

**TREMONT COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #702**  
**MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING**  
**April 9, 2020**

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**Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.**

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

**Persons Desiring to Address the Board – None**

**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. Approval of agenda

Motion by **Sumer** to approve the consent agenda. Second by **Gierich**.

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

Motion Carried     7-0

**Correspondence Received** – Mr. Garrett received an email from the IESA that clarified the financial hardship the Association faces in light of the COVID-19 virus.

**Administrative Reports** – The principals were not in attendance, but all administrators provided written reports to the Board.

**Superintendent's Report** – The Superintendent presented a written report sharing that the TEF postponed the grant and scholarship sub-committee meetings scheduled for the week. They are following basically the same procedures used in the past, but doing things through a video or phone conference. Mr. Hinman met with the Faith Leaders in our community on March 17 to touch base on community needs and explain our procedures for lunch moving forward. All Tremont churches were represented along with one from Pekin. Their willingness to assist us was greatly appreciated and we've remained in contact. Weekend snack pack items have been included from these sources. He also shared that our district staff members have all been amazing. The last few weeks have been exceptionally challenging but everyone has been willing to help out and build this airplane while it's flying. Special shout out to our administrative team, lunch personnel, maintenance staff, and clerical folks. Thank you to the Board for providing the admin team with lunch and a care basket after spring break.

## **Old Business**

### **Information Items**

#### **The Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Tremont**

This issue has taken a backseat to the pandemic. Mr. Hinman had an initial conversation with Trustee Drew Scranton and Village President Bong shortly after our March meeting but nothing since the Shelter in Place.

#### **COVID-19 and School Closure**

- **Physical Needs of Students.**
  - On Monday, April 6, we served 141 lunches. That's been our high water mark. Total lunches served by our meeting will be slightly over 1500. The District has purchased items for weekend snack packs that will probably not be reimbursed. We are supposed to receive state money at the free/reduced rate of \$3.41 for every lunch served – regardless of need.
- **Academic and Special Needs of Students.**
  - This has been a work in progress. Mrs. McKune continues to hold IEP meetings electronically. She or her staff has reached out to all special needs families in our district. The job she is doing right now is incredible.
  - Teachers are reaching out to students and families. We are trying to balance the proper amount of work and have started to receive feedback. For the most part, I think we're on track with state recommendations while trying to walk that fine line between engaging work that's not overwhelming.
- **Community Needs.**
  - We've communicated a desire to help assist or facilitate any needs that arise in the community. To date, there hasn't been a lot of that to address because the churches are bearing some of this responsibility.
- **Non-Academic Issues in the Short-Term.**
  - The district is paying hourly staff through March 31 and finding work for aides, maintenance workers and cafeteria employees. Bus drivers have been given an option to work lunch delivery to take some pressure off our admin team who now have to focus on student/staff academic or emotional needs.
- **Future Considerations and Economic Impact.**
  - We are watching the property tax relief issue carefully. A delay in extensions would be challenging to District #702.
  - We anticipate flat EBF next year, a reduction in mandated categorical payments, and lower CPPRT receipts.
  - I am projecting a significant increase in those students who qualify for free and reduced lunches – possibly as high as 20%.

#### **July BOE Meeting**

We recommend continuation of our previous practice of foregoing the July BOE meeting. Given the circumstances surrounding the closure of school, it's probably more important than ever that Mr. Berry has a chance to really get a handle on things before a first meeting with the Board. At the same time, the issues of the past month may lead to the need for the Board to hold a special meeting for a yet to be determined specific action. Again, my encouragement would be for you to leave that decision to Dr. Sumer and Mr. Berry.

### **Action Items**

#### **High School Early Graduation Policy**

Motion by **Sumer** to approve the High School Early Graduation Policy as presented. Second by **Smith**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 7-0

### **New Business**

#### **Information Items**

##### **PRESS Plus #103 Policy Revisions**

Presented to you tonight for first reading. Mr. Hinman and Mr. Berry will go through these for final passage in May or June.

##### **GS Lunch Prices**

After consultation with Sonja Bolliger and her price index worksheet issued by the USDA, a price increase per meal was recommended of between .10 and .12 cents. Mr. Hinman talked with Sonja and Sean and our preference was to lessen the price discrepancy of .50 cents between the GS and MS/HS. per meal. Their recommendation will be to increase the GS meal .25 cents and keep the MS/HS meals the same price of \$3.00.

##### **End of the School Year**

The rules for Remote Learning allow for 5 days planning. To date, we've taken none and there are no current plans to utilize. If we are done for the year, we'd like to suggest the possibility of utilizing those 5 days at the end, which would create the last day of student "attendance" as Thursday, May 14. If by chance, students and staff can come back by May 1, we would go until the end of our previously planned year on May 21. The 5 days of planning would allow, if conditions are safe, the opportunity for teachers to be back in the building for shut down and planning purposes. Students might be able to come back and turn in laptops/chromebooks and any other materials.

##### **Hopedale Sports Medicine Agreement**

We are in the process of gathering the information from Hopedale and hope to have an agreement for you to approve in May.

### **Action Items**

#### **Consolidated District Plan**

Motion by **Kaiser** to approve the Consolidated District Plan as presented. Second by **Ropp**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 7-0

##### **Remote Learning Plan**

Motion by **Kilgus** to approve the Remote Learning Plan as presented. Second by **Sumer**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 7-0

### **Resignation(s)**

Motion by **Gierich** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Shari Scully to retire at the end of the 2022-2023 school year, per the current contract agreement. Second by **Smith**.

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

Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by **Ropp** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Kathleen Genard to retire at the end of the 2022-2023 school year, per the current contract agreement. Second by **Kaiser**.

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

Motion Carried 7-0

Motion by **Smith** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Louis Wicks to retire at the end of the 2022-2023 school year, per the current contract agreement. Second by **Ulrich**.

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

Motion Carried 7-0

### **Employment**

Motion by **Ulrich** to employ Benjamin Prather as a HS Special Ed Teacher for the 2020-21 school year, per salary agreement. Second by **Kaiser**.

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

Motion Carried 7-0

Meeting Adjourned: **8:12 p.m.**

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Volkan Sumer, President

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Renee Kaiser, Secretary