

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

Meeting of Monday, November 18, 2019
Library – Tantasqua Junior High School

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brimfield

Jennifer Custance *
Kimberly Hirsch *
Michele-Lee Shea

Brookfield

Megan Cunningham *
Kyle Hill *

Holland

Laura Alden *
Elias Gillen
Erik Iller*
Sarah Naples*

Sturbridge

Katherine Alexander *
Mary Bellezza *
Kristen Tuohey *

Wales

Cindy Lena *
Christine Randall *

Tantasqua

Laura Alden
Patricia Barnicle
Mary Bellezza
Megan Cunningham
Jennifer Custance
Michele Fitzgerald
Pamela Fitzgerald
Edward Goodwin
William Haggerty
Erik Iller
Kristen Leo
Christine Randall
Michael Valanzola
Dan Valcour

*Denotes Union 61 voting members

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Brimfield: Delia Brower*, Angela Bradway
Brookfield: Andrew Dunn *
Holland: Cheryl Raymond
Sturbridge: Karen Kowal, Megan Panek
Wales: Amy Bishop, Carolyn Boehne, Edward Boyce
Tantasqua: Mary Lovett, Sheila Noyes-Miller, Cheryl Raymond, Susan Waters

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 6:00 p.m. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion

Tantasqua Motion #20-24
Union #61 Motion #20-01

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mrs. Alexander, to move into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. as allowed under MGL Chap. 30A, § 21 A (2) to discuss strategy in preparation for negotiations with respect nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining or contract negotiations litigation with nonunion personnel, with the intent to reconvene in open session.

A roll call vote was taken:

YES – Alden, Alexander, Barnicle, Bellezza, Cunningham, Custance, M. Fitzgerald, P. Fitzgerald, Gillen, Haggerty, Hill, Hirsch, Iller, Lena, Leo, Naples, Randall, Shea, Tuohey, Valanzola, Valcour

The Committee moved directly into Executive Session after excusing non-Committee members.

Motion

Tantasqua Motion #20-25
Union #61 Motion #20-02

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle, to move out of Executive Session at 6:21 p.m. and reconvene in open session.

A roll call vote was taken:

YES – Alden, Alexander, Barnicle, Bellezza, Cunningham, Custance, M. Fitzgerald, P. Fitzgerald, Gillen, Haggerty, Hill, Hirsch, Iller, Lena, Leo, Naples, Randall, Shea, Tuohy, Valanzola, Valcour

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT

Tantasqua Motion #20-26
Union #61 Motion #20-03

Mrs. Randall moved, seconded by Mrs. Alexander to approve the Contract between the Tantasqua/Union 61 School Committees and the Superintendent of Schools (11/1/2019 – 8/12/22) as presented.

VOTE: Voice vote (Union #61) – Motion passes
Voice vote (Tantasqua) – Motion passes, abstained: (2)

3. MINUTES**Motion:**

Tantasqua Motion #20-27
Union #61 Motion #20-04

Mr. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 4, 2019 as amended.

Amendments (2): Correct spelling of Kimberly Kirsch to **Hirsch**
Correct spelling of Meghan to **Megan** (under motion for reorganization).

VOTE: Voice vote (Union #61) – Motion passes, abstained (4)
Voice vote (Tantasqua) – Motion passes, abstained (2)

Motion:

Tantasqua Motion #20-28
Union #61 Motion #20-05

Mrs. Randall moved, seconded by Mr. Haggerty, to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 19, 2019 (Retreat) as amended.

Amendment: Correct spelling of Belezza to **Bellezza**

VOTE: Voice vote (Union #61) – Motion passes, abstained (6)
Voice vote (Tantasqua) – Motion passes, abstained (2)

4. OCTOBER 1st ENROLLMENT FIGURES

Mrs. Boyd indicated the enrollment figures showed an increase in the number of students from Sturbridge, and therefore, using the formula for assessments based on enrollment, Sturbridge will have the largest budget impact.

5. CENTRAL OFFICE BUDGET**Motion:**

Tantasqua Motion #20-29
Union #61 Motion #20-06

Mrs. Randall moved, seconded by Mrs. Leo, to approve the Tantasqua & Union #61 Central Office Budget for FY2021 as presented in the amount of \$1,609,007.00.

Discussion: Some positions in the Central Office are partially funded by grant funds. Mrs. Boyd indicated the budget was based on continued level funding from those grant sources.

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

6. SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021

Motion:

Tantasqua Motion #20-30

Union #61 Motion #20-07

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Randall to approve the draft School Calendar for 2020-2021 as presented.

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

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S GOALS 2019-2020

Mr. Valanzola reminded the Committee of the votes taken to appoint the Superintendent Goals Review Committee and the process used, in coordination with the Superintendent, to set the goals presented for 2019-2020.

Motion:

Tantasqua Motion #20-31

Union #61 Motion #20-08

Mrs. Haggerty moved, seconded by Mr. Goodwin, to approve the Superintendent's Goals for School Year 2019-2020.

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

8. RETREAT FOLLOW-UP

Mr. Valanzola indicated the Joint Retreat was overwhelmingly positive and a practice that should be continued. Some of the topics that came from discussions included:

- Staff appreciation/Recognition and Awards (all staff)
- Strategic Plan – Focus Group
- New Member “cheat sheets” – including Robert’s Rules
- Improving Public Relations – School Committee as ambassadors for the schools
- District Improvement Plan
- Facilitator – was excellent and would be used again

Mrs. Barnicle noted the facilitator, Dr. Anthony Bent, mentioned Tantasqua in a positive manner multiple times at the MASC Conference.

It was asked whether a survey monkey was used to help choose the date of the retreat. Mr. Valanzola indicated no, a survey was not used, but could be considered going forward.

9. ADJOURN

Motion:

Tantasqua Motion #20-32

Union #61 Motion #20-09

Mrs. Alexander moved, seconded by Mrs. Cunningham, to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 pm for Union #61 members and pause the Tantasqua meeting to be reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila Noyes-Miller
 Secretary – Tantasqua Regional School Committee

Megan Panek,
 Secretary – Union #61