



REGULAR MEETING – November 18, 2015

A Regular Meeting of the Tech Valley Regional Technology Institute (Tech Valley High School), a joint venture of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga Counties, 900 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Albany, New York, and the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties, 10 Empire State Boulevard, Castleton, New York, was held on November 18, 2015 at the Tech Valley High School, SUNY College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering, 246 Tricentennial Drive, Albany, New York 12203. The meeting was called to order at 6:18 p.m. by Vice President Bradt.

PRESENT

John Bergeron
Jeff Bradt
Edward Brooks
John Hill
Marilyn Noonan
Carol Orvis
Charles Dedrick, Dist. Supt.
Gretchen Wukits, Clerk of the Board

ABSENT

Kevin Kutzscher
Lynne Lenhardt
John Phelan
Paul Puccio
Gladys Cruz, Dist. Supt.

GUESTS

James Church
Meghan Heimroth
Heather Nellis
Matthew Sloane
Lynne Wells
TVHS Parent

STAFF

James Niedermeier
Denise Zieske

Vice President Bradt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President Bradt noted the inclusion of an addendum at the Board members' places. It was moved by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Dr. Bergeron to approve the agenda with the addendum. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Orvis and seconded by Dr. Bergeron to accept the September 24, 2015 Reorganization Meeting and the September 24, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

It was moved by Dr. Bergeron and seconded by Mrs. Orvis to approve the following:

PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS (Resignation)

RESOLVED: that upon joint recommendation of the District Superintendents of Questar III and Capital Region BOCES, the resignation of Denise Zieske, Business Partnership Coordinator, be accepted effective November 30, 2015.

Ms. Zieske expressed her thanks to the Board for their support and said she would miss the students and staff at TVHS. She noted that in her new position at Schenectady Community College, she would be taking the place of someone who had served on the Business Alliance. She was optimistic that her future responsibilities would connect with TVHS.

Mrs. Noonan recommended that “with regret” be added to the resolution. Dr. Charles Dedrick, District Superintendent, Capital Region BOCES, shared the praise of Dr. John McDonald, NYS Assemblyman, for the commitment of Ms. Zieske to TVHS. Dr. Dedrick requested the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED: that upon joint recommendation of the District Superintendents of Questar III and Capital Region BOCES, the resignation of Denise Zieske, Business Partnership Coordinator, be accepted, with regret, and with thanks on behalf of the Board, administration and students of TVHS, effective November 30, 2015.

It was moved by Dr. Bergeron and seconded by Mrs. Orvis to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLVED: that upon joint recommendation of the District Superintendents of Questar III and Capital Region BOCES, the following per diem substitutes listed below be jointly appointed, with effective dates as noted. (Appointments)

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
James Foody	\$95/day	10/1/15–6/30/16
Karen Kirstein	\$95/day	10/1/15–6/30/16
Frank Russo	\$95/day	10/1/15–6/30/16
Amy Schrom	\$95/day	10/1/15–6/30/16

The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Dr. Bergeron accept the September 11, 2015 through October 30, 2015 Internal Claims Auditor Report as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

**INTERNAL
CLAIMS
AUDITOR
REPORT**

It was moved by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Dr. Bergeron to accept the Treasurer’s Reports for the periods ending September 30, 2015 and October 31, 2015 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**TREASURER’S
REPORTS**

It was moved by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Dr. Bergeron to approve the appointment of the following Business Alliance Members for the terms as follows. The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	(Appointments)
Miriam Dushane Managing Director	Linium	June 30, 2018	
Dr. Seema Rivera Assistant Professor STEM Education	Union Graduate College	June 30, 2015*	

*Sharing a seat with Catherine Snyder, Associate Dean, Union Graduate College

Mr. James Niedermeier, Principal and Chief Academic Officer, began his report by highlighting four significant items. He started by explaining the difference between last year’s program at TVHS and program offered this year. He provided details about the second year New Visions STEM program at CNSE. Mr. Niedermeier stated five students are participating and attend a half day at CNSE and a half day at TVHS. He outlined the college credits the students will earn upon completion of the program. Dr. Dedrick emphasized that this program fulfills the vision of TVHS. Dr. Bergeron asked who is providing the microbiology instruction. Mr. Niedermeier responded it would be done through projects with Dr. Murphy at CNSE. He continued with an overview of the Computer Science proposal with Siena College. The third area of the Principal’s Report focused on the process of reporting and sharing of student data with staff and its subsequent analysis--Data Driven School Improvement. Details were provided regarding the use of this analysis to assist at-risk students. Mr. Neidermeier concluded his report with a comparison and discussion of Project versus Problem Based Learning. Dr. Bergeron conveyed his thanks for the comprehensive report. Dr. Dedrick commended Mr. Neidermeier for his report and the Board concurred.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Mr. James Church, Director of Strategic Planning Initiatives, Questar III BOCES, began the Advancement Activity Report by highlighting notable contributions, among them the \$100,00 donation from former state Senator Joe Bruno for college credit courses and faculty staff development. Dr. Bergeron commented that there appeared to be a lot of flexibility within the donation. Mr. Church continued by stating that the Bechtel donation would contribute to the Robotics Program. He provided an overview of the 2015-16 legislative outreach activity. He drew the Board’s attention to the Honor Wall and installation of room plaques. Mr. Church also shared an update on discussions with SUNYA for physical education space. He stated it is expected space will be available from mid-April through mid-June, with the possibility for space full time next year. He also provided an explanation of the accounting of funds through the Foundation Board. Mrs. Orvis commented that the report was very exciting.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Ms. Denise Zieske, Business Partnership Coordinator, reported that the January meeting of the Business Alliance will focus on curriculum. She highlighted dedication of two plaques on the Honor Wall. Ms. Zieske continued by providing details on the opportunities for I-Term. Mrs. Noonan emphasized the importance of all students being exposed to everything. Mrs. Orvis stated the process is exciting for students. Ms. Heather Nellis, the new Communications Specialist at TVHS, was introduced.

**BUSINESS
PARTNERSHIP
REPORT**

Dr. Dedrick noted that the date of the March meeting, March 21, is the Thursday before Good Friday. He suggested rescheduling the meeting in order to accommodate faith observances. The Clerk of the Board will survey Operating Board members to determine an alternate date. In response to a question raised by Dr. Bergeron, Dr. Dedrick asked the Board whether there is a need to meet more frequently. Dr. Bergeron acknowledged that the Enewsletters from Mr. Niedermeier are helpful. It was agreed that there would be a discussion at the next meeting about the possibility of receiving the Principal’s and Treasurer’s Reports monthly, as well as additional information updates.

**DISTRICT
SUPERINTENDENTS’
REPORT**

Mrs. Noonan asked about the status of the Chinese Exchange Program. Mr. Niedermeier indicated he had discussed the program with the Foundation Board and that TVHS students would be traveling to China next year. Mr. Brooks noted the importance of financial data regarding securing students for TVHS.

**BOARD
DISCUSSION**

The following items are follow-up items for the next meeting.

**SUMMARY
ACTIONS**

- Possibility of more frequent Board meetings

It was moved by Dr. Bergeron and seconded by Mr. Brooks to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

January 20, 2016
Date

Gretchen E. Wukits
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Clerk of the Board