

TREMONT COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #702
MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING
April 11, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call -	Runyon – present	Hopkins – absent
	Ulrich – present	Sumer – present
	Ropp – present	Kilgus – present
	Kaiser – present	

Results of Canvass

Tazewell County Sales Tax

Yes:	7105	43.6%
No:	9185	56.4%

Kevin R. Ulrich – 544
Kevin C. Smith – 415
Drew Gierich – 489
Richard Cecil – 292
Robert M. Ropp – 538

Proclaim the Results of the Election

Kevin Ulrich, Kevin Smith, Drew Gierich and Robert Ropp have been elected to four-year terms to the Tremont District #702 Board of Education.

Seating of New Board Members

Dr. Sumer: I will now affirm the newly-elected members of the school board:

Dr. Sumer to new board members: Please repeat after me:

I (Ulrich, Smith, Gierich, Ropp) do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education of Tremont Community Unit School District #702, in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

I further affirm (by saying “I Will”):

I shall respect taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of the school district’s assets;

I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow board members and others who seek a hearing before the board, while respecting the privacy of students and employees;

I shall recognize that a board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a public board meeting; and

I shall abide by majority decisions of the board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels.

Adjourn

With there being no old business to come before this board, motion by **Sumer** to adjourn sine die at **6:33p.m.** Second by **Ulrich**.

Yea – 6

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 6-0

Organization of New Board

Dr. Volkan Sumer will appoint Temporary Chairman and Secretary for Organizational Meeting

Chairman – **Robert Ropp**

Secretary – **Renee Kaiser**

Meeting Adjourned: **6:33 p.m.**

Volkan Sumer, President

Renee Kaiser, Secretary

**MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
Board of Education – District #702
Thursday, April 11, 2019**

Call to order by temporary chairman **Robert Ropp** at **6:48 p.m.**

Roll Call -	Sumer – present	Ropp – present
	Ulrich – present	Gierich – present
	Kaiser – present	Smith – present
	Kilgus – present	

Nomination for President

Temporary Chairman: Nominations are now in order for the office of president.

Renee Kaiser: I nominate **Volkan Sumer**.

Temporary Chairman: **Volkan Sumer** is nominated. Are there any other nominations for the office of president?

Repeat call two more times.

Temporary Chairman: If there are no further nominations, nominations for the office of president are closed.

Vote on Nomination

Roll Call -	Sumer – yea	Ropp – yea
	Ulrich – yea	Gierich – yea
	Kaiser – yea	Smith – yea
	Kilgus – yea	

Motion Carried 7-0

Seating of New President

Nomination for Vice President

President: Nominations are now in order for the office of vice-president.

President: I nominate **Robert Ropp**.

Vote on Nomination: (Unanimous, no vote needed.)

Nomination for Secretary

President: Nominations are now in order for the office of secretary.

President: I nominate **Renee Kaiser**.

Vote on Nomination: (Unanimous, no vote needed.)

Seating of New Officers

Establish Meeting Dates

Board meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month at **7:00 p.m.**, unless otherwise stated.

Resolution Regarding Board Policies

Resolution presented by **Sumer**.

Be it resolved that the newly organized Board of Education of Tremont School District #702, Tazewell County, Illinois, shall operate under the policies and procedures of the previous board with the power to amend such policies and procedures.

Motion by **Ropp** to adopt the resolution presented. Second by **Kilgus**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 7-0

Persons Desiring to Address the Board – The PTO presented their playground plans.

Consent Agenda –

1. Approval of previous meetings’ minutes as published/corrected
2. Acceptance of treasurer’s report
3. Approval of activity fund
4. Approval of bills, payroll, and Imprest Fund
5. Approve annual membership to the IHSA and IESA
6. Turkey Festival request to use Tremont School District Facilities
7. Approve Consolidated District Plan
8. Approval of agenda

Motion by **Kilgus** to approve the consent agenda. Second by **Smith**.

Roll Call -

Sumer – yea

Ropp – yea

Ulrich – yea

Gierich – yea

Kaiser – yea

Smith – yea

Kilgus – yea

Motion Carried 7-0

Correspondence Received – The district received a thank you from Resident Bobbie Allen for a recent Jazz Band performance at Tremont Baptist Church. We also received a thank you from the family of Don Rice. Mr. Rice was a former Board member and the District had sent a planter for his funeral. The District received an invitation today from the IASB to submit a Resolution for consideration at the 2019 Delegate Assembly as part of the Triple I Conference this November.

Administrative Reports – The principals reported on their respective buildings.

