

THETFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 9, 2021 via Zoom

Draft Minutes

Emilie Knisley convened the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

PRESENT:

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

Principal: Chance Lindsley

OESU: Emilie Knisley, Bruce Williams

Community: Kara Cushman, Eloise Ginty, Laura Covalla

Staff: Tippi Oshoniyi, Ashley Mousley, Phil Chaput, Lauren Lacasse, Sarah Atherton

Board Reorganization:

Position	Nominee	Motioned/Seconded	Outcome
Chair:	Darrah	Buttrey/Snider	Unanimous
Vice Chair:	Buttrey	Snider/Pluta	Unanimous
Clerk:	Acker	Snider/Pluta	Unanimous
OESU Rep:	Buttrey, Snider, Pluta	Acker/Darrah	Unanimous
TA Rep:	Darrah	Buttrey/Pluta	Unanimous
OESU Policy Committee:	Acker	Buttrey/Snider	Unanimous

Agenda Review Darrah removed the executive session re: personnel

Review and Approve Minutes:

- MOTION (Acker/Buttrey) to approve the minutes of 2/9/21. Unanimous (Snider and Pluta abstained)
- MOTION (Acker/Buttrey) to approve the minutes of 2/23/21. Unanimous
- 2/27/21 (Town Meeting) Minutes are usually done by the Town Clerk, and approved by the moderator. This could be different this year being on Zoom. Acker has posted the recording of the meeting on the board's webpage.

Review and Approve Orders Acker hasn't gotten any since last meeting. Darrah signed payroll.

Public Comment /Correspondence:

- Eloise Ginty offered to serve on any community committees that may come up if there is a need. Pluta brought up the strategic planning committee. She would like to get that going again this year and thinks that Ginty could be of great help.
- March 25 will be a public meeting regarding meeting the second round candidates for the principal search.

Reports:**Principal Report**

- Celebrate Bridget Veracka and Cat Buxton - Farm and Garden
- Digital Schoolhouse children have been trickling back into the school.
- Nurse Kate - praise for holding up the bar
- Graduation talk has started - waiting for the Governor's statement.
- Scheduling committee has been working on next year. Working on surveys for parents and staff. One question included having an early release day either weekly or monthly. Darrah - hopefully TES and TA will be going back to single bus runs, so that would impact cost. Buttrey brought up school starting a half hour earlier, and asked about being able to staff the playground a half hour before school begins. Lindley brought up that we could not staff earlier arrivals given contracted times for the teachers and paraeducators. Lindsley will reach out to TA about their start times and any changes to their schedules that may also impact bus schedules.
- Reviewed a survey that was administered in November to staff and parents. Seventy-seven participants. The survey is done again in the Spring. Lindsley reviewed results and looked back at some of the questions.

Principal Search Update:

- The committee went through all the applicants and have narrowed the list to five. They will interview those five, and then bring some back for a second interview with the community on March 25th. Buttrey asked how diverse the applicants were? A few from out west, others from Vermont.
- Snider commended Knisley and Elliott on the great organization of the process.
- Snider will get info to the listserve.
- The board would like a separate meeting with the candidates.

Executive Session – Student Matter:

MOTION (Buttrey/Snider) that the board finds that the conversation we are about to have be done in an executive session insofar as it may identify a student. Unanimous.

MOTION (Buttrey/Snider) to enter into executive session at 7:27 pm. Unanimous. Knisley and Williams were invited to attend. Out of executive session at 7:48 pm. No action taken.

Adjournment:

MOTION (Snider/Pluta) to adjourn at 7:48 pm. Unanimous.

Minutes Prepared By: Ginni Balch, Minutes Clerk

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Acker, Board Clerk

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

FUTURE MEETINGS:

03/23/21 Thetford Town School District Meeting 6:30pm