

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Union #61 & Tantasqua Regional School Committees

Meeting of Tuesday, June 4, 2019
Library – Tantasqua Junior High School

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Jennifer Custance *
Kimberly Hirsch *
Michele-Lee Shea

Sturbridge

Karen Kowal
Megan Panek*
Kristen Tuohey*

Tantasqua

Patricia Barnicle
Megan Cunningham
Michele Fitzgerald
Pamela Fitzgerald
William Haggerty
Erik Iller
Susan Kline
Kristen Leo
Sheila Noyes-Miller
Christine Randall
Cheryl Raymond
Michael Valanzola
Susan Waters

Brookfield

Megan Cunningham *

Wales

Ed Boyce
Cindy Lena *
Christine Randall *

Holland

Laura Alden *
Erik Iller*
Sarah Naples*
Cheryl Raymond

*Denotes Union 61 voting
members

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Brimfield: Delia Brower*, Angela Bradway
Brookfield: Kyle Hill*, Andrew Dunn*
Holland: Elias Gillen*
Sturbridge: Kate Alexander, Mary Bellezza
Wales: Amy Bishop, Carolyn Boehne
Tantasqua: Mary Bellezza, Mary Lovett, Dan Valcour

ALSO PRESENT

Erin Nosek, Superintendent; Deborah Boyd, Associate Superintendent of Business/Finance; Jodi Bourassa, Assistant Superintendent and audience.

Mr. Valanzola called the meeting to order at 6:22 p.m. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. REORGANIZATION – Union 61

For purposes of Union 61 Reorganization, Mr. Valanzola called for nominations for the position of Union 61 Chair.

Motion (19-07 Union):

Mrs. Randall nominated Megan Cunningham for the position of Union 61 Chair.

Hearing no other nominations, nominations were closed and a vote was called.

VOTE: Union #61 All in Favor (voice vote)

Mrs. Cunningham called for nominations for the position of Union 61 Secretary.

Motion (19-08 Union):

Mr. Iller nominated Mary Bellezza.

Ms. Kowal, seconded by Ms. Tuohey nominated Megan Panek.

As Mrs. Bellezza was not present to express her interest in the position, Mr. Iller withdrew his nomination. Hearing no other nominations, nominations were closed and a vote was called.

VOTE: Union #61 All in Favor (voice vote)

2. MINUTES

Tantasqua Motion #19-107

Union #61 Motion #19-09

Mrs. Randall moved, seconded by Mr. Haggerty to accept the minutes of the Joint School Committee meeting of October 16, 2018 as amended.

Amendment: Michele-Lee Shea was PRESENT

VOTE: Voice vote – Motion passes, abstained: Kowal

Voice vote – Motion passes, abstained: Noyes-Miller

3. SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

Mr. Valanzola indicated participation in the evaluation survey increased this year with 43% of Union members and 72% of Tantasqua members returning the survey. Of the combined total returned surveys, 78% rated the Superintendent’s performance as exemplary with 22% rating of proficient. He indicated that many of the surveys included positive comments on the Superintendent’s performance.

Motion:

Tantasqua Motion #19-108

Union #61 Motion #19-10

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle to affirm the rating of the Superintendent’s performance as exemplary.

VOTE: Union #61 All in Favor (voice vote)
Tantasqua All in Favor (voice vote)

Dr. Nosek thanked the committees for their support and indicated it was a pleasure to serve the students and Tantasqua/Union 61 communities.

4. SUPERINTENDENT GOALS COMMITTEE

Mr. Valanzola indicated that last year, the elementary school committee chairs each appointed one person to serve on the Superintendent’s Goals Committee, with Tantasqua also appointing five members by the Chair. He asked if there was any objection to continuing this process. Hearing no objections, he asked that the Elementary School Committee chairs inform him who is appointed to this Subcommittee and a meeting will be scheduled in September.

Action: Add item to each Elementary School Committee next meeting agendas for the appointment of a member to serve on the Superintendent Evaluation/Goals Subcommittee.

INTRODUCTIONS

With new members at the meeting, Mrs. Cunningham asked that all members introduce themselves, adding their community and whether they served on the elementary or Tantasqua committee.

5. TANTASQUA AND UNION 61 FALL RETREAT

Mr. Valanzola indicated the School Committee Fall Retreat has been scheduled for Saturday, October 19th. The retreat will include workshops that may include topics such as budgets, parliamentary procedures, strategic plans, mission/vision, school improvement plans and/or special speakers. Mr. Valanzola indicated he’d welcome any topic discussions and asked that members contact him with any ideas. The meeting will be posted, but generally there is no “business” agenda.

6. SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT (Union 61)

Mr. Valanzola advised the committees that Dr. Nosek, in accordance with her contract, has indicated her interest to continue as Superintendent. Therefore, the joint committee is responsible to enter into negotiations with the Superintendent. The Tantasqua committee will include the Chair and one person appointed by him. Union 61 will also include two members.

Motion (Union #19-11):

Mrs. Panek moved, seconded by Mrs. Randall to have Mrs. Cunningham and one Union 61 member appointed by her to participate on the Superintendent’s negotiation panel.

VOTE: All in Favor (voice voice)

7. ADJOURN

Motion:

Tantasqua Motion #19-109

Union #61 Motion #19-12

Mrs. Panek moved, seconded by Mrs. Kline, to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 pm.

VOTE: Union #61 All in Favor (voice vote)
Tantasqua All in Favor (voice vote)

Respectfully Submitted,

William Haggerty,
Vice Chair – Tantasqua Regional School Committee

Megan Panek,
Secretary – Union #61