

TREMONT COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #702
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
August 13, 2020

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

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

Adjourned to Closed Session: 7:01 p.m.

Motion by **Sumer** to adjourn to closed session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10) other matters relating to individual students. Second by **Smith**.

Roll Call -	Ropp – yea	Sumer – yea	
	Smith – yea	Kilgus – yea	
	Kaiser – yea	Gierich – absent	
	Ulrich – yea		
		Motion Carried	6-0

Reconvened: 7:06 p.m.

Persons Desiring to Address the Board – None.

Consent Agenda –

1. Approval of previous meeting's 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 student handbooks
6. Designate depositories – Tremont Community Bank, First National Bank in Tremont and PMA Financial Network
7. Appoint District Treasurer – Jill Hellrigel
8. Approval of agenda

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

Roll Call -	Ropp – yea	Sumer – yea	
	Smith – yea	Kilgus – yea	
	Kaiser – yea	Gierich – absent	
	Ulrich – yea		
		Motion Carried	6-0

Correspondence Received – Tremont District 702 received a thank you from Tremont Rescue 702.

Administrative Reports – The principals shared written summaries of their building-level reopening plans. The reopening plans are included in the board packet.

Superintendent's Report – The Superintendent presented a written report sharing this year's opening days and how they will be different than a typical year. Mr. Berry will visit each principal's staff meeting to give a brief introduction, but then will step aside to ensure time will be spent preparing for the arrival of students. Institute Day activities will be primarily focused on preparations and training for remote learning, and back-to-school events are being limited or moved to virtual formats.

Old Business

Information Items

FY 20 Budget Finish

Auditors are starting their work on Aug. 17th. Mr. Berry's preliminary unaudited version of FY 20 figures are below and there are a variety of reasons for the results: The FY 20 budget that was approved in Sept. 2019 included an Ed Fund deficit of \$93,375 and the deficit grew significantly due to a combination of receiving less revenue and having excess expenditures. Fund balances are based on Treasurer's reports 6/30/19 vs 6/30/20:

FUND	6/30/19	6/30/20	Difference
Education	\$1,022,856	\$311,239*	(\$711,617)
Operations and Maint.	\$536,833	\$613,620	\$76,787
Transportation	\$108,546	\$111,443**	\$2,897
Working Cash	\$752,709	\$770,288	\$17,579
TOTAL	\$2,420,944	\$1,806,590	(\$614,354)

*According to FRIS, the state still owes us \$16,266 in Ed Fund revenue (Special Ed private facility and Driver Education).

**According to FRIS, the state still owes us \$70,437 in Transportation revenue.

Summer Projects Update

- High school hallway – Carpet removed from walls; newly painted walls to match other hallways
- Locker rooms – School Maintenance Grant project – Josh continues to make progress on refurbishing the two high school boys' locker rooms (Downstairs – New showers, new wall tile, new fixtures, new paint, new lockers around perimeter; Upstairs – New showers; Shower tiles, floor, and ceilings had new spray coating applied)

Solar Project Update

The village was not very excited about us putting solar panels on the ground in the NW corner of our property due to the fact that they still envision a road and housing development going in out there in the future. We need a variance from the village to install the panels on the ground, so they expressed some concern about that to our project manager (Jason Hawksworth). Jason worked out two alternatives. The first one was to put panels in the open area to the south of the MS/HS building. This was not something we were interested in because we use that area quite a bit. The second idea seems like a home run for everyone. Jason said that if they could add on a bit to the panels west of our parking lots from what they originally drew up, he could build us a carport for the busses and put panels on top, which is something we eventually wanted anyway. This would be cost-effective for them because having the panels way out in the NW corner was more expensive for them as far as getting the power from there to where it needed to go. Adding on west of the parking lot would require taking down and rerouting some fencing, but adding the carport area would keep all the panels in closer proximity to one another and therefore save on cost versus running them all the way out to the NW corner. He thinks the change would pretty much be a wash for them cost-wise. He has since confirmed that this plan would not add any cost to us.

Action Items

FY21 Tentative Budget

Motion by **Sumer** to adopt a working budget for FY21 as presented by Superintendent Berry. Second by **Kaiser**.

Yea – 6

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 6-0

Roofing Bids

Motion by **Kilgus** to accept the roofing bid from White Hat Industrial for \$425,637. Second by **Ulrich**.

Roll Call -

Ropp – yea
Smith – yea
Kaiser – yea
Ulrich – yea

Sumer – yea
Kilgus – yea
Gierich – absent

Motion Carried 6-0

New Business

Information Items

Staffing

We are concerned about sub availability and are trying to be proactive in reaching out to people who may be interested. We are getting interest from staff about helping as bus monitors for an hourly rate. This is one of the expenses associated with COVID-19. Mr. Berry feels we need hire a part-time nurse to help Paula Miller. He sat through a health department Zoom meeting and her job will be nearly impossible even for two people. Paula will be serving as our COVID-19 “Point of Contact” for the health department as well.

Enrollment Figures

These are still being finalized, but as of Monday, 8/10, the initial result of the remote, in-person, homeschool survey shows:

Grade School	TOTAL	PK	K	1	2	3	4
In-Person	228	5	30	44	38	54	57
Remote	21	1	3	7	5	3	2
Home school	27	1	3	7	5	2	9
	276	7	36	58	48	59	68
Middle School	TOTAL	5	6	7	8		
In-Person	194	40	60	46	48		
Remote	17	5	5	4	3		
Home school	15	6	4	4	1		
	226	51	69	54	52		
High School	TOTAL	9	10	11	12		
In-Person	241	57	69	63	52		
Remote	21	4	6	3	8		
Home school	5	2	3	0	0		
	267	63	78	66	60		

BOE Policy Updates – Press Plus Issue 104 & 105

Press Plus Issue 104 and 105 are in the board packet. They are information items now and we’ll vote to approve in September.

ESG Letter of Authorization

Mr. Berry has been speaking with our account executive from ESG about having them conduct a facilities review (Business Case Analysis) to help us identify and prioritize any future building upgrades or projects. This will become part of a “Master Plan” for our facilities that he has been planning to create. ESG will do this study for us free of charge with the understanding that they “have their foot in the door” should we request proposals for any of the work. We don’t pay anything for the study to be done and are not committing to any projects or expenditures.

Board Retreat

With everything going on, Mr. Berry thinks it’s premature to plan a specific date for a retreat yet, but the board discussed when a good time may be.

Action Items

Remote/Blended Learning Plan

Motion by **Sumer** to approve the Remote/Blended Learning Plan as presented. Second by **Smith**.

Yea – 6

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 6-0

Maternity Leave

Motion by **Smith** to approve maternity leave for Maggie Cullen as requested. Second by **Kaiser**.

Yea – 6

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 6-0

Resignations

Motion by **Ropp** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Brittany Hammerton as a 1st Grade teacher, effective July 20, 2020. Second by **Kilgus**.

Yea – 6

Nay – 0

Motion Carried 6-0

Employment

Motion by **Kaiser** to employ Sydney Smith as a Third Grade Teacher for the 2020-21 school year, per salary agreement. Second by **Ropp**.

Roll Call -

Ropp – yea

Smith – yea

Kaiser – yea

Ulrich – yea

Sumer – yea

Kilgus – yea

Gierich – absent

Motion Carried 6-0

Meeting Adjourned: **9:25 p.m.**