

THOMPSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thompson Middle School Media Center Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 10, 2019

7:00 PM

Attending Members:
William Witkowski
Shawn Brissette
Linda Jarmolowicz
Valentine Iamartino
Donna Godzik
Kathleen Herbert
Jody Houghton

Absent Members:
Joseph Lindley
Thomas Angelo

Also in attendance:

Melinda Smith, Megan Baker, Noveline Beltram, William Birch, Christopher Jones, Robert Gentes, Ian Polun, Laurence Prentiss, members of the public, members of the press.

Student Liaisons: Emily Angelo and Cole Coderre

I. Call to Order

William Witkowski called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Emily Angelo and Cole Coderre led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Citizens' Comments

None.

IV. Committee Update

A sub-committee recently met to discuss the law firm interviews. A recommendation to accept a new law firm is up for approval.

V. Educational Up-Date

A. Student Spotlight – Emily Angelo and Cole Coderre introduced Paul Boisvert as the TMHS Student Spotlight of the Month of May.

B. Superintendent Update

- Enrollment Update – The June 2019 enrollment is at 972 students.
- Teacher Recalls – Melinda Smith is recommending calling back most of the recently laid-off teachers. The least senior kindergarten teacher and reading teacher at Mary R. Fisher Elementary School are going to remain laid off until the budget passes.
- Legal Firm – Kathleen Herbert stated that a committee interviewed four law firms. Although the committee is happy with Shipman & Goodwin, their hourly rates are increasing. The sub-committee has recommended Pullman & Comley to represent the Board of Education.

- Paraprofessional Layoffs – Melinda Smith is recommending the lay-off of the two less-senior paraprofessionals, as a result of the original FY20 budget reductions.
 - Use of 1909 Historical Education Rooms – Melinda Smith has a proposal from Joseph Lindley
 - Budget Updates – Robert Gentes discussed the FY19 budget. Discussion was held. Mr. Gentes also discussed the recent cafeteria budget.
- C. Administrator Reports - The administrators provided updates on events occurring in their schools or department.

VI. Action Items. Consideration of Approving...

A. *Minutes – Regular Meeting, April 8, 2019*

Motion by Donna Godzik, seconded by Valentine Iamartino, to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 8, 2019 with one minor change.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Minutes – Regular Meeting, May 13, 2019

Motion by Linda Jarmolowicz, seconded by Donna Godzik, to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 13, 2019 with one minor change.

Motion – Passes. Kathleen Herbert abstained.

B. *Teacher Recalls*

Motion by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to accept the call-back of all non-tenure teachers with the exception of two.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

C. *Legal Firm*

Motion by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Shawn Brissette, to accept Pullman & Comley as the new legal law firm to represent the Board of Education.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

D. *Paraprofessional Layoffs*

Motion by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to layoff two of the least senior paraprofessionals as a result of the original FY20 budget reductions.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

E. *Use of 1909 Historical Education Rooms*

Motion by Kathleen Herbert, seconded by Donna Godzik, to approve the vacant second floor classrooms of the 1909 Tourtellotte Building to be used as historical education rooms for the students of the Thompson Public Schools. The rooms are to be managed and organized by the Thompson Historical Society.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

F. *Resignations*

Motion by Donna Godzik, seconded by Jody Houghton, to accept the resignation of Jessica Jervis, TMS Health Teacher.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Motion by Valentine Iamartino, seconded by Donna Godzik, to accept with extreme regret, the resignation of Joseph Lindley, Board of Education member.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

G. Retirement

Motion by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Valentine Iamartino, to accept the retirement of Mark Lambert, custodian.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

VII. Correspondence

William Witkowski stated that he contacted Kathy Thomas from the Democratic Town Committee regarding Joseph Lindley's resignation. The Committee has nominated Matthew Polsky to replace Mr. Lindley as a Democratic representative for the Board of Education until the next election.

VIII. Old Business

IX. Citizens Comments

Matthew Polsky thanked Joseph Lindley for his years of service and thanked the Board for accepting him into the Board of Education.

John Rice thanked the Board for allowing the historical society to use the 1909 classrooms.

X. Adjournment

Motion by Shawn Brissette, seconded by Linda Jarmolowicz, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm.

Motion – Passes. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,
Danielle Pederson
Recording Secretary to the Board

Minutes Approved: September 9, 2019