

November 14, 2007

TAMWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Tamworth School Board was held at the Kenneth A. Brett School on Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at 5:34PM. The meeting was called to order by Lisa Remick. Present were Brenda Robinson, Sue Creswell, Dana Littlefield, Gwen Poirier, Pat Kehoe, Noel DeSousa and Donna Uligt.

2. Approval of Agenda

Brenda Robinson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dana Littlefield seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes (October 10, 2007)

Brenda Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes of October 10, 2007 as presented. Dana Littlefield seconded the motion. Motion passed.

4. Chief Solomon

Fire Chief Solomon updated the Board regarding the grant for wiring of the generator. It has been clarified that the grant is only for wiring for work done at the time of initial installation of the generator. However, the grant will fund 50% of a new generator purchase. Chief Solomon will continue to research the specs and cost of a new generator. He announced he will be leaving as the Tamworth Fire Chief, but that he will give all necessary information to his predecessor.

Chief Solomon recently met with the Emergency Management Team at the school and reviewed the Incident Command Plan, Drills and a Full Evacuation Drill.

The Annual Fire Inspection was conducted this month and overall the building was in good shape. Mr. DeSousa will address the issues in the report during his Principal's Report. The Board thanked Chief Solomon for his hard work and dedication.

5. Director of Special Services Update

Pat Kehoe updated the Board on Special Education enrollment and Out of District Special Education placements.

6. Visitor's Comments

Approximately 8 visitors were present and given the opportunity to address the Board. Mary Mills thanked the students who participated in the Veteran's Memorial Celebration in Tamworth. Peg DeLong voiced a concern with the One Stop Trick or Treating Night taking students out of community involvement. She also asked the Board to consider the reinstatement of the Halloween parade. Peg DeLong asked the Board to keep in mind that Pine Tree Power will no longer be part of Tamworth's taxable income after next year. She also asked for a list of Professional Staff Committees as requested at the last meeting. Dr. Poirier will address this list during her report. Mr. Harte requested a copy of the finalized Board Goals.

7. Education Views

Mr. DeSousa reported that several members would not be in attendance due to personal matters. Mary Ann Smith, John Marlowe and Diane Lizotte will report at a later date.

Ellen Blanchard, School Nurse, updated the Board on the Emergency Management Plan Development, the Health and Wellness Committee, and reported her desire to work with Sustainable Tamworth to get more local foods into the lunch program. The salad bar, purchased through grant monies last year has been a great addition to the lunch program. Mrs. Blanchard reported that she has been working with the maintenance department and all cleaning products used in the building are now environmentally safe. The Dental Program, established in 1999, continues in the school as well as local programs for children in need of dental care. She reported that a program for parents educated them on bullying and aggression in girls will be held in the Spring.

Marcia McKenna, Enrichment Coordinator, updated the Board on the Talented and Gifted Program. Currently 30-35 students participate in the program with a focus on reading and language arts. She outlined the program by grade. Ms. McKenna explained the process in which a student is eligible for the TAG Program. She thanked the board for their continued support of the TAG Program.

8. Committee Reports

a. Strategic Planning Committee

Lisa Remick reported that a PowerPoint presentation is being compiled for community review. The next meetings are scheduled for November 20th at 5:30pm and December 10th at 5:30pm.

b. Report on Standing Committees

No report.

9. Old Business

a. School Website Update

Lisa Remick has been in contact with Pat Farley, who established the Tamworth town website to discuss the possibility of her involvement in helping with the school website. Lisa will keep the board updated.

b. Delegate Assembly

The Delegate Assembly has been rescheduled for January 19, 2008 at 12noon in Concord. It needs to be determined who will attend this meeting. Dana Littlefield is the appointed delegate.

c. Homework Policy – Final Reading

Brenda Robinson made a motion to approve the final reading of the Homework Policy as presented. Sue Creswell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

10. New Business

a. Policy IJOC First Reading

b. Policy GBCD First Reading

c. Policy EBC First Reading

d. Policy EBCA First Reading

e. Policy BEDG First Reading

Dr. Poirier reviewed Policy IJOC and clarified the definition of Designated Volunteers. It was also noted that the new policy required school minutes to be available within five days of the meeting.

Brenda Robinson made a motion to approve the First Reading of the policies as presented. Sue Creswell

seconded the motion. Motion passed.

f. Substitute Pay Rates 2007-2008

It was noted that the pay rate for substitutes with no degree or certification should be \$60, not \$55 as documented. Brenda Robinson made a motion to approve the Substitute Pay Rates for 07-08 as amended. Dana Littlefield seconded the motion. Motion passed.

11. Superintendent's Report

a. Expenditure Report

The expenditure report to date was given to the board for review and discussion.

b. Other

Dr. Poirier announced David Rudewich as the new School to Career Executive Director.

Early Transition Programs are being developed for students in 7th & 8th grades.

Academic Progress Reports will be available by next Monday from the 9th grade Headmaster.

In-Service day continued work on curriculum mapping.

12. Principal's Report

a. Monthly Update

Mr. DeSousa updated the board on recent and upcoming events, as well as an enrollment update. He reported that information from the PIRC survey will be disseminated weekly through the Wednesday Newsletter. The first installment will include information regarding curriculum in the home. The Board received a copy of a proposed 2008-2012 Strategic Plan for review. Mr. DeSousa introduced the possibility of applying for the 21st Century Grant. This 4 year grant is available to schools who have reached the 30% poverty rate for student population. Mr. DeSousa hopes to hire a grant writer to help with this grant. He will keep the board updated.

13. Visitor's Comments

Don Harte mentioned the possibility of hiring the grant writer on a percentage basis of monies received from the grant acceptance. He thanked Mr. DeSousa for disseminating information regarding the PIRC survey.

Peg DeLong requested a more updated and accurate listing of the K.A. Brett School professional committee report.

14. Board Comments

None.

15. Communications

a. Letter from the Jackson School Board

Board members received the communication as informational items.

16. Non Public Session

a. RSA 91-A:3 II a,b,c,d,e

At 7:09PM, Brenda Robinson made a motion to go into Non-Public Session. Dana Littlefield seconded the motion. At 7:35PM, Brenda Robinson made a motion to go out of Non-Public Session. Dana Littlefield seconded this motion. Motion passed.

17. Action as a Result of Non Public Session

None.

18. Personnel

a. Appointment – Title I Paraprofessional

Dana Littlefield made a motion to appoint Karen Santuccio as the Title I Aide for the remainder of the 2007-08 school year. Sue Creswell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

19. Adjournment

At 7:40PM, Dana Littlefield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sue Creswell seconded this motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Ulitz, Recording Secretary
Draft pending Board Approval.