

Truxton Academy Charter School

Regular Board Meeting

Feb 13, 2023

Notice was provided on our website, www.truxtonacademy.org on Monday, February 6, 2023.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Stuart Young at 7:03pm.

Quorum as 6 trustees out of 9 total number of trustees was present as follows:

Members Present: Stuart Young, Korinne L'Hommedieu, Dave Amberg, Sarah Stevens, Matt McIntyre, and Krysta Austen

Members Absent: Beth Klein, Tom Brown, Cindy Denkenberger

Others present: Patty Dawson, Kerryanne Schenck, Leaf Carmer, Brian Gabek, Courtney Harrington, Dawn Crandall, Rebecca Tice, Erin Kelly, Genevieve Mezzo

Pledge of Allegiance

Community Comments

Four attendees addressed the board with concerns. President Young thanked everyone for attending and sharing their concerns and advised that the Board would be addressing concerns with school administration as needed.

Motion by Korinne L'Hommedieu, seconded by Krysta Austen to enter executive session at 7:18pm to discuss specific personnel issues. Jill Shaheen is invited to join for consultation. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Krysta Austen, seconded by Korinne L'Hommedieu to exit executive session at 8:06pm. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting January 9, 2023 were sent out to all members for review. Hearing no corrections or objections, President Young accepted the minutes as presented.

School Report

Kerryanne MAP testing results. Reviewing the MEAN RIT SCORE shows growth from 2021 to 2022. The diamonds on the graph indicate where we should be. It is still not where we want students to be, but the gap is closing. ELA results are especially important as they show positive effects from the new curriculum. Winter scores will be available at next meeting. The discipline report shows one out of school suspension since our last meeting.

Leadership

Report attached. KA also reported that teachers present requested keeping attendance open to all staff. For the time being. We would also like to include BOT member at staff members. Matt McIntyre.

Board Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report attached. Korinne reported that our cash flow remains strong. Income statement shows we are down in revenue as our enrollment is down from previous projections. We are making up for some loss with favorable spending in our labor categories. We have forecasted for additional labor so we should be okay through the end of the year.

Finance Committee

Report attached.

Personnel Committee

No report attached. Krysta Austen reported that as discussed in executive session, the committee is recommending two existing employees hours increase and two new hires be approved by the board.

Motion by Krysta Austen, seconded by Sarah Stevens to approve increase in hours for Jamie McKinney and Sherry Herlihy. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Krysta Austen, seconded by Korinne L'Hommedieu to approve hiring Brian Gabek as our FT Student Achievement Coordinator and Latrise Hopkins for SPED Coordinator as our FT Special Education Coordinator.

Facilities Committee

No report submitted. Leaf reported that the barn submission is completed and will be mailed certified return receipt to NYSED tomorrow. Tom asked about the water leak in classroom. Leaf reported a temporary fix is in place and we are waiting on parts for full repair.

Curriculum Committee

No report submitted.

Marketing Committee

No report submitted. Patty reported that an informal discussion was had by a few committee members and it was determined that a Pancake Breakfast, Open House and Application event will be held on March 11, 2023 from 9am to 1pm. We may try to have a evening event sooner if it seems necessary.

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 they have been working on proposal for \$5 million in grants towards a new roof, solar on the roof, geo thermal heating/cooling system, etc. Roughly \$239,000 in matched funds would be needed. We have to consider this carefully. There is a significant amount of work needed to get this done correctly. We may want to hire grant writer for this one.

Rural Life Lab Committee (formerly Agriculture Committee)

No report submitted. Courtney reported that they are working on future plans for the 2023 garden and how to incorporate the students in the planning and execution. They also discussed programming protentional for upcoming literacy week. They are excited that plans are submitted for the barn and have begun discussing plans.

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

Old Business

Truxton Academy Team relations – Patty reported that the Executive Committee met to discuss issues raised by team members at our last board meeting. We are looking to schedule with Empire Charter Consultants at our next professional development day for small group workshops.

Renewal discussion – Tom asked if we have procured 3 bids for consultants for help in writing our renewal. We know that Empire Charter will be helping with the strategic planning which will lend to what will be needed for a proper comparison of services.

New Business

Kerryanne reminded Board members that the National School Lunch program review was rapidly approaching. She and Ashley have been working on the administrative part. The visitation will be March 24th. The Nutrition Committee should meet to discuss and review what is needed. We also need to have personnel and finance discuss teacher lunches as a benefit due to the surplus from Supply Chain Assistance funding.

SUNY CSI has scheduled our site eval. They will visit Truxton Academy May 24, 2023. The BOT Interview will be held that evening at 5:00pm. Pre-visit documents are due on April 28 by noon and the pre-visit call will be May.

Anna Hall from Empire Charter suggested we contact Bill Clark for Benchmark Review Services. Review would be completed on site March 9-10 with a 2-week turnaround for the final report. The cost is \$2750. Discussion was had to determine if this is needed. It was agreed that we would like Brian and Kerryanne to review and discuss further to make a final decision.

Motion by Matt McIntyre, seconded by Dave Amberg, to authorize spending \$2750 for Benchmark Review Services from Bill Clark if Kerryanne and Brian feel this is warranted after further review. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

School/Community Items

Feb 20-24 No School Winter Recess

Mar 11 Truxton Academy Pancake Breakfast 9-11am & Open House/Application Event 9am-1pm

Korinne asked about the Valentine's Day Dance. Kerryanne reported that they had great turnout of 50+ families!

Stuart reported that "Special Person's" day was terrific! The parking lot was full and he felt very positive feelings throughout the school that day!

Leaf reported that student artwork will be displayed at Cortland Reparatory Theater and pieces would be for sale. Proceeds would go toward further art enrichment.

Leaf will be out 2/20-2/24. Finance be aware regarding checks.

Felicia shared current application report via email. See attached.

Adjournment

President Stuart Young adjourned the meeting at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Dawson, Recording Secretary