

# Tri-County Area School District

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Plainfield, Wisconsin  
Minutes from Regular School Board Meeting  
Held March 27, 2018

## **#137 Call to Order**

Mark Bacon-President called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the District Office conference room.

## **#138 Roll Call of Members/Declaration of Quorum**

School board members present were Mark Bacon, Jeff Hopkins, Jim Knutson, Wayne Cummings, Jim Cesar, Peggy Buckholt and Jerry Knutson. Cindy Baumgartner was absent.

## **#139 The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited**

## **#140 Adoption of the Agenda**

Jim Cesar made a motion to approve the agenda; Jerry Knutson seconded and carried on a voice vote to adopt the agenda.

## **#141 Revenue/Expense Report**

Anthony Marinack, District Administrator, stated that 58.60% \$5,270,008.59 of the anticipated revenue has been received to date and 53.95% \$5,142,484.59 of this year's budget had been spent to date.

## **#142 Bills/Receipts Approved**

Jim Cesar made a motion, Wayne Cummings seconded, and carried on a voice vote to approve checks 977060 through 977210 and wire transfers #201700081 through # 201700091 in the amount of \$492,345.42 and receipt of revenue for \$441,352.88 February 28, 2018 through March 27, 2018.

## **#143 Public Forum**

Jason Hill 411 S. Oakwood Lane Hancock Wi. My son was booked in jail and bailed out on Wednesday evening after the incident. He was at a store and thought it was a joke to snapchat his friends. Jason Hill read a letter written from his son apologizing to all the staff, parents and to the community for his inappropriate actions. West Altenburg (address not published) spoke that on her way to the meeting she watched a little boy and wondered what he was thinking and how kids learn and to be a part of our community. West wanted to state that even though the snapchat sent was rude, inappropriate and immature, it was not meant to harm. West started talking and Mark Bacon President had to cut West off as the board is not supposed to form an opinion prior to any other meetings that may occur with this matter. Mr. Hill brought up the email that was sent out, it was stated that not all families had received the email and that they were under the impression other emails had been sent out and put out on Facebook. Tony stated the school sent out only one email on

Thursday afternoon. It was brought to our attention that not all families received the email. This was the first time that a formal letter of communication had been sent out using school messenger and it did have some faults. The Administration and Technology department have been working diligently to solve this issue. It only was sent to the first family member contact information not to every family members email as we thought. We have made changes and a second test email was sent out. It has improved and we have learned many things with the system and it will continue to improve as we work with it. Amber Zavala 628 S. Center St. Plainfield, WI. Wanted to come to board for the email concern. Her friend did not receive the email. She feels that the parents are more concerned that not all parents received this and that it may be more of the issue. Many suggestions such as sending the email, and a text to assure that everyone is getting the message or sending a text and than having the parents refer to another site to read the form letter. We will run another test to see if it continually gets better. Monica Bailliod 327 E. North St. Plainfield WI., was one of the families that didn't receive the email but they do get the emergency notices for school closures. Wendy explained if you did not do online registration and you did not put your email in that you would not have received the email; however, that was now rectified with IT. It was stated that uniontel mail may have a filter in their email. So make sure you look in your Spam email as it may be sitting in there. Monica described that when she gets a snow day text message that they get several messages because they have 2 children in school. So they get 2 text messages, 2 phone calls or sometimes 4 if you have a cell phone and a landline listed. Monica addressed the board that her concern was that 3 months ago there were verbal threats made to students and they spoke to the principal and nothing was done. Apparently, they reached out and no one seem to have to the time to help them. Mark acknowledge that he, nor the board had any knowledge of that but suggested to Monica that she reach out to the administration to find out what could be done. Monica also wanted to know the policy on for cell phones in classrooms. Tony explained that each classroom has their own policy and it is at the teacher's discretion if they can or cannot have them. They can have it at lunch time. Monica felt that children are being recorded or taken pictures of and they are cyber bullied outside of school for things they do at school. They are being made fun of and that is bullying. Monica also feels that bullying is a problem in our school and that it has not been addressed enough. Kevin Fenske stated that he has not been made aware of any bullying in our school this year. He stated that he had some prior students report, he talked to a few kids and the incidents whether it be bullying, teasing etc. it came to a halt. Kevin is in the school and tries to be available for the kids, so he just wants people to be aware of this. Monica also wanted the board to look at budgeting. She wanted to know if there was an action plan in place, this time it was a joke, but what if it wasn't a joke, what are we doing to protect the students. Monica felt we should do more to check the parents going into the school, she stated what if she had a gun in her purse no one would know it. If a child/parent had a gun we don't have a metal detector or anything. Tony stated that all Wisconsin schools are struggling with this issue right now. Wisconsin now has signed a law into the budget for safety improvements to all schools. It was just put into place as of yesterday morning. Tony said once they get more information, we will look into applying for the grant, whether it be more camera's, or other safety items depending on our individual school needs. Monica stated that we need to come up with a solution now, not later. We need to figure out how to protect our children. Everyone is very aware of all the

