

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOWNSEND SCHOOLS K-12 DISTRICT #1
LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015
TOWN HALL LEVY INFORMATION MEETING 6:00 PM
REGUAR MEETING, 7:00 PM**

LEVY TOWN HALL
MEETING

The Board held a town hall meeting at 6:00 pm for levy informational purposes. Those in attendance were: Board Members - Marvin Reddick, Shaun Scott and Kevin McDonnell, and others: Gary and Leanne Bauman, Luke and Melanie Carr, Darlene Beck, Kyle Hopstad, Kallie Audet, Wendy Graveley, Amanda Cram, Mike Delger, Reagan Manion, Dan & Amanda Hazlett, Carla Amundson, Hugh Braaten, Jason Noyes, Sarah Holland, John Hahn, Marcia Ellermeyer, Jeanne Steele, Kelly Ingalls, Questen Inghram, Brad Racht, Sheri Heavrin, Andrea Johnson and Pam Watson

Superintendent Johnson opened the meeting by informing the group that the purpose of the meeting was to answer questions about the upcoming levy. She stated that the community members involved in the planning process recommended the District replace teachers that have been cut in previous years. She stated that the District has seen an increase in special education students with multiple needs. These students are now within the regular classroom by FAPE and IDEA. She also stated that an educational foundation will be established and the District continues to seek outside funding.

Mr. Racht, Elementary/Middle School Principal, also spoke stating that more instructors are needed to address high class sizes and varying student needs. He encouraged people to ask questions about the school. He stated that every dime of the \$389,000 mill levy can be accounted for. He added that they have looked at additional extra-curricular cuts, but have determined the savings would not be worthwhile. He informed the group that the District is looking at fulfilling some agricultural classes and/or positions.

Sheri Heavrin, High School Principal, informed the group that the levy is about restoring, not adding staff. She stated that core classes in the high school have extremely high numbers of students. Electives are minimal. She feels that a small environment school should attract parents to send their children to the District.

Questions and comments included: outside funds are available for an FFA organization, the possibility of the District hiring less experienced teachers for less money, use of facility and students bettering themselves in the District, intramural sports instead of competitive sports, question about sport teams traveling long distances, questions about facility fees, (the new rates go into effect July 1), how often is the facility cleaned,

what do the ticket sales from events pay for, what will happen if we do not receive the \$389,000 mill levy.

The regular meeting of the trustees of Townsend Schools was held with the following board members present: Shaun Scott, Marvin Reddick, and Kevin McDonnell (Kari Williams, Doug Saltzman – absent), Aubry Bair, Student Representative, and others: Marcia Ellermeyer, Lisa Larson, Jeanne Steele, Jason Noyes, Hugh Braaten, Brad King, Brad Racht, Sheri Heavrin, Andrea Johnson, and Pam Watson.

ATTENDANCE

Chairman Shaun Scott called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm and allowed for public comment.

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Johnson reported on correspondence: a letter from the Office of Public Instruction informing the District of a \$4,000 Graduation Matters grant.

CORRESPONDENCE

Marvin Reddick made a motion to approve the following consent agenda items:

- March 9, 2015 special meeting minutes.
- March 10, 2015 regular meeting minutes.
- March 23, 2015 special meeting minutes.
- April 7, 2015 special meeting minutes.
- Claims #21884 and #22083 for \$166,208.26.

APPROVE MINUTES

APPROVE WARRANTS

Kevin McDonnell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Aubry Bair reported on athletics and activities, distracted driving presentation, teacher appreciation, and National Honor Society cords.

STUDENT REP REPORT

Hugh Braaten, Jason Noyes, and Brad King presented options for Agricultural Education. Mr. Braaten gave his own experience in Ag-Ed and explained an Ag-Ed program. He stated that Broadwater County is a large agricultural community. As an agricultural employer in Broadwater County, he feels that the students are not being prepared in agriculture. He said there is a disconnect between Townsend School and the agriculture community. An Ag-Ed program would bring a connection to the community with community service. He stated that they would need a full-time teacher and an advisory board. Mr. King presented his background in Ag-Ed and FFA. He stated that there is great State support for Ag-Ed programs and the State CTE funding could be doubled. Jason Noyes also gave his background in FFA and Ag-Ed programs. He would like to see an Ag component in Townsend School. The Board and Administration said they would look into the possibilities of an Ag-Ed program.

AGRICULTURAL ED

Brad Racht, K-8 Principal, reported on community service, Smarter Balance/ CRT testing dates, Middle School band festival, 3rd quarter review, discipline and absences.

EI/MS PRINCIPAL REPORT

Sheri Heavrin, High School Principal, congratulated Julie Diehl and the Drama cast. She reported on: prom, Graduation Matters, Freshman Academy, and Smarter Balance testing.

HS PRINCIPAL REPORT

Superintendent Johnson reported on the 2015-2016 staffing, 2015-2016 facilities, legislative session, 2015-2016 budget information, technology, upcoming meetings and trainings, and mill levy election.

SUPT. REPORT

Kevin McDonnell made a motion to accept the following resignations: Amanda Cram – HS Teacher, Heidi Snyder – EL Teacher and Stephanie Ward – Radio. Marvin Reddick seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS

Sheri Heavrin stated that a committee conducted an interview with Clint Watson for the HS Boy's Basketball Head Coach and recommended to hire Mr. Watson as the head coach. There was some discussion as to who was on the committee, were the students asked if they wanted him as coach, was there public input, has this been thought out as far as longevity, is there a plan, and is there continuity between middle school and high school. Trustee McDonnell asked Superintendent Johnson what her recommendation was for the coaching position. She stated her recommendation was for Clint Watson. She concurred with the committee's decision. Marvin Reddick made a motion to approve the hiring of Clint Watson for Head Boys Basketball Coach. Kevin McDonnell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

HIRE B-BALL COACH

Upon Superintendent Johnson's recommendation, Kevin McDonnell made a motion to approve the summer feeding program. Marvin Reddick seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

APPROVE SUMMER
FEEDING

Marcia Ellermeyer, MUST Representative, stated that the rate increase for health insurance is 13.5%. She stated that there are not a lot of plan changes. There will be reporting required for the Affordable Health Care Act. Marvin Reddick made a motion to approve the MUST 2015-2016 Benefit Elections. Kevin McDonnell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

APPROVE MUST
INSURANCE

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman – Shaun Scott

District Clerk – Pam Watson