

Truxton Academy Charter School

Regular Board Meeting *DRAFT*

November 13, 2023

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

Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 7:08pm by President Young.

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

Members Present: Stuart Young, Korinne L’Hommedieu, Krysta Austen, Cindy Denkenberger, Carol Woodhouse, and Tom Brown.

Members Absent:

Others present: Patty Dawson

Pledge of Allegiance

Community Comments

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting Regular Board Meeting October 16, 2023, were sent out to all members for review. Hearing no corrections or objections, President Young accepted the minutes as presented.

School Report

Patty reported that the current data dashboard should be reviewed, and goals revised during next BOT training session/retreat. Heather is reviewing assessment data and discussing RTI needs with teachers to make sure we are filling gaps for students. Our original plan for RTI was not rolled out the way we wanted and was over complicated. Teachers are handling academic needs in classrooms with support from TA’s as needed for push in/pull out sessions. Behavioral data is being tracked and will be reviewed with both Cyndi Pratt and Kate Shaw to make sure we have an effective plan to move forward with. Heather is working on updating our written procedures as well. We will continue to update systems as we make improvements.

Board Committee Reports

Treasurer’s Report. Cash flow – our bank balance is \$75k and will be down vs what was budgeted by approximately \$76k. Tuition is still due from Cortland for invoice 6 of 6 for SY22-23 as well as 1 of 6 and 2 of 6 for SY23-24. We are following up to see what is causing non-payment. November billing will go out to districts this coming Friday. The ERC money received will help offset our deficit. Grant money showing in currently in the account is from last year cafeteria funding and a donation for training which is scheduled in January 2024. Projecting for end of year, we should be okay, barring any major expenditures that have not been planned for. Available cash on hand is a conservative representation, revenue from tuition and food service, should be okay. Tom mentioned a need to plan for a healthcare increase as a higher rate (12%) is expected in the next two years. We should consider this when we plan for our salary structure review.

Motion by Tom Brown, seconded by Korinne L’Hommedieu, to accept the 990 forms as prepared by Heveron and to approve to submit. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Finance Committee

Report attached.

Personnel Committee

No report submitted to date. Carol did report that there is an interview scheduled this Friday for an applicant for the 2nd grade teaching position. We have other applicants to review and schedule. Allison Mastroe has committed to staying until Christmas break as our long-term Sub. Debbie Perine has joined as a substitute for the front office and will work as needed to assist with billing and HR paperwork.

Motion by Carol Woodhouse, seconded by Cindy Denkenberger, to accept the resignation from Head of School, Kerryanne Schenck, effective 10/20/2023. All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

The personnel committee has proposed a plan to establish a special committee to find a new instructional leader. The committee should be board based but include other qualified members. President Young appointed Carol Woodhouse to chair this committee. The focus will be on finalizing the job description to include the important, necessary qualifications needed. Time line will also play a factor in how to manage the transition as it may take a while to find the right person to fill this position.

Tom and Patty will look into options for interim positions and consultants to fill in during the transition, focusing on what tasks/duties will need the most attention.

Facilities Committee

No report submitted to date.

Motion by Tom Brown, seconded by Cindy Denkenberger, to approve attached Resolution 2023-1, a resolution accepting grant money and defining how it will be spent to cover all costs associated with the planned small animal barn, as presented. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Patty reported that the high tunnel and small animal barn are both in full swing and that we are looking to plan groundbreaking / ribbon cutting ceremonies to include media, community and school stakeholders. More information will be shared as events are planned.

Tom reported that surrounding districts are offering to do inspections and checks as needed for our bus. He is very pleased with this support.

Curriculum Committee

No report submitted to date. Cindy shared that her daughter in law works with a Rochester elementary charter and has offered to help with CKLA & iReady, the assessment data specifically, for our teachers. We will connect and work out availability and how that will look.

Marketing Committee

No report submitted to date. Patty reported that Marketing did meet and is in the works for a direct mailer. Also, we have connected with a new intern, Sam McAvoy to help with our website and social media campaign.

Special Committee Reports

Nutrition Committee

No report submitted to date.

Professional Advisory Committee

No report submitted to date.

Rural Life Lab Committee (formerly Agriculture Committee)

No report submitted to date. Tom asked about RLL and how to get committee back up and active. Patty reported that Jamie is fully aware of where we need to go. We are excited to bring new board member Jeff Perry to our team in January and look forward to his participation. We will reach out and reengage parents to join as well.

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

Old Business

Annual Audit was received. Accepted preliminary version last meeting, no changes.

SUNY Visit update – we are looking at options to schedule a training session and retreat to work out long term strategic planning. We will discuss with Bill Clarke and also touch base with Jill Shaheen for options.

New Business

Motion by Korinne L’Hommedieu, second by Tom Brown, to approve Jeff Perry as a new Board Member, effective January 2024. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Homer BOE Public Hearing regarding our renewal application - November 14 at 6:30pm at the Homer Intermediate School cafeteria. Cindy Denkenberger shared concerns that parents received report with financial facts. We should have people available to attend and also, we should be reaching out to community stakeholders. Cindy also proposal BOT members re-establish the outreach to State and County legislators in support of Truxton Academy as many of our political leaders and districts have changed.

Patty reported on an SCA “Wear your Truxton Academy Pride” ongoing fundraiser - shirts, jackets, hats, and more. Go to www.uniformpro.com click “Contract Sign-in” at top right, then enter Truxton as code.

School/Community Items

NOV 14 Bill Clarke visit

NOV 14 Public Hearing at Homer Intermediate Cafeteria 6:30pm

NOV 15 Hawk Creek Wildlife Center visit

NOV 16 Shipwreck Golf Family Night 6pm

NOV 20 Small Animal Barn Delivery

NOV 20-21 Child Safety Matters (Erin’s Law) Miss Kate will be present

NOV 20 Pheasant Release – all school walking field lesson 2pm

NOV 23-25 NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING

Adjournment

President Stuart Young adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Dawson
Executive Director