

Tracy Area Public Schools No. 2904



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Regular Board Meeting Minutes from Monday, May 17, 2021

- I. Meeting called to order by School Board Chair Rod Benson at 6:02 p.m.
- Guests include: (Per Peterson with the Headlight Herald. TAPS Teachers: Brittany Peterson, Stephanie Kor, Dana Miller, Tammy Purrington, Amy Larsen, Suanne Christiansen, Alex Greenway, and Derek Ashbaugh)
 - Board Members Present: Matt Surprenant, Nicole Swanson, Jody Bauer, Jay Fultz, Ben Ludeman, Sheila Siebenahler-Holland & Rod Benson.
 - Administration present: Superintendent Anderson, Secondary Principal Vondracek, & Elementary Principal Munson. Activities Director Tauer was coaching baseball.
- II. Motion by Bauer, second by Surprenant to approve the previous meeting minutes. **(MC 7-0)**
- III. Motion by Holland, second by Swanson to approve the agenda. **(MC 7-0)**
- IV. Motion by Fultz, second by Surprenant to approve the TAHS monthly report, Treasurer Report, Revenues vs Disbursements Report, and the vendor payments which include check numbers **18566** through **18674** and wire payments dated **April 20** through **May 17, 2021** and Student Activity Check Numbers **18538-18552** for a grand total of **\$929,359.03 (MC 7-0)**.
- V. Visitor Reports/Comments:
- A. Jeremy Trulock with EMC updated the TAPS board on the Insurance quotes for 21-22. Property Insurance was quoted at \$54,631.58 compared to \$50,238 in FY21. Jeremy stated some of the increase is due to lack of sprinklers in the buildings. The Workers' Compensation was quoted at \$34,547 compared to \$34,449 from FY21. He was still waiting on the Cyber Breach Policy Quote. Jeremy informed the board that this market is volatile right now because of the increase in cyber security needs in the world.
- B. **APEX Presentation:** (Cody Capra, Greg Ackerson, Rob Krukoski) Facilities Audit Overview:
- TAHS (Building constructed in 1968. 53 years old)
 - Original Equipment Includes:
 - Air Handling Units 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12.
 - Ductwork- Interior insulation encapsulated in 2002
 - Hot Water Piping (Radiation)
 - Terminal Hot Water Coil
 - Electrical Service
 - Replaced Equipment in 2002 (19 Years)
 - Chiller/Boilers
 - Gym Unit (added cooling) AU 6.
 - VAV Boxes for Classrooms

“Education as a Lifestyle”

- Building Automation Controls
- TAES Building constructed in 1970 (51 Years)
 - Original Equipment Includes
 - Air Handling Units: 1
 - Ductwork – Interior Insulation
 - Hot Water Piping
 - Terminal Hot water coil
 - Replaced Equipment 2002 (19 Years)
 - Chiller/Boilers
 - VAV to the classrooms
 - Fan Section AHU 2 & 3 Replaced
 - Building Automation Controls
- Finding Overview
 - Facilities are in good shape
 - Air Handling and Ventilation Needs
 - Ductwork & Piping Questions
 - Dehumidification and Boiler Plan Needs
 - Sprinkler Addition or Door Replacements
 - Walls for Elementary School
- Overview (14.5 Million)
 - Grade School Deferred Maintenance: \$4,990,229
 - AHU Replacement
 - Electrical Service Replacement
 - Chiller Replacement
 - Replace Boilers – Remove Fuel Oil
 - Controls/New VAV Boxes
 - Ductwork Replacement
 - Sprinklers
 - Add Walls for Classrooms
 - Exterior Door Replacements
 - High School Deferred Maintenance: \$9,474,653
 - AHU Replacement
 - Electrical Service Replacement
 - Chiller Replacement
 - Add Additional Boiler
 - Controls/New VAV Boxes
 - Ductwork Replacement
 - Sprinklers/Replace Existing Doors
 - Project Funding:
 - Voter Approved Option. All items qualify. Vote in November 2021 or February 2022.
 - Board Approved Option: Health and Safety: HVAC, Dehumidification, Sprinklers. Not Qualified for Board Approved: GS Walls GS Boilers, and Fuel Oil Tanks. Could use ESSER, LTFM, or Energy Savings.
 - Timelines were discussed: 2022 Construction Timelines or 2023 Construction Timelines
 - Next Steps were discussed

