

TRURO SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
May 22, 2018 5:15 PM
Truro Central School Media Center
AGENDA

Chair - Terri Humes
Vice Chair - Michelle Jarusiewicz
Tim Dickey
Drew Locke
Dennis Clark

Superintendent- Mike Gradone
Principal - Bob Beaudet
Director Special Ed.-Stephanie Costigan
Recorder-Kathleen Rosenkampff

1. Call to Order:

Reorganization - The Committee should reorganize for 2018 - 2019

2. Approval of Minutes: April 11, 2018

3. Dates to Remember:

May 24 - All school Concert 6:00PM
May 30 - June 1- 5th grade to Boston
June 2 - TEEA Fundraiser at the Vineyard
June 14 - Flag Day
June 19 - School Committee?
June 22 - Last day of school

4. Administrator's Report:

4.1 Superintendent/Mike Gradone - collective bargaining update; child abuse prevention & reporting; Lower Cape Community Access TV

4.2 Principal/Bob Beaudet - 6th grade update; security drills

4.3 Director Special Ed/Stephanie Costigan

5. Visitor/Faculty Statements:

6. Subcommittees:

7. Unfinished Business:

7.1 **Preschool-Early Childhood - As reported last month, we have accelerated discussion of our Preschool program, given steps our neighbors have made recently.**

Philosophically, we (staff) agree we support a tuition-free program for resident three- and four-year-olds. We know there are children for whose families the cost we presently charge is a burden, even though we're the lowest on the Lower Cape. That said, the current fees bring in approximately \$35,000 a year, which goes into the Town's General Fund. I have spoken recently with the Town Manager and her Assistant, and the Town Accountant. The only concern raised was the Town Accountant's hope that the receipts might be phased out over two years.

To that end, I have asked Lynne Ready (with her knowledge of the families involved) and Heather Fair to give me two alternatives to either the status quo (continuing fees at current levels) or eliminating them altogether. The first, which will bring in perhaps \$15,000, will waive fees for fours, and charge the current rate to three-year-olds. The second will make some nominal charge for fours, in addition to tuition from the threes, to accomplish the net \$17,500 the Town Accountant hopes to achieve. Lynne and Heather are still working on these options. I will forward them as soon as they are done.

FYI, we have proceeded to register next year's students on the usual schedule, so we already have a roster of children on board (whose parents signed them up under the existing \$32/day fee schedule). Most four-year-olds are enrolled for five full days a week. Threes often spend less time with us, sometimes as little as a couple of mornings a week.

If the Committee changes our practices, at least one vote will be in order - to waive fees for whatever age group you decide. There may also, depending on the details of the options yet to

come forward, be consideration of an additional conditional tuition waiver for children who qualify for Free or Reduced price lunches.

Lynne Ready will join us at the meeting to contribute her experienced, expert perspective to the discussion. If members wish any other information, please let me know.

8. New Business:

8.1 School Choice - The administration recommends the Committee's approval of the following school choice seats:

Kindergarten - 5 total	(15)
First grade - 2	(17)
Second grade - 3	(15)
Third grade - 2	(17)
Fourth grade - 5	(17)
Fifth grade - 3	(18)
Sixth grade - 8	(14)

We propose more Choice seats than in prior years because of declining enrollment, and recommend open seats at every grade to accommodate families with multiple children.

8.2 Stop and Shop Rewards - This is the fundraiser the supermarket chain has done for years. Vote to accept \$482.50

8.3 In the course of interviewing candidates for the administrative assistant to the Principal, Mr. Beaudet has asked if it might be a ten-month/school year position, rather than year-round. I have steadfastly defended the need for two secretaries in the office, but recognize that in many schools, just one of the positions is filled for twelve months. Mr. Beaudet will explain his proposal. If this change is approved, we would make some minor changes in the two job descriptions. A vote is required.

8.4 - Mentor program - Our forthcoming contract with the teachers will set a flat stipend for our mentoring program. It has been a while since this program has been reviewed and updated. I plan to take a graduate course this summer to prepare for this effort. I ask the Committee to reimburse the cost of the course (\$600). A vote is required.

9. Other:

10. Executive Session:

11. Adjournment:

Town Clerk

Posted: May 17, 2018

The matters listed above are those reasonably anticipated by the chair that may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

