

TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, Sandown
New Hampshire

Special Meeting
February 7, 2008
7:51 PM

SAU 55 Office
Plaistow, NH

Mr. Baldwin (Chair) called the School Board meeting to order at 7:51 pm at the Performing Arts Center.

Roll call was taken.

Present: Mrs. Aubrey, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Champey, Mrs. Kosta, Mr. Mascola, Mr. Paone, Mrs. Withee and Ms. Weston

Absent: Mr. Luongo

Administrators Present

Richard La Salle - Superintendent

Current Business

Deliberative Session

Mr. Baldwin reported he was pleased with the deliberative session and impressed with the hand-outs and presentations. The board then reviewed the budget and warrant articles noting no changes made at the deliberative session.

Mrs. Champey asked Moderator Barry Sargent what would happen should article #5 fail - the acceptance of reports. Mr. Sargent replied he did not know.

TRHS

Mrs. Champey requested immediately to have an electrical switch installed in the high school metal shop. Her concern of the unsafe practice due to the lack of a switch to control the lights and the only method to switch the lights on and off is an electrical panel. She stated this needs to be corrected immediately, it is an unacceptable safety hazard.

Email process

The board discussed a complaint received by email from a parent who was concerned that an *AlertNow* message was not sent out when the high and middle schools were released early due to inclement weather on February 1, 2008.

Mr. La Salle clarified that the high and middle schools were to be released 15 minutes early on that day affording the buses extra time to arrive on-time at the elementary schools. At 1:30 pm he received information that the roads were deteriorating rapidly. Mr. La Salle reminded the board his first concern is for the student driving population who would be driving on the hazardous roads. Given the deteriorating road conditions, he amended his earlier decision and dismissed the high and middle schools immediately. This decision did not provide adequate time to send an *AlertNow* message to parents before the actual release.

The board then discussed the process for handling emails received from the general public. It was determined that emails presented to the board at scheduled meetings would allow members to discuss them openly. It was also noted that all emails are to be responded to within 24 hours making the reading of the emails at public meetings counterproductive to this requirement. It was decided if the TRSB Chair is unable to respond within 24 hours then he must delegate the duty to another board member. The out of office message should be utilized when the Chair is delegating the tasks to another member.

Mr. La Salle offered his opinion on the overview of the board's responsibilities on responding to emails. He indicated he would like to keep with the response time of within 24 hours, but add if a solution to the email is offered then all members should be informed of the reply.

Construction Companies

Mr. La Salle shared his work history regarding Leveille-Brensinger, a construction company that worked on the Nashua schools. There was a problem with a roof collapse at one school which resulted in legal issues. A sub contractor did not perform as instructed and the general contractor (Leveille-Brensinger) was held responsible. Mr. La Salle wanted the board's opinion on whether or not he should invite this firm to bid on future construction projects for the district. The board advised Mr. La Salle to seek legal counsel on this matter.

Recruitment

The board inquired how the search for an Athletic Director and Director of Elementary Education was progressing. Mr. La Salle reported that 20 resumes have been received for the Athletic Director's position and three for the Director of Elementary Education. No internal candidates at this time. He stated the district is using *Applitrack* software to process all district applications. He invited the board to a demonstration of this system thirty minutes prior to the next board meeting on February 21, 2008.

Other

Mr. Baldwin invited the board to a meeting on February 13, 2008 at 6pm at the Atkinson Community Center to listen to Senator Dowling from Salem talk about New Hampshire Retirement System.

It was noted that Ms. Emily Weston will be graduating this year and Mr. Leary will organize a search for a new student representative for the board.

Mr. Baldwin reported that Mr. Luongo has not sought re-election as a board member and should be recognized for his past service at his last meeting on March 6, 2008 meeting.

Mr. La Salle reported that Danville's Night-Out was a success as well as an opportunity to strengthen the rapport with the Danville community. TRSD Budget Committee member Mrs. O'Neil did a good job presenting the budget overview. The community asked if the capital improvement plan could be communicated with the town so they can coordinate the community's needs with the school districts'. They would like the opportunity to synchronize their efforts and monies with the district.

Mr. Baldwin adjourned the meeting at 8:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk