

Truxton Academy Charter School

Regular Board Meeting

June 9, 2025

Notice was provided on our website, www.truxtonacademy.org on June 2, 2024.

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by President Stuart Young at 7:12 p.m.

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

Members Excused: Korrine L'Hommedieu

Others present: Scott Anderson, Patty Dawson, Kim Bull, Andrea Dawson

Community Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2025 meeting as presented. All in favor, approved.

School Report: Executive Direction Patty Dawson presented the report.

- Current enrollment is 80 students. Attendance is holding steady. One student is now Home Schooled and will not be returning next year.
- There are 27 new applications and admin is in the process of confirming their acceptance.
- There has been one part day suspension and one full day out-of-school suspension for two students.
- The staff have all received their offer letters and all but three have been returned. One staff member is definitely leaving and there will be at least one vacancy. There are candidates for the vacancy.
- Principal Scott Anderson reported that the final round of assessments will be this week and he will have the results at the July Board of Trustees meeting. The State testing results will not be available until September.

Board Committee Reports:

Academic Committee Report

Jeff Perry reported. The Academic Committee met May 19, 2025

- SUNY items were reviewed. Scott received a letter from SUNY with positive feedback.
- Staff improvement is all good.
- Tom Brown would like to make a data entry position for testing results so Scott doesn't have to spend time doing this. Need to figure out funding for such a position.
- Through IReady- fluency and comprehension need work.
- IEP's for incoming students need to be discussed with home districts prior to the student entering school so the student has proper services available.
- The committee would like to disperse some administrative work from Scott to faculty. They feel this would make the school a stronger unit.
- Project Based Learning continues to grow. Foss Science kits will be used along with existing labs in Science.
- Summer school was a discussion, but there is no funding to make it possible this year.
- Professional Development was questioned by a Board member. This will be handled in house to better customize what is needed. School calendar days are limited for professional development as we have to work within the other districts transportation schedule.

Financial Committee: Tom Brown reported. Reports were attached to the meeting's agenda. The committee met today and those minutes will be shared at the July meeting. Action Items for personnel will be taken in Executive Session.

- Tom presented the 2025 -2026 school budget for review. The Small School Rural Achievement Grant will be drawn down to help balance the budget.
- The budget is based on a school enrollment of 97 students.
- We have a quote for the 2025-2026 NY Charter Schools Association membership renewal. He would like to be able to pay this invoice now as it is cheaper to do it early.

There was some discussion amongst the Board prior to voting on the budget.

A motion was made by Carol Woodhouse, seconded by Jeff Perry to approve the 2025-2026 Truxton Academy Charter School budget as presented. All in favor. Carried.

A motion was made by Tom Brown, seconded by Jeff Perry to approve the quote for 2025-2026 to the NY Charter Schools Association membership. All in favor. Carried.

Operations Committee - Tom Brown and Patty Dawson reported. The minutes of the committee's meeting were attached to this meeting's agenda email. Also attached to the email for tonight's meeting was a proposed Board of Trustees meeting schedule for approval.

- Jim Brown has completed step one of the Class C Water Operator license.
- Dairy Parade went well with a lot of students joining our float. Plans are in the works for next year's entry.
- School's Cans and Bottles - Patty contacted Chris Crossway who contacted Little Tags Foundation. The Little Tag Foundation volunteers cleaned up the bins and took the bottles and cans as a donation from the school.
- Jeff Perry stated Superior Recycling on Route 281 in Cortland would take the school's bottles and cans. They need a contact person to mail a check to when the bottles and cans are returned. Patty will reach out to them.
- Bus Rental Agreement has been sent to legal for review.
- Rural Life Lab looks good and so does the garden.

A motion was made by Tom Brown, seconded by Jeff Perry to approve the proposed Board of Trustees meeting schedule for 2025-2026. All in favor. Carried.

Old Business

The Gala held on May 17, 2025 went well. It was well received by those in attendance. There weren't a lot of parents or students present. A follow-up meeting with the committee will be scheduled, thank you's need to be done and setting a date for next year's gala will also be set. The total profit is not known as a few invoices have still not been received.

New Business

- Tom Brown has educational material with regards to skin protection
- Tick checks are being done regularly with the students at school
- There are four Trustees to be voted on for a new three year term:
 - Carol Woodhouse
 - Tom Brown
 - Krysta Austen
 - Korinne L'Hommedieu

A motion was made by Jeff Perry, seconded by Stuart Young, to approve the slate of Trustees for a term starting with the 2025-2026 school year and ending with the school year 2028-2029. All in favor. Carried.

A motion was made by Tom Brown, seconded by Krysta Austen to elect new officers of the Board of Trustees at the July meeting as well as reappointing the recording secretary. All in favor. Carried

Board member Jeff Perry will be unavailable for the July 14 and August 11 Board meetings. Discussion of moving July's meeting to the 7th and August's meeting to the 18th was held. Definite dates will be given to Board members soon. There was also a discussion of moving the Board meeting nights to Tuesday instead of Monday. More discussion on this subject will be held as well.

School/Community Events

Upcoming school and community events were listed on the Board's agenda and were reviewed by Patty Dawson. June 20 is the school's field days, June 23 is the moving up day ceremony and June 25 is the last day of school for students if any Board member wishes to attend. The Hiawatha is hosting a "last day" for teachers as well.

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Motion made by Tom Brown, seconded by Krysta Austen, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss details of medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation and have Executive Director Patty Dawson included in Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.. All in favor. Carried.

Motion was made by Carol Woodhouse, seconded by Krysta Austen, to resume Public Session at 8:20 p.m. All in favor. Carried.

Motion was made by Carol Woodhouse, seconded by Krysta Austen to accept two new hires, Patti Walts for PT bookkeeper focusing on Grant Fund Accounting and Keira Whitmore for PT bookkeeper for billing and reconciliation as presented. All in favor. Carried.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. was made by Carol Woodhouse, seconded by Jeff Perry. All in favor. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Dawson
Recording Secretary