

# Truxton Academy Charter School

## Regular Board Meeting

**December 12, 2022**

Notice was provided on our website, [www.truxtonacademy.org](http://www.truxtonacademy.org) on Monday, December 5, 2022.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Stuart Young at 7:01pm.

**Quorum as 8 trustees out of 9 total number of trustees was present as follows:**

**Members Present:** Stuart Young, Tom Brown, Cindy Denkenberger, Korinne L'Hommedieu, Dave Amberg, Sarah Stevens, Krysta Austen, and Matt McIntyre.

**Members Absent:** Beth Klein

**Others present:** Patty Dawson, Kerryanne Schenck, Leaf Carmer, Jessica Fallon, Jenny Hull, Marci Francis, Chelsey Lembo, Jasminique Harris. Kim Harris.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Public Comments**

Jessica Fallon asked to speak about ongoing issues within the day-to-day operations and communication of the team. The comments led to discussion regarding specific employees.

Krysta Austen moved, Cindy Denkenberger seconded, to enter Executive Session at 7:08pm to discuss personnel issues pertaining to a specific employee(s) inviting Kerryanne Schenck, Leaf Carmer, Jessica Fallon, Jenny Hull, Marci Francis, Chelsey Lembo and Jasminique Harris to remain. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Dave Amberg moved, Matt McIntyre seconded to exit executive session at 7:37pm. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting November 14, 2022 were presented and corrections given by Stuart Young. Hearing no objections, minutes were accepted as presented.

### **School Report**

Kerryanne reported that she has climate survey results and will resend with comments. The discipline report included 3 out of school suspensions and is attached. She listed three things to think about for next school year; PE and Spanish will have 7 classes per day with the addition of grade 6. One teacher will not be able to do both PE and makerspace. Feels that for sustainability, we may want to consider in 5-6 years expanding more grades 6-7-8. She has spoken with the Mayor of Cortland regarding Parker School as an option. She has been working with Ms. Capshaw on the survey for an ESSA grant. Tom asked for collection of any public comment on expansion ideas.

Kerryanne reported that MAP testing has resulted in Jenny Hull and Sara Petit-McClure collaborating and creating small groups – not RTI – for students who are falling just below average. Tom asked how they will measure growth. Jenny answered that in ELA, they are asking for written responses to reading. In math, short quizzes are being used to assess. The Curriculum Committee is currently discussing other options. Kerryanne reminded that they are still working to determine if gaps are a result of curriculum or teaching of

curriculum. Jenny reminded of absences playing a role as well. All agreed that illness is definitely affecting all schools.

Leaf commented on concerns about photos and students. FB posting needs to be re-addressed. Kerryanne confirmed that there are 9 students on the restricted list and will re-share list with teachers and reminders to be very careful on who is showing in photos.

### **Leadership Report**

Report not submitted. No meeting per Jenny. Still working with teachers individually.

### **Board Committee Report**

#### *Finance Committee*

Treasurer's Report attached. Cash position remains strong but has dropped over previous month. Some schools still have outstanding invoices, but Leaf is following up. Our financial position from July – November remains positive, but lower than intended. Over the next 7 months, we will just about break even. Staff status will possibly make changes.

#### *Finance Committee*

Report attached.

Tom Brown moved, Dave Amberg, seconded, to approve changes to Financial Controls as presented by committee. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Tom Brown moved, Korinne L'hommedieu seconded, to approve the consulting service of CPA Robin Blew to keep the QuickBooks chart of accounts current as recommended by our auditors at a cost of \$3000/year. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

#### *Personnel Committee*

No report submitted.

#### *Facilities Committee*

No report submitted.

#### *Curriculum Committee*

No report submitted.

#### *Marketing Committee*

No report submitted.

### **Special Committee Reports**

#### *Nutrition Committee*

No report submitted.

#### *Professional Advisory Committee*

No report submitted.

#### *Transportation Committee*

No report submitted.

#### *Educational Excellence Committee (Fundraising Committee)*

No report submitted. Dave reported that he and Erin met on a call. They are researching a grant that Kathie Arnold suggested and are working with Chris Nowak at ESF to collaborate by asking them to advise on proposal. It would be a great project for PhD students. Leaf asked to loop facilities in on the conversation for Levi's opinion. They are still working on an Arts programming grant as well.

*Rural Life Lab Committee (formerly Agriculture Committee)*

No report submitted.

Stuart moved to approve reports as given. With no objections, reports are approved.

### **Old Business**

Review and discuss Empire Charter Consultant 2022-2023 contract as previously reviewed and priced. Jill Shaheen agreed to add board training.

Motion by Tom Brown, seconded by Krysta Austen to approve the Empire Charter Consultant contact for services for 2022-2023 School Year for \$1380.00 as presented. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Collaborative discussion with Administration, Board of Trustees, Committee Chairs, PTO President and Volunteer Coordinator to discuss mission, existing structure and resources related to the school's governance and volunteer network. The group has designated a few members to meet. They will report at the January regular board meeting. The group agreed that we will work on getting a 5-year strategic plan in place with Empire Charter's help.

### **New Business**

ERC - employee retention credit. The finance committee will discuss and present recommendations to the board.

Chelsea Lembo asked how the students who won the "Beef Contest" would go about requesting their winnings. They voted to use it towards a 6<sup>th</sup> grade trip. Kerryanne answered that they would put forth a proposal when they are ready to request it. Leaf commented that it is earmarked but in the general fund.

Miss Bella stated that she had sent her daily schedule to board members asking for visits to follow her around for a day. She felt it would be beneficial to students, faculty and board members.

### **School/Community Items**

Dec 5-31 Truxton Academy Apparel Fundraiser  
Dec 5-16 Trinity Valley Baked Goods Fundraiser  
Dec 19 Educational Excellence Committee Meeting 6:30 pm  
Dec 21 Marketing Committee Meeting 7pm  
Dec 26-Jan 2 Christmas Break - No School

Motion by Dave Amberg, seconded by Krysta Austen to enter executive session at 8:20 pm, to discuss specific personnel salary issue. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Korinne L'hommedieu seconded by Dave Amberg, to exit executive session at 9:23 pm. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Brown, seconded by Cindy Denkenberger to approve the attached TA salary schedule as attached with the schedule being reviewed every 3 years and noting that the financial

projections of the school may impact this voluntary pay scale. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Stuart adjourned the meeting at 9:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Patty Dawson, Recording Secretary