

TYNGSBOROUGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

January 15, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Chair Downing at 7:03 p.m. Those present were Burt Buchman, Diana Keohane, Martina Witts, Collin Manzo and Barry Dick.

1. Call to Order
- A. Roll Call

Interim Assistant Superintendent Don Ciampa, Business Administrator Joe Messina, and Student Representative Ian Tucke were also present.

School Committee members, Interim Assistant Superintendent Don Ciampa, Business Administrator Joe Messina and Student Representative Ian Tucke introduced themselves.

Don Ciampa noted that due to the short turnaround time no minutes are available.

2. Approve the Minutes of January 8, 2008

Don Ciampa noted that there are no School Newsletters.

3. Correspondence
- A. School Newsletters
- B. Superintendent's Letters

Don Ciampa acknowledged the following letters:

- Report card letter
- Letter to Rich Lemoine, BOS, regarding the Elementary School Building Project
- Memo to principals regarding the Hanek/Wall gift

None at this time.

4. Visitors' Comments and Questions

Don Ciampa noted that due to the inclement weather yesterday, the memo regarding early college admissions is not ready. After reviewing some of the colleges, he noted that he will forward a list at the end of January.

5. Share the Success

Don Ciampa acknowledged the 1/9/08 letter from Beth Devine noting that the University of Massachusetts Lowell has requested that TES work in partnership with Dr. Jacqueline Dowling and several nursing students on a research project titled: *School-age Children Talking about Humor*.

Don Ciampa acknowledged the 1/9/08 memorandum from Beth Devine regarding Jump for Heart.

Don Ciampa noted that with the recent ratification of the

6. Policy

Unit A Teachers' contract, the first day of school should be as follows:

- Teachers and Staff August 25, 2008 (Monday)
- Students August 26, 2008 (Tuesday)
- No School August 29, 2008 (Friday)

Diana Keohane made a motion, seconded by Burt Buchman, to approve the opening dates for the 2008/09 school year.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS 6, Yea 0, Nay 0, Abstain

None at this time.

Diana Keohane noted that today was the deadline to receive resumes. Applicants should be ready for review for the 1/22/08 Search Committee meeting.

Mr. Ciampa noted that the winter numbers are bleak. Sports are level from last year's, but co-curricular is below projections.

Discussion was held regarding parents concern with the lack of after school activities, programs that were not well received, giving the program a chance to continue, polling those who didn't participate, and partnering with other schools in the area to share programs and resources.

Mr. Ciampa noted that the Needs Assessment was completed and will be presented to the School Committee on 2/5/08 to identify strengths and weaknesses in seven (7) categories. He also noted that the building principals are working on the staff directories.

Mr. Ciampa has reviewed vendors to use student tracking programs. He noted that he has some legal questions regarding sharing student data. Payment for the software will be made through a grant. National Student Clearing House is a target vendor.

Chair Downing noted the wealth of information that can be gained toward development of a Tyngsborough Alumni Association.

Mr. Ciampa acknowledged Mr. Maaser's 1/8/08 letter requesting permission to take the THS Band to an overnight

7. Personnel

8. Unfinished Business

A. Superintendent Search Update

B. THS Winter Sports Fees Update

C. Update from Transition Team

9. New Business

A. Student Tracking

B. Overnight Trip Music Festival

trip to Quebec City, Canada to attend the Rhythms International Educational Music Festival (5/1-5/4/08).

Diana Keohane made a motion, seconded by Collin Manzo, to allow preliminary approval for planning purposes.

Burt Buchman noted international events and the School Committee retains the right to cancel if events dictate.

Chair Downing acknowledged the absence of the group applying for the overnight trip and hopes that future groups will be in attendance when their requests are being presented.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS 6, Yea 0, Nay 0, Abstain

Bill Schedules were signed.

10. Signing of Bill Schedules

None at this time.

11. Visitors' Comments and Questions

Martina Witts noted that she visited the Middle School to review Capital Needs and noted that seeing the building issues up close is better than reviewing a report. She noted that there are many needs at TMS.

12. School Committee Discussion

Diana Keohane noted that all buildings were toured by the School Committee two years ago and suggested that the future School Committees continue the tours and tape them for the residents.

Burt Buchman agreed with Mrs. Witts and Mrs. Keohane. He also noted that the Screening Committee meeting is next week. He acknowledged the article in the newspaper in which the Governor mentioned that more funds have been released for education. He also stressed the need for legislators to get involved.

Collin Manzo commended the TMS staff on providing education to students given the capital needs of the Middle School.

Mr. Ciampa pointed to the Needs Assessment to review the facilities needs.

Chair Downing noted that more money is needed to continue proper education levels and address capital needs.

7:45 p.m.

Burt Buchman made a motion, seconded by Diana Keohane, 13. Executive Session to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing budgeting guidance for salary and benefits for the new Superintendent and the Administrative Team and come out only to adjourn the open meeting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS 6, Yea 0, Nay 0, Abstain

-Chair Downing	-Yea	-Mrs. Witts	-Yea
-Mr. Buchman	-Yea	-Mr. Manzo	-Yea
-Mrs. Keohane	-Yea	-Mr. Dick	-Yea

8:07 p.m.

Chair Downing made a motion, seconded by Diana Keohane, 14. Adjournment to adjourn the open meeting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS 6, Yea 0, Nay 0, Abstain

Respectfully Submitted,

Collin Manzo, Secretary

APPROVED: February 5, 2008

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