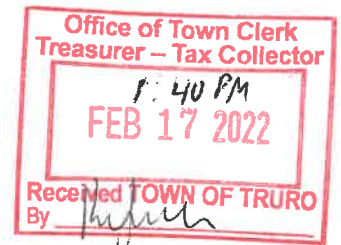


Truro School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2022



Present: Kolby Blehm, Christine Roderick (remote), Vida Richter (remote)
Absent: Kenneth Oxtoby, Edwige Yingling
Others: Stephanie Costigan, Patrick Riley, Heather Harper, Kathleen Rosenkampff, Kait Blehm, Alexandra Peterson

1. **Call to Order:** Kolby Blehm called the meeting and Public Hearing to order at 5:17 PM.
2. **Public Hearing for FY 23 Budget** - Superintendent Costigan gave a brief overview of the FY 23 budget. The FY 23 budget is five million, nine hundred eighty-five thousand, and five hundred forty-five dollars. This represents a seventy-seven thousand five hundred fourteen dollar increase over FY 22, a 1.31 % increase.
3. **Public Comment:** Kait Blehm spoke of a lack of communication to PK families that three and 4-year-olds are not eligible to participate in the test and stay program.

Alexandra Peterson spoke on the school's January 4, 2022, updated Health and Safety guidelines. Unfortunately, the guidelines do not mention that PK students are not eligible to participate in the test and stay program, and the administration did not inform parents.

4. **Approval of Minutes:** Vida Richter moved to approve the minutes of December 2, 2021, second by Christine Roderick, on a roll call vote 3 -0.

Vida Richter - yes
Christine Roderick - yes
Kolby Blehm - yes

5. **Dates to remember:** TSC meetings, January 27, 2022, and February 17, 2022.

6. Administrator's reports

6.1 Superintendent Costigan reported the DOE made K95 masks and rapid antigen tests available for all school staff. Masks and rapid tests were distributed to all staff on January 2, 2022, to be used before returning to school. The Covid Response Team met on January 3 to review the DESE guidance based on CDC quarantine time, reducing quarantine to five days from ten days. Absentee rates among students have increased. There was a report of a Covid positive student in a PK class. The Covid Response Team investigated the classroom status. It determined a positive case of Covid in the PK warranted having the eight children identified as close contacts be sent home to quarantine for five days. The administration understands that removing the test and stay for PK students caused a lot of frustration for families, and the administration sincerely apologizes for that. With the difficulty the school has had swabbing PK students and the administrative burden, it was determined that at this point in time, the test and stay program would not work in the PK setting. However, the Covid Response Team met again and, given the feedback from families, will reinstate the test and stay program for PK students. There are surgical and cloth masks available at school for students. It's up to families to decide what masks their child will wear. At this time, 43% of eligible Kindergarten - grade five students are fully vaccinated, and 19% have had one shot. TCS staff has a vaccination rate of 77%. Antigen test kits were distributed to all students today as part of a bulk purchase from the health departments of the four Outer Cape towns.

Enrollment - The two 6th grade students transitioned to new schools on January 3, 2022. TCS no longer has a 6th grade for this year. Staff members have been reassigned. TCS has three new students, and the total enrollment is

113 students. Given the needs of these students, an additional Educational Assistant is needed as a 1:1, and the job has been posted. There is also a posting for a part-time ESL teacher to meet the needs of the three ESL students.

6.2 Principal Riley reported three students had been identified as ESL students. Community partnerships with TCS have begun again. The students have monthly scheduled trips to the Truro Public Library. Sergeant Tom Roda and Chief Calise coordinated a read-aloud with TCS students. The officers read to all students, and each child received a gift bag. The Truro DPW has been instrumental in helping the TCS custodial staff with projects. The DPW delivered and installed a shed they did not use. In addition, they helped to install a new adjustable basketball hoop on the upper playground. Kim Possee is a liaison with Castle Hill, and interested students in grades 3 - 5 will be taking ceramic classes at Castle Hill twice a week for five weeks. Castle Hill would like to expand the partnership.

7. Subcommittees: None

8. New Business: Kolby Blehm read a letter from Jack Peak regarding regionalization. Superintendent Costigan asked to table her response until the next TSC meeting.

Cape Cod Collaborative would like to develop a Capital Reserve Fund to support the programming and services offered through the Collaborative. Approval of this fund will enable the establishment of a Cape Cod Collaborative Capital Plan. The approval of the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund would not commit our district to fund the Capital Reserve but would allow for funds to be voted into the Capital Reserve Fund by the CCC Board of Directors. Vida Richter moved to approve the establishment of the Capital Reserve Fund, second by Christine Roderick, on a roll call vote 3- 0.

Vida Richter - yes

Christine Roderick - yes

Kolby Blehm - yes

9. Unfinished Business: None

10. Other:

- The administration recommends a vote on having items declared surplus at the administration's discretion, so moved by Vida Richter, second by Christine Roderick, on a roll call vote 3 -0.

Vida Richter - yes

Christine Roderick - yes

Kolby Blehm - yes

- There is a half-day of Professional Development for staff scheduled for Feb. 4, 2022. However, the administration requests a full day of Professional Development for PK staff. Christine Roderick voted to approve a full-day PD for PK staff, second by Vida Richter, on a roll call vote 2 - 1.

Vida Richter - yes

Christine Roderick - yes

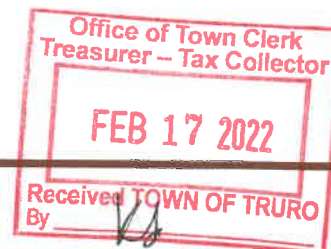
Kolby Blehm - no

- Two families gifted some staff member's gift cards in excess of \$50. Gifts in excess of \$50. are a conflict of interest for municipal employees. The families would like the gift cards to go toward purchasing materials for TCS. Christine Roderick moved to accept the donation of gift cards, second by Vida Richter, on a roll call vote 3- 0.

Vida Richter - yes

Christine Roderick - yes

Kolby Blehm - yes



- **FY 23 Budget:** Vida Richter moved to approve the FY 23 Budget of five million, nine hundred eighty-five thousand, and five hundred forty-five dollars. \$5,985, 545. as presented, second by Christine Roderick on a roll call vote 3- 0.

Vida Richter - yes

Christine Roderick - yes

Kolby Blehm - yes

11. Executive Session: Christine Roderick moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of continuing the discussion of; Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a) (2) to discuss finalization of the Level 3 grievance process previously heard from the Truro Education Association and then to adjourn to regular session for the purpose of adjourning, second by Vida Richter, Executive Session was entered at 6:10 PM on a roll call vote 3 - 0.

Vida Richter - yes

Christine Roderick - yes

Kolby Blehm - yes

12. Adjournment: Vida Richter moved to adjourn, second by Christine Roderick, roll call vote 3 - 0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM.

Vida Richter - yes

Christine Roderick - yes

Kolby Blehm - yes

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

January 27, 2022

Respectfully Submitted:

Kathleen G. Seidner

Christine L. Roderick

Truro School Committee Member

