

Truro School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2014

Regular Session

Present: Terri Humes, Michelle Jarusiewicz, Tim Dickey, Ken Oxtoby

Absent: None

Others: Brian Davis, Heather Fair, Hannah King, Lynne Ready, Stacy Rogers, Jeanne Michalowski, Amy Rogers, Drew Locke, Mary Abt, Deb Raymond, Laura Gazzano, Alison Waldo

1. Call to Order: Terri Humes called the meeting to order at 5:07PM.

2. Approval of Minutes: Ken Oxtoby presented a motion to approve the minutes of 1/24/14 regular session, second by Michelle Jarusiewicz, vote 4-0.

3. Communications: Mr. Davis reported that he and Terri Humes attended the budget task force meeting on 1/27/2014. Mr. Davis provided all members with copies of the NESDEC enrollment projections, he informed members that the numbers were based on the schools October 1, 2013 enrollment and is skewed as eight new students enrolled in January. Mr. Davis concluded by informing members of upcoming ELL requirements.

4. Dates to Remember: Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

5. Superintendent/Principal's Report: Mr. Davis updated members on the recent professional development program. Mr. Davis reported that a "Farm to School" person is being made available to teachers to help them maintain their school gardens. Mr. Davis concluded by reporting that currently the last day of school is 6/24/2014.

6. Visitor/Faculty Statements: Drew Locke expressed his interest in becoming a member of the committee.

7. Subcommittees: None.

8. Unfinished Business:

8.1 Parent Communication: Ms. Rogers provided members with a list of suggestions reiterating her previous statements about her perception of inadequate parent communication at TCS. Ms. Rogers also provided some materials from her son's current school as examples of what she feels is a better level of communication. In addition, Ms. Rogers also felt that TCS didn't allow for an adequate amount of recess time which proved problematic for her son. Members replied that the issues being presented were not really issues to be dealt with at the school committee level, but would be appropriate at the school council level, especially those issues involving technology. Mr. Davis reminded Ms. Rogers that all the website issues she had brought to the committee 18 months ago had been addressed and also pointed out that this is the very first complaint he has had about teachers and staff not answering emails or not answering them in a timely fashion. Amy Rogers, a parent of current TCS students informed members that she completely disagreed and that she had always found the level of communication at TCS to be exemplary and sighted examples. Amy Rogers also stated that she would not like to see the teaching staff's focus move from hands on teaching to keeping updated webpages. The school committee directed Mr. Davis to bring Parent Communication to the school committee and consider it as part of the next School Improvement Plan.

8.2 School Committee Secretary: Terri Humes nominated Michelle Jarusiewicz for school committee secretary, second by Ken Oxtoby, vote 3-0-1 with Michelle Jarusiewicz abstaining.

8.3 Land Swap: Mr. Davis informed members of an upcoming meeting with the Walsh family.

9. New Business:

9.1 Proposed Calendar: Mr. Davis provided members with the proposed 2014-2015 calendar. Members decided by consensus not to vote until they are able to review the Nauset district calendar.

9.2 Other: None

10. Executive Session: To discuss strategy in preparation for tuition agreement negotiations because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

11. Adjournment: Tim Dickey presented a motion to adjourn, second by Ken Oxtoby, vote 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:09PM

These minutes were approved by a vote of the Truro School Committee at their meeting on
_____, 2014

Respectfully Submitted:

Heather L Fair, Secretary

School Committee Member