shootings in the world. But unfortunately it does take time to figure out. Mr. Hill asked to have a question again? Is a Social Media threat or verbal threat handled the same way as a real threat? Tony stated that the administration and law enforcement would have to be aware of the threat as well as what did the post say, was the post shared, was there a picture, etc.? Everything has to be analyzed and looked at not only by the school, but law enforcement and sometime our school attorney. Mr. Hill also asked about the expulsion hearing how it worked and if it was more open to discussion. Tony explained that it was a closed meeting, and it has procedures to allow for more discussion. Jim Cesar asked Mark Bacon to please explain to the public forum crowd why the board cannot speak at this time. It was explained that because it was not on the agenda that the board could not talk about it. It is against the law for the board to speak about any issue that is not on the agenda. West asked what our School District is doing to protect our students at this time. Tony stated that there are procedures in place, as well as safety buckets in the classroom. Tony stated that he thought West was trying to get at what the students can do to help keep our students safe. Build relationships with kids is what we all need to do more of. Make sure our students are not being bullied, or made fun of or left out. If you should see someone distraught or down either report it to someone or try to get help for them from their friends or if you know a teacher that can help them as well. We all need to work together to make sure doors are locked and pay attention to our surroundings. Tony said with the Penguins 4 Prevention group, the Strategic Planning action groups we are hoping to build on those relationships. We do not want anyone bullied or harassed and those are things as a school and community we need to work on. Kelly Detlor 611 S. Main St. Hancock WI. wanted to know about how many times we do active drills. Tony stated that they try to do the lockdown drills once or twice a year. We try to do these in conjunction with the county during a drug dog search and so you have a drug free environment and a safe environment. We also practice off site drills in case we have to go off site. We have had local law enforcement and other counties practice inside our school doing drills. We have done Alice training, and administration does go to trainings and we have a crisis committee. Kelly suggested we have the lockdown drills more often. She had talked to her children and it wasn't really fresh in their minds. Rose Schultz 654 Cummings Road Wautoma, WI. wanted to state that she was on the Strategic Planning committee and was part of that group and we just finished our meetings and haven't had time to implement some of our goals. She stated that everyone that was in those meetings had the same goals and really felt it was important that our students come first. She wanted the students in the audience to know that they were important and that all their concerns are very important. It is just you can not act immediately or get it done as fast as everyone would like. Alice Button (no address published) stated we haven't had any drills this year, and the younger kids are not aware of this. West stated that the board is trying and that everyone is very busy; but we need to do more.

#### **#144 Consent Agenda Items Approved**

Jim Cesar made a motion, seconded by Jim Knutson and carried on a voice vote, to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Minutes from Regular Board, Meeting Held February 27, 2018.
- Accept resignation from Tammie Weis for the H.S. Student Council Advisor.

- Accept resignation from Mike Vesperman for the Athletic Director as of June 30th.
- Accept resignation from Mike Vesperman for the Head Basketball Coach.

Jerry Knutson wanted to Thank Mike Vesperman for all that he has done for the programs and Athletics at Tri-County Area School district. Mike did a great job in all areas with the students and athletics. He will be missed by all. The whole board nodded and said they all agreed.

