

## THETFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

June 8, 2021 via Zoom

### Draft Minutes

Charlie Buttrey convened the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

#### **PRESENT:**

**School Board:** Shannon Darrah (6:36), Charlie Buttrey, Donna Pluta, Megan Snider, Julie Acker

**Principal:** Chance Lindsley (left at 6:58)

**OESU:** Bruce Williams

**Community:** Laura Covalla

**Staff:** Ashley Mousley, Sarah Atherton (6:53)

#### **Agenda Review:**

Buttrey brought up questions about meetings going back to in-person, and how he might attend meetings in the fall. See Other Business.

**Review and Approve Minutes:** MOTION (Acker/Buttrey) to approve the minutes of 5/25/21. Unanimous (Snider abstained).

**Review of Orders:** Payables sent out for review. Buttrey questioned a \$185,000 check. Acker will look into it, thought to be in the last payables sent out.

**Public Comment:** None.

#### **Correspondence:**

- Buttrey got an email from a community member about the “Let the Virus Unite Us” sign in the front of the school. Talked with Lindsley, who put out an email to all staff. It was taken down today.
- The Journal Opinion contacted Darrah about the lead in the water.

#### **Reports:**

##### **Principal Report:**

- Kevin Anderson was spotted carrying a goat around today, an escapee?
- The Book Fair was great and enjoyed by many. The TESCIA team made it work outdoors, and avoided the rain.
- Graduation is almost all locked down. Immediate family only (and maybe grandparents). There was conversation about having the classrooms outside and the sixth graders parade around the building as a sendoff.
- Thank you to Williams for organizing the playground inspection which is occurring tomorrow.

- The fire alarm went off today. Everyone did very well. An unnamed staff member accidentally burnt some popcorn. Lindsley used to be able to silence the alarm, but that is not the case anymore.
- Lindsley thanked Williams and the school board for all the kindness and support they have provided.
- A school-wide project of a “Bird Walk” is out on the trail to TA, each class did a bird.

### **TA Report:**

- The board met a week early because of graduation this week. They did the conferring of the diplomas.
- They approved the budget.
- Strafford is voting in the fall to decide about becoming a K-6 school instead of K-8. That would possibly add more middle school children to TA.
- Scholarship - they are continuing to try to recruit more students with the possibility of a scholarship. Darrah reiterated that the funds can't come from the budget.
- Making plans for fall.

### **Follow up on 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Gift:**

Darrah talked with Sara Ecker about the fundraising to date:

- The Byrne Foundation gave them \$2000. The sixth graders raised \$4600, and feel they can raise another \$500-1000.
- They have not heard from the town yet, although they have contacted the selectboard and the recreation department.
- Acker brought up that the basketball court is used by the whole community, not just the school community. Still need \$3,300 to complete the whole project. Do we have the funds in this year or next years budget? Williams thinks yes, but will look into it.
- MOTION (Buttrey/Pluta) to allocate \$3400 to the basketball court project. Unanimous. The board thanks the sixth grade class for their hard work fundraising.
- Darrah will get back to Sara Ecker.

### **Bathroom Project:**

- It had been decided at the last meeting that if the add-ons did not increase the energy efficiency, then they would not be done.
- Brown said the only add-on that will make a difference are the windows, the others were mostly aesthetic.
- MOTION (Buttrey/Snider) to authorize the board chair to sign a contract for the bathroom renovation project. Unanimous.

### **Tax Anticipation Note Discussion and Vote:**

- Annually the school district may need a bank note to cover expenses as the town collects property taxes.
- MOTION (Buttrey/Snider) to give the chair authorization to sign the \$1,702,855.00 revenue anticipation note. Unanimous.

**TES/TA Maintenance Agreement Renewal Discussion:**

- Darrah and Williams have been discussing the maintenance contract. Williams will send more information to the board. They are still working out details.
- TA needs more info to determine staffing and feasibility. Considering a hybrid model for this coming year where Brown would oversee subcontracts for lawn mowing, and plowing until a further contract can be discussed for the following year.
- Brown is responsible for work inside the building only under the current contract unless it is an emergency.
- Williams and Darrah will meet to discuss further.

**Solar Array Discussion:**

- Buttrey reviewed the draft contract and it looked good.
- TES would get \$7600 in cash next year, and up to \$7600 in net metering in following years.
- TA was interested, but there are complexities with current contracts and internet so they are not pursuing at this time.
- Darrah will contact Geoff Martin about the next steps.

**Second Reading of Required Policies:**

MOTION (Buttrey/Snider) to adopt policies B3, B8, C10, and C10-P as written, and to adopt policy C2 as amended. Unanimous.

Policy		Action
B3	Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace	adopted
B8	Electronic Communications between Employees & Students	adopted
C2	Student Drugs & Alcohol	under the influence of any drugs - strike "illegal"
C10	Prevention of Harassment, Hazing & Bullying Policy	adopted
C10-P	Prevention of Harassment, Hazing & Bullying Procedures	adopted
D1	Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements	we don't need this for pK-6 district



**First Reading of Recommended Policies:**

<b>Policy</b>		<b>Discussion</b>
A20	Board Meetings, Agenda Preparation & Distribution	
A21	Public Participation at Board Meetings	
A22	Notice of Non-Discrimination	
A23	Community Engagement and Vision	
A24	Board/Superintendent Relations	
A25	Delegate of Authority During State of Emergency Due to COVID-19 Pandemic	Acker - is this needed? Williams thinks no, it was done at the SU level.
B20	Personnel Recruitment, Selection, Appointment, and Background Checks	
B21	Professional Development	
B22	Complaints About Personnel & Instructional Materials	
C20	Student Conduct and Discipline	
C21	Search and Seizure of Students by School Personnel	
C22	Student Activities (Elementary)	Would be for school sponsored activities/programs. Strike section relating to 7&8th grade students
C23	Student Clubs & Activities (Secondary)	not needed

C24	Interscholastic Sports	Acker - is this needed? Elementary athletics are rec programs, not school programs
C2 5	Admission of Non-Resident Tuition Students	
C26	Tuition Payment	Acker thinks this needs a closer so look so that we do not get out of sync with TA designation policies
C2 7	Student Self-Expression and Student Distribution of Literature	
C2 8	Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students	
C2 9	District Equity Policy	
D20	Curriculum Development and Coordination (SU)	done at the SU level so TTSD does not need to adopt this one
D2 1	Educational Support System	
D2 2	Modes of Instruction During State of Emergency Due to COVID-19 Pandemic	Acker - is this needed? Williams thinks no, it was done at the SU level.
E2 0	Community Use of School Facilities	
E2 1	Distribution of Non-School Sponsored Literature in Schools	

- Second reading and possible adoption at the next meeting.
- Keep Sherry in the loop at OESU.

**Other Business:**

- Williams' last day is the end of June. He has been in education for 45 years or so.
- Summer dinner meals will be on Mondays and Thursdays.

- Next meeting anticipate that the state of emergency will expire, requiring a physical location for in person meeting, but also plan to be virtual.
- Acker will make up the agenda for the next meeting as Darrah will be on vacation.
- Williams will invite Bernice Mills to attend (new principal starting in July).
- Williams will schedule Linda to come to a future meeting for a financial update.

**Adjournment:**

MOTION (Snider/Pluta) to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Unanimous

**Minutes Prepared By:**

Ginni Balch, Minutes Clerk

**FUTURE MEETINGS:**

6/22/20                      Thetford Town School District Meeting                      6:30pm

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