to approve the Child Nutrition Program Agreement as presented.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

### C. Girls Gymnastics Co-op

**Motion** by Thomas Angelo, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to approve the girls Gymnastics Co-Op Program as recommended by the Athletic Director.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

D. Board of Education Meeting Dates

**Motion** by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Thomas Angelo, to approve the 2019 Board of Education Meeting Dates as presented.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

E. Budget Transfers

**Motion** by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Donna Godzik, to approve the budget transfers as suggested by the Finance Director.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

*Please see the attached for a list of budget transfers.*

F. Bullying Policy Update

**Motion** by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to remove the Referral and Investigation Forms from the Bullying Policy so they can be updated as needed.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

**VII. Correspondence**

**VIII. Old Business**

**IX. Citizens Comments**

Some Board members expressed their concerns regarding the parent and student issues that were brought up. The superintendent and administration know this is a priority and will continue to work on rectifying the issues, with understanding that it will take time to address everything.

**X. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Linda Jarmolowicz, seconded by Kathleen Herbert to adjourn the meeting at 9:12pm.

**Motion – Passes. Unanimous.**

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Danielle Pederson  
Recording Secretary to the Board

Minutes Approved: November 13, 2018