

# The Tuxedo Union Free School District

Tuxedo Park, New York 10987



*George Grant Mason School*

Ms. Nancy Teed  
*Interim Superintendent*

Ms. Dawn Cupano  
*Business Administrator*



*George F. Baker High School*

[www.tuxedoufsd.org](http://www.tuxedoufsd.org)

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## ***SUP'S SUMMARY***

### ***February 18, 2016 Board of Education Meeting***

Please see the most recent happenings of the Board of Education Meeting that was held on February 18, 2016. This summary is completed in order to provide information to the community in a timely fashion, enabling those who could not attend the meeting the opportunity to become informed of the discussions held.

- Mr. Schrammel, Mr. Margotta and Mr. Sorenson presented the Open House STEM Presentation to the Board of Education.
- The BOE approved the give back of (1) Emergency Closing Day since the weather has been unusually mild this winter and the district has not utilized allotted emergency closing days that have been built into the school calendar. On March 28, 2016, school will not be in session unless the district needs to utilize 4 emergency closing days prior to March 18, 2016. If the 4 days are used, school will be in session as a normal school day.
- The BOE approved the following individuals to the Tuxedo Union Free School District Board of Registration for the 2015-2016 school year at the hourly rate of \$11.00 per hour (not to individually exceed 9 hours): Dorothy Schmidt, Mary Petrosky, Joan Berish, Thelma Smith.
- The BOE approved the removal of Surplus Books as per District Policy.
- The BOE reviewed the Orange-Ulster BOCES Student Calendar for the 2016-2017 school- year.
- The BOE approved the Instructional Appointments as follows: Kathleen Hegarty (.4 FTE Guidance Counselor), Kathleen Hegarty and Jennifer Santucci-Spero (Substitute Teachers). Non-Instructional Appointments as follows: Christina Mints (Elementary Cafeteria Substitute and PT Bus Monitor). Resignations accepted are as follows: Christina Mints (Food Service Worker), Jennifer Biancorosso (PT Bus Monitor).
- The BOE reappointed Nancy Teed as Interim Superintendent of Schools for the District for the 2016-2017 school-year.
- The BOE approved child-care leave for Andrea Golden beginning May 5, 2016 – May 24, 2016.

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### ***Public Participation***

- Mrs. Shari Brooks- Mrs. Brooks commented on the flyer that was mailed to residents regarding the Adult Basketball Open Gym nights that will be starting. Mrs. Brooks shared that she was deeply hurt by this and the lack of consideration for the recreation department. Mrs. Brooks expressed that she has inquired with the district for the past 8-9 years about running such a program, and has always been told that she could not. Mrs. Brooks noted the mailer had one agenda item on it and the district could have put an event calendar and so many more items on it. She indicated she can reach many homes such as the northern part of town via email blasts. Mrs. Brooks also inquired as to whether or not the district is researching the

technology available to pursue an automated school lunch ticket system. Mrs. Brooks indicated that with all the technology now in the district, the schools should be capable of having such a system.

It was explained to Mrs. Brooks that there is more available gymnasium time now, which created the opportunity for the Adult Basketball Open Gym program to be initiated. Ms. Cupano has researched multiple automated lunch ticket programs such as NutraKids and there are fees associated with those programs. She noted that everything the district does in the lunch program is supposed to be self-sustaining. The district is researching the best options that will result in the least impact on our families in regard to passing along costs to them in order to sustain such programs.

- Mr. John McNamara inquired as to whether or not STEM Diplomas were available. He noted that different states have different criteria and New York State does not have the accreditation available yet. Mr. McNamara asked if the district was aware of how many states have the STEM Diploma or accreditation. Mr. McNamara also inquired about last year's budget gap and covering the reserves and if that topic has been covered. He asked if that money is being borrowed to cover the gap. He shared his concern that the district is spending more than it is taking in and there has to be a sensitivity to the taxpayers to live within our means.

The district does not have the number of how many states have the STEM Designation Diploma at this time. New York State has not finalized this credential at this point in time. The district is in the process of completing the budget now and is looking at programs and the departments. Regarding borrowing from the reserves, the district does have reserves.

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***Business Administrator Report: Ms. Dawn Cupano***

Ms. Cupano shared that she has completed Tuxedo's procedures on cash receipts and purchase orders in the Business Office manual. It is her intent to have the manual completed before the end of the year audit that occurs for the 2015-2016 school year. Ms. Cupano noted that in accordance with the Corrective Action Plan for the 2014-2015 audit, CBIZ, an asset inventory group funded through NYSIR, the district's insurance company, will begin a full asset inventory beginning 2/18/16 through the end of the week. The inventory will encompass all items within the district with a threshold of \$500, as per policy. Upon completion of the inventory appraisal, a report will be generated and given to the auditors for completion of GASB 34 reporting. She also noted that with the removal of surplus books from the district's inventory, the books are offered to our town library and other town agencies first.

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***Superintendent Report: Ms. Nancy Teed***

- Congratulations to Grace Donnelly on her acceptance into the Orange County Elementary All-County Orchestra! Grace is a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student and was one of fifty students auditioning for one of the nineteen Violin-1 Chairs.
- High school field trips are scheduled for Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will visit Caribbean Delights Inc. in Tappan, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> graders will visit Unilever Best foods in N.J. and 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students will visit Allendale Machinery Systems/Haas Factory Outlet in N.J. A planned trip to the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley was postponed due to a power outage.
- Family Movie Night is scheduled for Friday, 2/19/16 (Jungle Book)
- Family Movie Night is scheduled for Friday, 3/4/16 (Lion King \*movie has been changed to Star Wars-A New Hope rated PG)

- Preparations are underway for the Tuxedo HS Musical, The Wizard of Oz, to be held on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>. The directors and cast have been working so hard in their rehearsals and we invite everyone to come out and see the musical. Tickets are on sale for purchase through Booktix.com.
- The district has received a proposal from Healthy Kids Extended Day Program- Before & After School Programs. The district is working with Healthy Kids to review mandated requirements for the implementation of this before & after school program for the 2016-2017 school-year.
- High school students have just begun the job shadowing program at Live Technology located in Tuxedo, NY. Thank you to Mr. Wayne Reuvers and his staff for welcoming our students and continuing to collaborate with our advisors regarding job shadowing opportunities and internships with regard to our STEM Pathways.

**UPCOMING Additional Information:**

- The district Open Houses continue to generate more families visiting our schools. The district has received sixty-five inquiry calls, had forty families visit the Open Houses which is representative of forty-five students. Tuxedo is offering shadowing opportunities for prospective students as a “Tornado for a Day” and has had eleven students shadow our current student ambassadors. There are additional families signed up for private tours and additional shadowing appointments.
- An Open House will be held on Thursday, March 31, 2016 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the STEM Academy at the George F. Baker High School.
- A Tuxedo Community Open House will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.