

# Truxton Academy Charter School

## Regular Board Meeting

**November 14, 2022**

Notice was provided on our website, [www.truxtonacademy.org](http://www.truxtonacademy.org) on Monday, November 7, 2022.

Call to order 7:01

**Quorum as 9 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, Beth Klein, Krysta Austen, and Matt McIntyre.

**Members Absent:**

**Others present:** Patty Dawson, Kerryanne Schenck, Leaf Carmer

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public comments**

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting October 3, 2022 were presented and corrections given by Stuart Young. Hearing no objections, minutes were accepted as presented.

**School Report**

Marci Francis reported on 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – foundational skills, grammar, mechanics sentence structure, complete sentences, spelling patterns, etc. Narrative writing, “seed stories” start small and grow the story. Math, multiplication, boot camp on addition and subtraction, foundational items, getting back to multiplication. Reading comprehension and fluency, story works, science – structure of life – seeds and fruit, fertilization. Crayfish are coming on Thursday. Building habitat and preparing to care for them. Rosie the Bearded Dragon will return after Christmas Break. Long Term Project – sorting bookshelf, making more user friendly, labeling, etc. Stuart asked where did Marci find the “spelling patterns.” They are in the curriculum. Tom asked about help in Math. Marci expanded on her previous mention of review that the review took longer than anticipated and she feels strongly that this is the group hit hardest by COVID as they missed that crucial time in K/1 when those foundations would have been started. Krysta asked if 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students were getting homework. Marci answered some. Spelling words, reading and math facts are the type of homework given.

Kerryanne reported on Character Trait Program, State Test Results, see attached. Kerryanne reported that across the board scores are down. We are still below our counterparts. Especially on Math. Kerryanne has recommended a change in Math curriculum but not right now. We need to work toward the change. We want to see better state scores, SUNY wants to see better state scores, but they mostly want to see growth. We are showing growth. Kerryanne and Jenny are working on small group targeted instruction, with students not already in RTI or Spec Ed, to help with their growth. Jenny is currently observing teachers and co-planning. She is also covering so teachers can observe other classrooms. Crystal Barber from SUNY Cortland is working on professional development for special area teachers to help incorporate math into their classrooms. Kerryanne worked with Sara to put together.

**Leadership Report**

Reports attached. Beth reported discussion on academic rigor. Teachers are already implementing.

**Board Committee Report**

*Finance Committee*

Treasurer's Report attached. Cash position positive. Invoicing done; Lafayette, Marathon and Marcellus are behind on a payment. Enrollment drop caused loss in revenue, YTD we have saved on salaries. Projection is that we will be down \$15k. Projection on full staff, but seeing savings on healthcare expenses vs. what was anticipated.

*Finance Committee*

Report attached. The controls will require a board vote. We made changes to the control in minor aspects. no board level of control or oversight has been diminished. we allow state contract prices in place of 2 quotes. we now allow certain services such as lawn care to be sent to bid every 3 years instead of every year. We will review and approve at next meeting.

Korinne reported that Tax return was filed. Leaf confirmed that via electronic notification the IRS has received and accepted.

Tom Brown moved, Krysta Austen seconded to retroactively accept 990 form as prepared and filed. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

*Personnel Committee*

No report attached.

*Facilities Committee*

Report attached. Leaf reported a "thank you" to the McKinney Family for concrete repairs. Mr. McKinney wanted to share his appreciation for the dedication of our team toward his child and the growth they have seen.

*Curriculum Committee*

No report attached. Krysta asked about RRL teacher and intent to work with teachers. Kerryanne reported that the teacher will implement ag based PBL into classrooms. They are specifically working to increase in K and 1. Focus has been on learning foundation first.

*Marketing Committee*

No report attached. Patty reported that the Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser was a great success.

**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.

*Rural Life Lab Committee (formerly Agriculture Committee)*

Report attached.

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

**Old Business**

The matter of meeting to discuss our volunteer network and future collaboration was raised. No meeting has been set yet. Patty proposed an informal meeting with a few members from Marketing Team, Volunteer Network and PTO. A more extensive discussion can then follow at our next board meeting and include current committee structure and possible changes.

### **New Business**

Review Empire Charter Consultant 2022-2023 contract for \$1,380.00. Tom wants to clarify services with Jill Shaheen based on our needs, and we will review them at next month's meeting.

Motion by Cindy Denkenberger, seconded by Krysta Austen to enter executive session at 8:27pm, to discuss specific personnel salary. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Krysta Austen seconded by Dave Amberg, to exit executive session at 9:02 pm. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Brown, seconded by Beth Klein to approve hiring John Farnsworth as a full-time special education teacher. All if favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

### **School/Community Items**

Nov 16 Marketing Meeting 7:00 pm  
Nov 21 Education Excellence Committee 6:30 pm  
Nov 23-25 No School - Thanksgiving Recess  
Dec 5 Leadership Council

### **Adjournment**

Stuart adjourned the meeting at 9:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Patty Dawson, Recording Secretary