### **#145 2018-2019 Teacher Contracts EXH-1718-21**

Tony made a note that along with these teacher contracts there may be one addition to our Special Education department due to large caseloads, but that will be brought up a later time. Right now the motion would only be for this exhibit that was presented to the board. Wayne Cummings made a motion; Jim Cesar seconded and carried on a voice vote, to approve the names and FTE's for the teachers contracts offered for the 2018-2019 school year; motion carried on a voice vote.

### **#146 School Board Evaluation**

Discussion of what the relationships between board members, community, staff, personal, instructional programs and the financial management of the school board took place. A couple items some board members would like to take some action on were discussed, but no action was taken at this time.

### **#147 Correspondence**

Thank you card to the board from Justice Works to the H.S. Choir and a \$100.00 donation. Thank you card from Roger Lederer Family.

### **#148 Reports**

Andrea' Boyd student board representative reported on the recent events to include the Chicago NHS trip held on March 15 and 16. Andrea' reported that the students would make Tri-County proud and all had a great trip to the Museums, Shedd Aquarium and Medieval Times. All ACT and ACTWorkKeys tests are completed by the Junior class. Upcoming events are the Junior Prom the theme is A Night of a Thousand Lights. Dr. Otto came and conducted with the HS band. They all learned a little from him. Spring Sports have started. Track had one track meet and Softball and Baseball are starting their first games next week. Math League has finished up and will find out the results the night of the banquet. Quiz Bowl has finished up with a record of 2-4. H.S. Forensics did great, everyone but 2 entries are going to State Forensics. The FFA banquet will be held on April 27 at 5:00 p.m. Tony updated the board on the Strategic Planning Committee which will be presented to the board at the April meeting. Once the board approves the Plan the committees can move forward. An average of 35 people overall attended the Planning committee. Food Service Audit was held this Spring, it is an audit that every school will get every 4 years. They listened, tested, and checked policies, procedures, food servings, vending machines and watched the cooks and food service manager. The auditors came in at 7:30 and stayed till 4:30 to even watch the snacks being handed out. There were very few issues that we were not doing correctly. Hats off to the Food Service Team. Mike Vesperman reported on the Winter Sports, Boys Basketball ended with the record of 5-

17. We had limited numbers and the team progressed throughout the season. Congrats to Dawson Knutson MVP, Keith Scott MIP, and Coaches Award to David Femal. Thanks to Coach Lindberg and Coach Femal. Wrestling was very short in numbers but the players that wrestled had a successful season. Brandon Peckham was a 4x Conference Champion, He had 37 wins this year and was named MVP. Sean Grueneberg won the Coaches award, Joseph Becher MIP, Ryan Applebee and Brandon Peckham were co captains. Thanks to Les Kramer and Ray Applebee for coaching. Girls Basketball had another successful season. They started the season out with 30 girls and finished with 23. They were 3x Conference Champions and 2x Regional Champions. Andrea' Boyd was 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference, Team Captain and Co-MIP. Alexis Rodriguez was 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference, Team Captain and Co-MIP. Brooke Hopkins was 1<sup>st</sup> Team Unanimous All-Conference, Team Captain, and Co-MVP. Amber Baehman was 1<sup>st</sup> Team Unanimous All-Conference, Team Captain, and Co-MVP, as well as Conference player of the year. Brooke also led the State in 3pt shooting % for all Boys and Girls. She participated in the WIAA 3 pt shootout and took 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Amber and Brook were also selected to the WBCA All Star Team. They will be playing on Friday, June 15 at Just A Game in WI. Dells. Amber was also selected All Area by Channel 7, and 1<sup>st</sup> All-State D5 for the second year in a row.

#### **#149 Future Agenda Items**

Strategic Planning, Early Graduation Requirements, School Safety

#### **#150 Announcements**

New elected board members must be sworn in prior to Friday, April 20, 2018. 2018 new board member gathering in Portage on April 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Mark Bacon Board President presented Peggy Buckholt with a bell plaque and thanked Peggy for serving on our School Board for 25 years. Congratulations and Many Thanks to Peggy.

#### **#151 Set Meeting Date**

Possibly a closed session board meeting on April 10, 2018 or April 12, 2018.

#### **#152 Adjourned at 8:51 p.m.**

Recorded by: Wendy Hetzel

Submitted by:

Wendy Hetzel

Deputy Clerk