Superintendent’s Report – The Superintendent presented a written report sharing that on Friday, April 5, superintendents from the HOIC met at Fieldcrest to discuss issues of mutual interest. The TEF Grant Committee distributed \$26,328 for projects to be funded in FY20. We are greatly appreciative of this organization. In total, over \$39,000 in funds were requested. The projects were all worthy. If possible, the District will work with the teachers who didn’t receive money to determine whether we can provide dollars for the various initiatives identified. The District also received the Hopedale Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Agreement for 2019-2020. This is an incredible service that is provided our families. Mr. Zehr recommends expansion of coverage to include volleyball. This recommendation will be an Old Business Action Item next month.

Old Business

Information Items

The County Facilities Sales Tax

The measure was defeated for a 4th time, 9185 (56.4%) to 7105 (43.6%). While the information gathered in the defeat is valuable, it's clear that a countywide YES campaign was sorely missing from our strategy. Superintendents are in a tough spot. On one hand, this is the group that has to pursue putting the measure on the ballot. Unfortunately, this same group has to be very careful about not promoting a position – at least in their official capacity. There are 56 of the 102 Counties in Illinois that now have the CFST passed, with the addition of Fayette and Union that were successful on April 2. There are 7 precincts that include District #702. Unfortunately, only 3 are 100% within our boundaries (Elm Grove I, Tremont I, and Tremont II. The other 4 (Elm Grove II, Tremont III, Dillon, and Hopedale) have a mix. In our 3 main precincts, the CFST question passed 322-166 (66%-34%).

Legislative Issues

There's another commission being formed to study consolidation. The focus appears to be on dual districts but we'll keep an eye on their recommendations. What's unique about this particular piece of legislation is the power the 20-member committee would have in placing any consolidation proposal on the ballot all across Illinois. There is a proposal to limit District flexibility in regard to PE, requiring at least 150 minutes at the GS and 225 for MS/HS. We'd have difficulty adhering to this although we currently do meet the requirements now at the GS. We're at 170 right now at the MS and 212 at the HS. The \$40,000 minimum teacher salary is advancing and the Governor's signature is anticipated. There is also a strong belief that the 6% end of career retirement incentive will be added back after a brief, one-year absence.

Budget and Planning

Mr. Hinman shared 3-year budget projections and will be starting the FY20 budget next week.

Summer Projects

The contracts are signed and in place. Once minutes from last month's BOE meeting are approved tonight, ESG will begin making plans for the project to get underway. Mr. Hinman met with Village Engineer Eric Hansen one evening last week and they discussed the drainage issue and our desire to potentially re-route sidewalks and slope around the building. Mr. Hansen did some research and an 18" storm sewer runs under the sidewalk in front to the school. He suggested connecting to that pipe with our new drains going in front of the main doors. We believe this should be relatively easy once that front walk is torn out.

Action Items

(None)

New Business

Information Items

Tremont PTO Presentation on the Grade School Playground Project

Representatives from the PTO presented their research and vision for new playground equipment at the Grade School earlier in the board meeting. They plan to focus fundraising efforts in this area over the next few years.

Illinois Educator Shortage Crisis

Research findings by the Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools provides and analyzes the data related to the very real teacher shortage in Illinois. 85% of the districts surveyed reported a major or minor problem in finding qualified candidates. The real challenge is fixing this moving forward. They are looking at minimizing the needless testing that occurs before licensing and easing some of the restrictions placed on out of state teacher prep programs. Scholarships and other incentives are being suggested for individuals agreeing to teach in Illinois for at least 3 years.

BOE Policies

The most recent PRESS (Policy Reference Education Subscription Service) policy recommendations are in the Board packet. In order to keep our Board Policy Manual current, we subscribe to this service through the IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards). Most of these revisions and changes are the result of new legislation or ISBE/legal interpretation. Mr. Hinman will review and make a recommendation for Board approval next month.

Action Items

Resignation(s)

Motion by **Sumer** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Margi Csesznegi to retire at the end of the 2021-2022 school year, per the current contract agreement.

Second by **Ropp**.

Roll Call -	Sumer – yea	Ropp – yea
	Ulrich – yea	Gierich – yea
	Kaiser – yea	Smith – yea
	Kilgus – yea	
		Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by **Kaiser** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Tina Johnston to retire at the end of the 2021-2022 school year, per the current contract agreement.

Second by **Gierich**.

Roll Call -	Sumer – yea	Ropp – yea
	Ulrich – yea	Gierich – yea
	Kaiser – yea	Smith – yea
	Kilgus – yea	
		Motion Carried 7-0

Employment (None)

Closed Session - under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees.

Motion by **Sumer** to adjourn to closed session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. Second by **Kaiser**.

Roll Call -

Sumer – yea

Ulrich – yea

Kaiser – yea

Kilgus – yea

Ropp – yea

Gierich – yea

Smith – yea

Motion Carried 7-0

Adjourned to Closed Session: 8:43 p.m.

Reconvened: 8:48 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:48 p.m.

Volkan Sumer, President

Renee Kaiser, Secretary