

THETFORD TOWN SCHOOL
DISTRICT
Tuesday, October 9, 2019
Thetford Elementary School

DRAFT
MINUTES

School Board Members: Shannon Darrah, Megan Snider, Charlie Buttrey, Julie Acker, Donna Pluta

Administration: Bruce Williams, Keith Merrick (6:52)

Strategic Planning Committee: Delia Clark (Facilitator), Sara Bailey, Kate Hill, Nicole Bell, Leif LaWhite

TA Board: Donna Steinberg

Shannon Darrah convened the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

AGENDA REVIEW: Agenda approved as amended.

MINUTES REVIEW: MOTION: (Buttrey/Snider) moved/seconded to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2019 Board Meeting (unanimous approval).

STRATEGIC PLANNING GROUP/KICK OFF THE PROCESS:

*What would the board like to see in the plan? Different buckets might include:

*The group is charged to come up with plans and bring to TTSD

- Collaboration With TA
- Sustainability of enrollment
- Policy
 - TA's buckets: Academics, Student, Faculty, Community, Futures, Leadership.
 - Look at our : Missions, visions and values
 - K- 12 involved: Obligation to Special Ed. services at TA get the services they are entitled to.- TA is 5 year agreement.
- Curriculum

- Questions regarding what is SU responsibility vs. school areas of innovation
- Some redundancy due because we work together
- Larger responsibility of SU
- Changing social emotional demographics of kids-how do we change the school to respond to those challenges.
- Complex child/trauma informed/IEPs/ 1 : 1s/MTSS
- Community engagement- how to regularly engage them and have them take pride. What kind of engagement? Reaching out through the list serve.
- Foster and make sure that the relationship gets the attention it deserves. Also relationships with neighboring (regional) programs we send to kids to
- Town plan- still in draft- has a very long section on education- Two Rivers- Regional planning commission required to have an education section, yet schools never know about it
- Delia has a copy of the old strategic plan
- SU is responsible for curriculum framework and the priority standards, for both S-E and instructions. At the school level is embedded unit of study. Room for autonomy at the building level to develop stuff

The buckets should have rubrics: so progress can be seen or not, and carried over to the next plan if needed. It needs to be measurable

Timeline- hopefully by July 1st, but it is more important to be done well rather than fast.

Committee released to meet together.

REVIEW OF ORDERS: No items to review.

- Discussion regarding petty cash-very little money is actually in it, and is primarily used for postage
- Board resolution- Tracy Borst is trying to clean up the signatories.
- TA tuition is late due to taxes not being due until October 15, 2019

PUBLIC COMMENT / CORRESPONDENCE:

- Correspondence from VEHI re: someone attending November 8th meeting to represent TTSD in voting process. No one is attending.

REPORTS:

- PRINCIPAL REPORT:
 - Last Friday teacher in-service day. Cate Beaton came and spoke about “Verbal De-escalation” in the morning, and in the afternoon teachers spent time with their teams of multi-age classroom teams. Ben LaRoche and Laura Sharpless went over to TA to talk about math.
 - Had last lunch with Carrie from TA.
 - Discussed Principal in the SU with PhD.
 - Continuing Security Meetings with Fire and Police Departments.
 - Open House last Thursday went well- in future the School Board would be invited
 - School newsletters should be sent to School Board members and OESU
- OESU REPORT:
 - Emilie’s evaluation - email Angeline how they thought she did. Next year VSBA will do - \$1000 for them to do it next year. Also email re: strategic plans ideas for OESU
 - Negotiating team meeting tonight re: Bradford and Newbury, some are unionized and some not, pay grids differ.
 - OESU more streamlined since consolidation? Not so much yet.

DISCUSS BUDGET TIMELINE AND PLANNING:

- Keith spoke about the pre-audit review of FY19.
- Emilie sent proposed budget timeline from Lori, first expense budget draft on Nov. 12, the second on Nov 26, and then the third budget draft and tax worksheet using the prior years equalized pupil incentive spending on Dec 17. Trustees should be invited to meeting on Dec. 17, with the tuition rate. Keith said it will take awhile for the state to determine equalized pupil.
- We are 24 students lower than put into the budget. 75% of deficit is Special Ed.
- Final draft needs to go to the printer by 1/27/20. To mailboxes by Feb. 19 2020.
- Sign warning by mid-late January 2020.
- ? re: who’s up for re-election

LUNCH PROGRAM DISCUSSION:

- Bruce provided Blue Mtn breakfast and lunch program figures
 - Provision 2 (Per plate cost) - paying for everyone's lunch. Percentage of F&R lunch is locked in for three years.
 - Aggressive estimate at high levels may be around \$70,000
 - Separate article for initiative

Charlie is meeting with committee of the town trust fund to discuss summer lunch program (Joe Tofel, Pril Hall, Doug Hoffmann)

TA lunch program is off the USDA, not offering F&R lunch program so revenue is down. Strict regulations of how many veggies, carbs, protein, etc. Some schools are going to Abbey Group.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION: (Snider/Buttrey) moved/seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m. (unanimous approval).

FUTURE MEETINGS:

10/22/19 Thetford Town School District Meeting 6:30 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY
SUBMITTED,

Ginni Balch, Board Clerk

These minutes are not official until approved by the School Board.