

THETFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

December 29, 2020 via Zoom

Approved Minutes

Shannon Darrah convened the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

PRESENT:

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

Principal: Chance Lindsley **OESU:** Bruce Williams, Linda Metcalf

Staff/Community: Tippi Oshoniyi, Laura Sharpless, Kate Hill

Agenda Review: Move budget up in discussion so Linda Metcalf doesn't have to stay for the whole meeting.

Review and Approve Minutes: MOTION (Acker/Snider) to approve the minutes of 12/08/20. Unanimous.

Review of Orders: Acker sent out the payables register just prior to the meeting.

Public Comment /Correspondence: none, it's been very quiet.

Budget and Draft Tax Worksheet Review of 3rd Draft of FY22: Williams and Metcalf led discussion

- Biggest increase is TA tuition - 170 students presently, 182 for next year, budgeted for 187. Should we change it to 183-185?
- Does not include final OESU assessment
- Decrease \$150,000 and it will be in the right direction. Williams thinks there is room to make the budget go in a better direction
- Williams thinks we can aim toward a more non-COVID scenario
- Foreign language is back in the budget
- Buttrey questioned that the revenue in 2018-19 was a million dollars, and now it is around \$300,000 - it was the year after SPED move to OESU so that reimbursement (revenue) is realized at the SU level now
- Williams - there is no practical reason to have the \$50,000 cushion for TA tuition, so suggests cutting down the number of excess budgeted TA students.
- TA tuition is going up 1.5%
- Current proposed budget #3 is 2.39% increase which is just about flat. We are at the mercy of the tax rate worksheet
- Go back and check personnel structure with Lindsley
- Have a 2 student cushion for TA instead of 5?
- Check out the OESU assessment?
- Review again and bring the numbers down - we should be able to get below the excess spending threshold
- Discussion around the free lunch program for next year
- Further discussion ensued. Will plan to meet on the Jan 7th at 5:30pm to discuss the budget

Reports:

Principal Report (Lindsley)

- Two things: The cohort has been going well
- There was another all-school celebration of PBIS. Sara Bailey has done a nice job of leading the implementation of the program and the results are positive

Letters of Interest for Volunteers of the Joint Energy Committee: no new letters have been received

Continued General Residency Requirements Discussion:

Buttrey contacted Borst, but has not heard back from her. The thought is that if TA does it we should also do it. Could the form be pulled from TA?

Other Business:

Annual Report

- Talking with Ben Merrill, Lindsley and Carrie Brennan - a resilience and creativity theme has emerged
- The last date for submissions is January 20, out for mailing Feb 8, to be received in the mail by the 12th
- Date to sign the warning TBD - Darrah will follow up with Borst

Executive Session – Student Matter:

MOTION (Buttrey/Acker) to find that the premature general public knowledge regarding a student matter would place the board at a substantial disadvantage because it would reveal confidential information and possibly identify a student. Unanimous.

MOTION (Buttrey/Snider) to enter into executive session to discuss a student matter at 7:30pm. Williams and Lindsley were invited to participate. Unanimous. Out of executive session at 8:11pm.

No action taken.

MOTION (Snider/Pluta) to adjourn at 8:12pm. Unanimous.

Minutes Prepared By Ginni Balch, Minutes Clerk

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Acker, Board Clerk

FUTURE MEETINGS:

1/7/21 Thetford Town School District Meeting 5:30 pm to continue budget discussion

1/12/21 Thetford Town School District Meeting 6:30 pm