

Truxton Academy Charter School

Regular Board Meeting September 14, 2026

Notice was provided on our website, www.truxtonacademy.org on September 7, 2026.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Stuart Young at 6:37 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Members Present: Stuart Young, Krysta Austen, Tom Brown, Carol Woodhouse, Carol Eldred

Members Excused: Jeff Perry

Board Member Aaron Kinney arrived at 6:39 p.m.

Others present: Patty Dawson, Dr. Heather Collier, Kim Bull, Kimberly Murch and Andrea Dawson

Community Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: The August 10, 2026 meeting minutes were approved as written.

School Report:

Executive Director Patty Dawson reported:

- There are currently 90 students enrolled. There are three potential students to come.
- Families have moved out of the area, which resulted in losing eight students.
- Marketing events: A few Board members attend the Tully Community Days this past Saturday. Patty, Heather and Kim also attended the Virgil Farm Days. Cornell Cooperative Extension came to the corn roast last week. The Truxton Academy Charter School will be the only school-based 4-H group in the county.
- The first days of school went well. There were some transportation issues with Cortland which involved five students, but that is being worked out.

Principal Dr. Heather Collier reported:

- The staff was involved in two full weeks of professional development prior to the first day of school.
- Board member Aaron Kinney held a workshop on autism which was very well received by the staff.
- Dr. Collier feels the current staff has good collaboration with each other. The staff went on a field trip to visit the Outpost, Trinity Valley, Twin Oaks Farm, and Tinker Falls.
- There is great teamwork on project based learning, animal, garden and high tunnel care.
- There was one resignation prior to school starting. Position was filled and new hire was able to attend second week of PD. New hire to be approved during Executive Session.

Committee Reports

Academic Committee - Tom Brown reported. The Committee met on August 31, 2026.

- Notes from the meeting were emailed to all Board members.
- Per committee member Kim Bull improvement in student learning is shown by trending internal test results.
- Behaviors in the classroom are being addressed through classroom management and improved academic rigor; Training for new teachers and family involvement as well.
- Moving to Amplify for ELA and Math. Using Boost Reading and Desmos math.
- Dr. Collier is developing a plan for classroom leadership.

Financial Committee - Tom Brown reported that the committee met on September 1, 2026

- The notes from the meeting last week were emailed to all Board members.
- Two school districts have back billing to get paid.
- Current billing it out to school districts.
- The school nutrition program now has it's own account to use for revenue/payables.

- A renewal application Finance interview with SUNY CSI will be held via Zoom on Monday, October 5, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
- ESSA 2026-2027 Grant has been submitted.

Operations Committee - Tom Brown reported that the committee met on September 1, 2026.

- The notes from the meeting were emailed to all Board members.
- Considering a fall date for the annual Gala. Planning meetings to start soon. Final numbers for the last gala are not available yet.
- Part-time custodian position is still open.
- Working on more marketing.
- Price of heating oil is still a concern.
- Network switch over is finished.
- Cyberpolicy Plan First Information Protection Agreement will be voted on at the next meeting.

All committee reports were approved by the President as submitted.

Old Business

- Board members are encouraged to review the Benchmarks on the agenda each month.
- Tom Brown would like to get the staff gift cards and asked the Board members if he should contact the Outpost or Trinity Valley. The Outpost was used most recently so he will contact Trinity Valley.

New Business

President Young read a letter of resignation from Board of Trustee member Korinne L'Hommedieu. Care for a family member is not allowing her to continue on the Board. The Board accepted this resignation.

Community Events

- The events listed on the meeting agenda were reviewed.
- Patty Dawson is requesting presence/help at the Kid Zone at the Pumpkinfest in Cortland on October 3 and 4.

Executive Session

Carol Woodhouse made a motion at 7:19 p.m., seconded by Carol Eldred, to move into Executive Session to discuss the details of medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Executive Director Patty Dawson was invited to stay. All in favor. Carried.

Public Session

Carol Woodhouse made a motion at 7:25 p.m., seconded by Krysta Austen, to approve to hire Sara Potter as a full-time co-teacher for grades 5 and 6. All in favor. Carried.

Adjournment

Carol Woodhouse made a motion at 7:33 p.m., seconded by Krysta Austen, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Carried.

The next meeting of the Truxton Academy Charter School's Board of Trustees will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the school on October 19, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Dawson

Andrea Dawson
Recording Secretary
Truxton Academy Charter School
Board of Trustees