

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

Regular Meeting  
October 4, 2007  
7:30 PM

SAU 55 Office  
Plaistow, NH

The following board members and administrators toured the new kindergarten rooms at Atkinson Academy from 6:45 pm to 7:00 pm: Lori Aubrey, Elizabeth Kosta, Michael Mascola, John Paone, Emily Weston, Lisa Withee, Richard La Salle, Charles Coker, Nancy Danahy and Jim Hughes.

Mr. Paone (Vice-Chair) called the School Board meeting to order at 7:30 pm at the SAU office.

Roll call was taken.

Mr. Paone led the pledge of allegiance.

**Present:** Mrs. Aubrey, Mrs. Champey (7:35pm), Mrs. Kosta, Mr. Luongo, Mr. Mascola, Mr. Paone, Mrs. Withee and Ms. Weston

**Absent:** Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Brown

**Administrators Present**

Richard La Salle	Superintendent
Charles Coker	Director of Secondary Education
Donald Woodworth	Principal of TRHS
Dwight Wilder	Assistant Principal of Evening Division

**Approval of Minutes**

**On a motion by Mrs. Withee, second by Mr. Mascola**

- Voted: To approve the minutes of the September 20, 2007 regular meeting.
- Passed: Unanimous

**Delegations and individuals**

**School Report**

Ms. Weston reported the week commenced with an assembly called "Rachel's Legacy." The program was a follow up to from last year's "Rachel's Challenge." This program was designed by the family and friends of a young woman named Rachel Scott. Rachel was the first student to die during the shooting at Columbine High School in 1999. This year's program set five new challenges for students, all of which are designed to help students make not only their schools a better place, but their communities as well. Senior students had their class pictures taken and were fitted for cap and gowns. The class of 2009 attended a college fair held at Southern New Hampshire University on Wednesday. The list of students that will be involved in this year's Kaulele Pueo program was posted. These students will work with students at the Kamehameha School in Hawaii throughout the year, leading up to a trip to Hawaii in the spring. The girl's field hockey team is holding strong with a record of 10 and 0. The girls will face off with Salem on Friday afternoon at home. Both teams are undefeated so far this season. The Varsity soccer and volleyball teams will also play Salem Saturday afternoon at home and the football team will play Exeter at home on Friday night.

**Student Council Report**

Ms. Weston also reported on the student council activities for Kevin Zambrano. She noted that Spirit Week activities have been communicated to class members and the council is busy making final preparations for the event. Spirit Week will run from October 22 through the 27<sup>th</sup>. A MacGuyver challenge, bake off and variety show, as well as a day dedicated to honoring out troops, are all new activities this year. Event sign-ups will be held next week after school. The student council will be at Sandown North on October 17<sup>th</sup> to host "Kids Day In". Watch for sign up information that will be sent home thought the school early next week and should be returned to the high school as soon as possible.

October 31<sup>st</sup> will be the second annual Trick-or-Can, with this year's event taking place in and benefiting the Town of Plaistow. Anyone wishing to donate canned goods and /or non-perishable items should be on the lookout for a student council member during Trick-or-Treat, or drop off items at the Plaistow Town Hall that evening.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> Kids Night Out is scheduled to be held at the high school from 4 to 8 pm. These activities are for all students from any of the four towns, from kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. A second Kids Night Out will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Additional information will be send home with students.

### **Current Business**

#### **Youth Risk Behavior Survey**

Tim Lena reported on the results of the 2007 local youth risk behavior survey which shows key analysis of middle school trends. The analysis is based on the percentage of middle school responses which shows an alarming trend of prescription and over the counter drug abuse. Not to be discouraged, the abuse trends are down on average and shows that our efforts are having a positive result. It was noted both alcohol and marijuana use are down. Communication to parents regarding inhalants, prescription and over the counter drug abuse is important and will be addressed. Communication and getting parents involved, opening up the conversations between parents and students are important and show successful results for delaying the onset of abuse. National trends show overall middle school violence is increasing. Suicide trends are down by 50% which is a great improvement. Alarming sexual behavior trends have increased. Education and communication with parents as well as between students and parents will help reduce these trends. Health curriculum will be re-designed to support efforts in reducing unhealthy sexual behaviors.

Mr. Lena expressed his support of the assistance program. The current funding for this position has been reduced by approximately \$5,000 per year and is currently at \$11,000. The student assistance program is a pro-active and reactive program dealing with conflict resolution, discipline, social programs, etc. Mrs. Champey noted the middle school SRO (Safety Resource Officer) position which was voted down at the last election is a position that would assist in providing additional preventive programs and supporting current programs to help reduce unhealthy behaviors. Mr. Lena reported the Presidential debate at the PAC is coming along. The residents of all the towns should look for a December date.

