

Tri-County Area School District

Plainfield, Wisconsin
Minutes from Regular School Board Meeting
Held October 28, 2014

#61 Call to Order

Mark Bacon-President called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm in the district office conference room.

#62 Roll Call of Members/Declaration of Quorum

School board members present were: Mark Bacon, Jim Knutson, Cindy Baumgartner, Amy Anderson, Susan Lederer, Jim Cesar and Kathryn Rutz. Members absent-Wayne Cummings and Peggy Buckholt. A quorum was declared.

#63 The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited

#64 Adoption of the Agenda

Sue Lederer made a motion; Cindy Baumgartner seconded and carried on a voice vote to adopt the agenda amended with the start time of 7:00pm.

#65 Revenue/Expense Report

Anthony Marinack, District Administrator, stated that 7.93% \$734,362.99 of the anticipated revenue has been received to date and 18.97% \$1,829,116.46 of this year's budget had been spent to date. Thus, the need for a fund balance to prevent short term borrowing.

#66 Bills/Receipts Approved

Jim Cesar made a motion, Kathryn Rutz seconded, and carried on a voice vote to approve checks 970378 through 970612 and wire transfers #201400027 through # 201400040 in the amount of \$474922.21 and receipt of revenue in the amount of \$710,973.54 from September 24, 2014 to October 28, 2014.

#67 Public Forum

Jerry Knutson W10434 County Rd P Almond, WI 54909 expressed concern for the Academic Achievement Test Results and the report card grade for the High School level. He presented the Board with a packet of detailed test scores ranging from grades 3rd through 10th. The packet compared Tri-County's test results to the other schools in our conference and the state averages for Reading, Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. He briefly met with Mr. Marti after the last School Board meeting to discuss the issues. He would like to know the school's initiatives and what we are doing for the masses and not just the advanced students.

He was advised again by the Board to schedule a meeting with Mr. Marti. The Board stated that they are aware of the issues and have been working on this over the last few years. This is not an overnight solution and specific concerns can be discussed by setting up a meeting with Mr. Marti.

Bobbi Jo Ruffalo 607 S Main St Plainfield, WI 54966 stated her concerns regarding the school's scores and test results. She feels parents and the community deserve more communication from teachers, administration and the School Board. She was advised to meet with any teachers she might have specific concerns with or any of the administration team. She feels that the School Board was the place to voice her opinion and not be accusatory toward any one individual. She feels the lines of communication need to be more open in the best interest of the kids.

Sean Downen 10103 County BB Plainfield, WI 54966 stated that he is frustrated to see the school's scores and he doesn't want to place blame on any one person. He wants to know what can be done or is being done to help the situation and the kids. The kids are the #1 priority. The Board stated that they have been working on the issue for the last 2 years or more and that the report cards have only been out for 2 years. The public is only seeing the end result and are not seeing the big picture of everything being done to improve the scores.

#68 Consent Agenda Items Approved

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

- Approved minutes from Regular Board Meeting September 23, 2014.
- Hired Steve Feldman as High School Boys Varsity Coach at Step 9.
- Hired Trevor Hanke as the 7th Grade Basketball Coach at Step 1 for 30 days.
- Hired Kendra Spurgeon as the 7th Grade Basketball Coach at Step 1 for 16 days.
- Hired Trevor Hanke as the Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Assistant.
- Accepted donations from Wilbur-Ellis of \$1000.00 for FFA.
- Accepted donations from Eric and Kelly Weekly of \$600.00 for EE waders.
- Accepted donations from Chris Truehl of \$200.00 for 7/8 grade boys basketball uniforms and T-Shirts.
- Accepted letter of resignation from Ken Dill for 8th grade Girls Volleyball coach.
- Accepted letter of resignation from Denise Spors- Dill for 7th grade Girls Volleyball coach.
- Accepted donation of black bear mount from Mark Hennes.

#69 2014-2015 Final Budget and Tax Levy EXH 1415-10

Mark Bacon made a motion, Amy Anderson seconded, and carried on a voice vote to approve

the 2014-2015 final budget and tax levy as follows: Expenditures in the amount of \$9,729,918.00, General Fund Tax Levy of \$3,334,510.00, Community Service Fund Levy of \$21,470.00 for a Total School Levy of \$3,355,980.00.