C. **Ehlers Presentation:** (Matt Hammer Discuss Funding Information for a possible 14.5 Million Dollar Project)

- Est. Tax Rates: Capital & Debt Service Levies
- Tax Impact on a potential Bond Issue (Residential Homestead for \$125,000 home is \$59/year
- AG Homestead for landowners living in the district is 72 cents on House, Garage, and One Acre. (If the same property owner owns more than \$1.9 Million Dollar of agricultural homestead land and buildings a portion of the property will be taxed at the higher non-homestead rate)
- AG Non-Homestead average value per acre \$6,000 is \$1.44/acre
- School Building Bond Agricultural Credit: Applies to all agricultural property (except house, garage, and one acre)
- 70% in taxes payable 2023 and after
- Automatically deducted from property taxes owed.
- Credit is paid by state and does not shift levy to other property types.
- With a 70% ag credit, property taxes paid in 2023 and beyond on existing debt are estimated to be 36 centers per acre LOWER than the levels paid for debt service property taxes in 2017.
- Source of Payments: Residential/Commercial is 31%, AG Land & Buildings is 22%, Paid by state Aid (Ag Credit) is 47%.
- Comparison of total school property taxes on a home with an estimated market value of \$125,000. Nine schools compared and TAPS is the lowest at \$364 with a group average of \$452. A \$59 increase would put TAPS in the second lowest of area schools.
- Comparison of total property taxes on one acre of AG homestead with market value of \$6,000 is \$1.97 with a group average of \$3.08. The increase of 72 cents would keep TAPS in the middle.
- Matt Hammer said it is a complex system for land owners so they provide a estimate calculator on their web site where landowners can enter in their parcel numbers to get a more accurate estimate. They also have people on staff that talk to every individual land owner that calls to help them determine tax impacts of their personal property.

VI. Administrative Oral Reports

A. **Activities/Community Education Director Tauer**

1. Upcoming Events

- Golf Section Day 1 – May 26
- Last Day of School – May 28
- Baseball Section Playoffs start – May 29
- Graduation Commencements at HS Gym – May 30
- Softball Section Playoffs – June 1
- Track Sub-Section Meet at Pipestone – June 3
- Summer Recreation starts – June 7
- June Classroom Drivers Ed – June 7 thru June 18
- Track Section Meet at Redwood Valley – June 10

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- Panther Booster Club Golf Open – June 18

2. Baseball Field Lights

The baseball field would be lit to 50 foot candles infield and 30 foot candles outfield using a (6) pole lighting system. I am providing options for both LED and HID (metal halide) lighting systems. Also, I am including estimates for both 5 year and 10 year lease/purchase options. Whether the lighting is LED or HID it will be a "first-class" system with smooth and uniform light throughout the field. The following are cost estimates that include the lighting system, galvanized steel poles, concrete bases, structural installation, and electrical system. As mentioned, we would work with your local electrician but have included the anticipated electrical costs in the turnkey numbers.

Option #1) LED lighting system...\$290, 874 turnkey installation.

Option #2) LED lighting system with a 5 year lease/purchase...\$67,000 annual payment.

Option #3) LED lighting system with a 10 year lease/purchase...\$37,500 annual payment.

Option #4) HID lighting system...\$211,116 turnkey installation.

Option #5) HID lighting system with a 5 year lease/purchase...\$48,700 annual payment.

Option #6) HID lighting system with a 10 year lease/purchase...\$27,300 annual payment.