### **NH-JAG**

Donald Woodworth introduced Priscilla Parisien, President of New Hampshire Jobs for America's Graduates (NH-Jag). He noted that the high school is looking for a program to support at-risk students academically during the transition from high school and after graduation, and to further extend support and help students make smarter choices. Ms. Parisien reviewed the history of the program noting that they have been in the State of New Hampshire since 1980 and the program has grown into a multi-year program that supports many students throughout the state. Working with school personnel, the NH-JAG employee will identify students who are at risk of dropping out, and who are also considered at risk of being unemployed or underemployed after high school. They will focus on students in grades 10 and 11. A full time job specialist (employee of NH-JAG) will work year round in the high school with identified at-risk students. The cost of this program is \$8,000 for the 07-08 school year and \$16,000 per year thereafter. NH-JAG will be submitting applications for grants to assistance in this program. This program for students will be regularly scheduled classes, which will include the attainment of 37 employability competencies, as well as basic academic and interpersonal skills. It is a proactive program that is seen as complementary to existing initiatives at TRHS, including the evening division. The key goal of the program is to provide job development for participating students, and appropriate pre-employment training and support once a student is on the job. There will be 12 months of regular and structured follow-up to provide tracking of each participant's continued progress.

#### **On a motion by Mrs. Champey by Mr. Luongo**

- Voted: To approve the NH-JAG program funding of \$8,000 in the 2007-08 school year and include in the budget process for future years.
- Passed: Unanimous

### **Policy Updates**

Mr. La Salle reviewed the policy process reporting that the policy committee reviews a policy then presents it to the school board for consideration. A first reading is scheduled when the policy is read at the public school board meeting. During the time between the first reading and the next two scheduled school board meetings, the public is given time

to review the changes and contact their school board representative for comments. The policy is then again presented with any changes to the school board for final approval. Mrs. Champey requested the policies that are being presented this evening be put on the school board website so residents can easily review them.

The following policies were read:

**Policy Code: IMAH, Daily Physical Activity**

A change was noted on line four to remove the word "at" after the word exercise.

A discussion ensued regarding physical activities for all grades that the policy recommends.

**Policy Code: JEB, Entrance**

Changes were noted for mandatory attendance including adding "he/she" to line five after program, to which another discussion ensued regarding the need to change this policy due to mandatory kindergarten.

**Policy Code GBE-R, Staff Responsibilities**

Revised item #19 by removing "in restricted area" to "on district property" as per state law. It was noted that signage should be in place in areas to note the district's non-smoking policy including in the Performing Arts Center.

**On a motion by Mrs. Champey by Mrs. Aubrey**

- Voted: To waive the first reading of policy GBE-R.
- Passed: Unanimous

**Administrator's Report**

Mr. La Salle reported the wall installed at Atkinson Academy was certified by Mr. William M. Peterlein, Principal Geotechnical Engineer for Summit Environmental Consultants, who certified that "the wall was constructed in general accordance with the company's drawings and will perform satisfactorily for its useful design life."

Mr. La Salle also reported that he received two requests from town employees asking if the reduced tuition (10% of total tuition cost) to all Timberlane employees could also be extended to all town employees. Mr. La Salle reviewed the reasoning for the reduced tuition for current employees noting that since the employees' child is in the district the commitment from the employee will remain in the district. The approval of tuitioning students is always contingent upon space availability. He also reviewed the approval process the school board follows each year for the list of students that pay tuition to attend the district schools. A discussion ensued.

Mr. La Salle noted that Laidlaw International was acquired by First Student, Inc. The contract with Laidlaw is ending next year and will be sent out for Request for Proposal (RFP).

Sandown North has been notified that PBIS Iceland will be visiting their school. Congratulations were extended to the students of Sandown North. Sharon LaGassi from the TRMS was recognized by the Plymouth Reading Project. Mr. La Salle read her story titled "Moving".

**Personnel Reports**

Mr. La Salle recommended accepting the June 2008 retirements of

Mary Ann Klimas-Jenne	TRMS Grade 6 Language Arts Teacher (7 years with district)
Joan Styrna	TRHS Culinary Teacher (20 years with the district)

**On a motion by Mr. Mascola, seconded by Mrs. Kosta**

- **Voted:** To accept with regret and appreciation the retirements of:

Mary Ann Klimas-Jenne	TRMS Grade 6 Language Arts Teacher (7 years with district)
Joan Styrna	TRHS Culinary Teacher (20 years with the district)
- **Passed:** Unanimous

**Committee Assignments**

Mrs. Withee reported she toured Pollard and Atkinson Academy with the TRSB and Budget committee. The next Facilities meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am at the SAU building. The Principals will be presenting their facilities action item lists.

**Reports of School Board** - Board members reported on their activities around the district.

**Correspondence Folder** - None

**Vendor and Payroll Registers** - Done

**Other**

Mr. La Salle reported the joint school board and budget committee budget meeting will be held on October 11 and 25<sup>th</sup> at the PAC starting at 7:00 pm. The public is encouraged to attend. He also noted that the District's thoughts are with Peg Ralph in wishing her a speedy recovery.

Mr. Paone adjourned the meeting at 9:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Danahy  
School Board Clerk