#70 School Liaison and Crime Prevention Office Job Description *EXH 1415-11*

Jim Cesar made a motion, Cindy Baumgartner seconded, and carried on a voice vote to approve the job description change to the Liaison and Crime Prevention Office with deleting "such as Neighborhood Watch, Crime Stoppers and McGruff" from paragraph 3 last sentence.

#71 Use of Fitness Center Rule #835R *EXH 1415-12*

Cindy Baumgartner made a motion, Sue Lederer seconded, and carried on a voice vote to approve the changes to the policy regarding rules of student age limitations for using the fitness center.

#72 Correspondence

Thank you from the family of Justin Weisbrich, (Kathryn Rutz's son.)

Thank you from Janelle Smith for the flowers following her recent surgery.

#73 Reports

Elizabeth Kementz reported that on October 23rd the 7-12 students attended an assembly with speaker Joel Penton. He was a former Ohio State football player and connected with the students by telling his story of how he made it so far. He spoke about the commitments he made to himself and football during high school and how he stuck with it. He told his story of jeopardizing friendships because of his strong commitments and how he survived making the right choices for himself. The students really enjoyed the presentation and there was a good message for everyone. The Varsity Girls Volleyball team had an excellent season and finished strong going to the second level at Regionals. The upcoming HS Play "High Schoolers Guide to the Galaxy" is on December 5th and 6th. The FFA members left this morning for the National Convention in Kentucky on a bus with students from other schools. They will be attending speakers and sessions and also going to Churchill Downs, Mammoth Cave and a few other sites. There is a Blood Drive on November 4th in the High School Gym and there are still spots open to donate. Cindy Baumgartner, Kathryn Rutz, Sue Lederer and Anthony Marinack reported on the WASB Regional meeting. Cindy commented that it was a big Pep Rally. Kathryn Rutz stated that it was stressed to connect with the legislators and how important communication was between them and the schools. Anthony reported on the information regarding Key Work of School Boards. School Perceptions also offered a survey that school boards can take online and they will compile results at no charge. It was discussed that all board members should take the survey before the December meeting so they could discuss the results received. Anthony Marinack reported on the 2014-2015 Student Count. He handed out printouts of last school year's numbers and the current student count to compare. He discussed the differences in the

Open Enrollment In and Outs and how this affects our Aid dollars. He provided two handouts from the Fall WASDA Superintendents Conference he attended. The first was the Legislative updates from John Forester what has gone on, being proactive instead of on the defense, stronger partnerships and communicating the value of Public Education. The second handout was of a graph charting the correlation between poverty and school performance from the 2012-13 Report Card Data. The graph indicated there was a .7 correlation between poverty and student performance. Senator Julie Lassa had an article on State aid cuts and her concerns about the long term damage to the economy and children's education. Tony presented a copy of this to each board member. Shawn Jepson, along with Dianne George, accepted the schools Promise award for Title I. Recently the Resorter published an article on a TCHS graduate, Vanesa Anaya-Aldana, and her accomplishments that started while she was a student here at Tri-County. The article will be framed and hung in the hallway near the office. Nicholas Marti reported on the mandatory assessments. All 9th graders took the ACT Aspire in October and in the spring all 9th and 10th graders will need to take the test as well. This week they had rewards nights for any grades meeting 4th quarter goals. They are awarded with pizza and a movie and were well attended. The 7th and 8th graders have their Halloween Dance this week and the Biology students will be going to the school forest on Thursday. Shawn Jepson reported that they have received the Promise Award for 6 years in a row and 9 out of the last 12 years. Kindergarteners went to the play Curious George and 4K had their parents night. K-6th recently made a donation to Heavenly Hats for \$216 from paying \$1.00 to wear a hat. The money will help buy hats for cancer patients. The PTA is sponsoring an Assembly on November 3rd for the Elementary. On November 19th there is a presentation for the 5th and 6th grade who received the \$10,000 Monsanto Grant which is funding Chromebooks and technology for those grades.

#74 Future Agenda Items

Mike Vesperman, Athletic Director with report on the Fall Sports at the November meeting
Reminder for the School Board Survey due by December Board Meeting

#75 Announcements

Mark Bacon announced the Yearbook order form that each member received and to see Wendy if interested in ordering.

#76 Set Meeting Dates

#77 Adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Recorded by: Amy Hopkins

Submitted by:

Amy Anderson, Clerk