B. Secondary Principal Vondracek's report:

- State Testing - last makeups completed Wednesday, May 12.
- Last AP Test – Monday, May 17. AP Computer Science project portfolios are due Thursday, May 20.
- Please accept the resignation of Jason Kaare, Ag teacher and FFA Advisor. (see resignation attached below)
- Second Reading of Policy 620 – Credit For Learning. (see attached below).
- Graduation – Class of 2021 –w/new guidelines:
- Capacity of gym is 500. 9 guests/graduate (4 on floor/5 in bleachers)
- Live Stream event – Cody Welu/Shawn Zwach
- Virtual performances by choir & band – projected on screens
- Greg Devereaux – photos of each student receiving diploma.
- Reception line will be outside on north sidewalk weather permitting; in hallways if raining.
- Traditional Scheduling for 21-22
 - *Moving to a block would require staff development in June. Teachers are too tired at this point to be facing serious staff development in June. This could be much better received in a year if that is the road we want to go down.
 - *Teachers need a guaranteed prep every day.
 - *In a true block preps are 90 minutes every day. Study halls are nonexistent in a block. These major changes would require negotiations.

- Math Department changes proposed:
 - a. Doing work in school – most parents cannot help at home.
 - b. Grading on what gets done in class. Not everything needs to be graded.
 - c. Teaching lessons in smaller pieces. Give as much feedback as possible.
 - d. Focus on our power standards. What one teaches in a year may need to be lessened so that what the students learn, they learn well.
 - e. Giving numerous examples to showcase different ways to solve the same problem.
 - f. Tests receiving no more than 60% of the weighted course grade.
 - g. Students need a way to redeem themselves if they are failing a class.
 - h. The principal takes ownership as leadership, also, that we have so many math students failing. Our department mindset needs to change.
- Last week of school
 - a. Monday through Thursday – a student council sponsored fun outdoor (weather permitting) activity daily.
 - b. Thursday, May 27 @ 8:10 am – Underclassmen awards.
 - c. Friday, May 28 – Community Service in morning, all school color run/walk in the afternoon.
- Please check the HS Twitter feed for all of the recent accomplishments by our student organizations!

C. Elementary Principal Munson’s report:

Educere update

- As of 4th quarter mid-term
We have a total of 25 students on Educere.
- 13 of those students are ahead of where they need to be with good test results on assessments given.
- 11 students are at where they need to be or ahead in a few subject and behind in a few. With average assessment scores.
- 1 student was below progress and assessment scores needed.
 - o Vicki has been in weekly communication with that family and the student is making better progress.

Kindergarten Round-Up

We have a plan for June 2nd and 3rd and have families signed up in groups of 5 every hour. Parents will watch a video in a room, of the nurse and myself doing our normal speeches. The kids will be tested. When done with the testing, the teacher will meet with the parents and then they will leave after around 50 minutes.

Graduation

I met with parents of the 6th grade on Tuesday May 11th. We will be having a graduation ceremony for the 6th graders on the last day of school.

Positions

Please accept the resignation of Ashley Struffert. We have posted for a new SPED teacher at the Elementary.

D. Superintendent Anderson's Report:

i. COVID - 19 Updates:

- a. Moved to less restrictive 7 day and 10 day quarantine timelines
- b. 1 section of third grade & 1 section of 4th grade students is on quarantine
- c. As of (5/12/21: 2 Positive COVID and 51 on Quarantine)
- d. Indoor Capacity limitations removed starting May 28, 2021
- e. No outdoor masks required
- f. No masks indoors following July 1, 2021

ii. Meeting with APEX and Buildings and Grounds Committee: (May 12, 2021)

iii. TEA President Amy Larsen submitted a Notice of Desire to Negotiate on behalf of the TEA. Negotiations started on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 by discussing base line data and ground rules.

iv. Panther Board in Vestibule

E. School Board Member Reports: None

VII. Old Business:

A. Motion by Bauer, second by Holland to approve the MSBA model policy 620: Credit for Learning. **(MC 7-0)**

VIII. New Business

A. Motion by Fultz, second by Surprenant to approve \$14.5 million in school infrastructure improvement items to address all items listed by APEX which include:

i. Grade School Deferred Maintenance: \$4,990,229

1. AHU Replacement
2. Electrical Service Replacement
3. Chiller Replacement
4. Replace Boilers – Remove Fuel Oil
5. Controls/New VAV Boxes
6. Ductwork Replacement
7. Sprinklers
8. Add Walls for Classrooms
9. Exterior Door Replacements

ii. High School Deferred Maintenance: \$9,474,653

1. AHU Replacement
2. Electrical Service Replacement
3. Chiller Replacement
4. Add Additional Boiler
5. Controls/New VAV Boxes
6. Ductwork Replacement
7. Sprinklers/Replace Existing Doors

Discussion:

- Board members commented that this is early in the process and needed more time to process the scope of work and cost of projects. Comments were made on how eventually things need to be completed but would like to have more dialogue. Additional direction was given to the buildings and grounds committee to continue to research, discuss, and continue to talk about plans at future board meetings. **The motion failed** with a vote of four voting no (Ludeman, Bauer, Swanson, Holland) and two voting yes (Fultz and Surprenant). Benson did not vote. Items A2 and A3 did not come to vote because A1 Failed.

- B. 2020-21 May enrollments were given by Superintendent Anderson (**670**). May 2020 was (**671**). May 2019 was (**710**). May 2018: 700, May 2017: 709. May 2016: 735.
- C. Motion by Surprenant, second by Ludeman to approve the 2021-2022 Health Insurance with the Public Employees Insurance Program PEIP with a 7% increase to premiums. **(MC 7-0)**
- D. Motion by Holland, second by Fultz to approve the 2021-2022 Grounds Contract with Jim Christian with a 1.5% increase for 2021-2022. **(MC 7-0)**
- E. Motion by Ludeman, second by Bauer approve the resignation of Brooke Giles as the para-professional at Balaton Little Panthers effective after the 2020-2021 school year is completed with many thanks for her service. **(MC 7-0)**
- F. Motion Swanson, second by Surprenant to approve the Tracy Public Schools ISD #2904 School Family Mental Health (SFMH) Service Agreement in effect from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 for \$29,851 annually. **(MC 7-0)**
- G. Motion by Holland, second by Fultz to approve the resignation of TAHS Assistant Boys’ Basketball Coach Dru Larson with many thanks for his service to TAHS Basketball. **(MC 7-0)**
- H. Motion by Surprenant, second by Ludeman to approve the resignation of Mr. Jason Kaare as TAHS Agriculture Instructor effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year with many thanks for his service to the TAHS AG program and FFA program. It is the recommendation of Superintendent Anderson to the TAPS Board to absorb this position. **(MC 7-0)**
- I. Motion by Bauer, second by Ludeman to approve the 2020-2021 revised budget with an expected deficit of \$562,132. ([20-21 Fund Balances – Fund 01 Only – Estimate using budgeted numbers only is attached](#)) (The revised budget booklet will be handed out at the meeting for discussion). **(MC 7-0)**
- J. The following resolution was moved by Surprenant and seconded by Swanson:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 123B.02, Subd. 6 provides: “The board may receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, or for the benefit of pupils thereof, including trusts created to provide pupils of the district with advanced education after completion of high school, in the advancement of education.”; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 465.03 provides: “Any city, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full.”; and

WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Tracy Area Public School District ISD 2904, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below:

Donor	Item	Designated Purpose (if any)
Panther Wrestling Club	1,779.31	3 Wrestling Bus Trips
Panther Booster Club	624.00	Bus for Baseball to Kerkhoven
Janet Randal	100.00	Donation for School

“Education as a Lifestyle”

The vote on adoption of the Resolution was as follows:

Aye: **Benson, Bauer, Ludeman, Fultz, Holland, Bauer, and Swanson**

Nay: **None**

Absent: **None**

Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted.

- K. Motion by Bauer, second by Holland to approve the Tracy Summer Recreation Employees for 2021. Motion by Bauer, second by Holland to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. **(MC 7-0)**
- L. Motion by Ludeman, second by Surprenant to approve the resignation of TAES SPED Teacher Ashely Struffert with many thanks for her service to TAES. **(MC 7-0)**
- M. Motion by Swanson, second by Bauer to approve the Insurance agreement with EMC.
Property Insurance: \$54,631.58 (Last year was \$50,238: Property went up \$4,000)
Workers' Compensation: \$34,547 (Last year was \$34,449)
Cyber Breach Policy: (Waiting for quote) (Last year was (\$3,080)
(MC 7-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Chad Anderson

Superintendent Chad Anderson, Ed.D.
May 19, 2021