

THETFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Tuesday, July 5, 2016
Oxbow High School

APPROVED MINUTES

Shannon Darrah convened the Meeting at 6:40 p.m. The following were present: Shannon Darrah, Charlie Buttrey, Scott MacPhee, Julie Acker, School Board; Kevin Petrone, TES Principal; Keith Thompson, OESU Assistant Superintendent

AGENDA REVIEW: Agenda approved with amendments.

MINUTES REVIEW: MOTION: (Buttrey/Acker) moved/seconded to approve the minutes of June 21, 2016 with amendments. (Unanimous approval).

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ORDERS: MOTION: (Acker/MacPhee) moved/seconded to approve payroll warrant 5421, and accounts payable 5381. (unanimous approval).

PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE: None. Contracts were presented to Darrah for signatures.

REPORTS: Principal's Report (Kevin Petrone):

Petrone attended the VT Writing Collaborative with teachers Atherton, Kendall and Sharpless. The focus was on backwards design, assessments based on end projects. Leadership meeting was held at OESU, they are close to getting the Buck Institute to come to inservice days to launch PBL (Project Based Learning) initiatives. MacPhee asked if we know any statistics on how many states are employing PBL? Petrone replied that the Buck Institute website has lots of resources, and there is a great deal of information in the book that Cobb has distributed to board members.

The SU is working on trimming the length of the report cards, and TES will be moving away from MMS and going to VCAT for data analysis and reporting. Buttrey asked if data was transferrable online? Depends on if the receiving state has a similar platform. Thompson emphasized that VCAT is more adaptable to the standards based reporting that OESU has implemented. Most likely Vermont will implement a statewide platform in the coming years, until then we need to use the system that is most user friendly to OESU.

TA Report (Shannon Darrah):

Last meeting welcomed new trustees to the TA board, both are from Thetford. Enrollment is looking good, up to 330 students. The following year it drops as the 6th grade is small and a large class will be graduating. TA filled the International Students Director and ESL positions with a combined position. They renewed a \$55K grant to continue work on the trails. As part of the Outdoor Initiatives, TA has entered into an agreement with the Aloha Foundation to develop a summer camp for 2017 utilizing the old state park land, currently recruiting a director for that. Head of building and grounds, Bruce Hyde, retired so they are looking to fill that position. MacPhee asked if TA works with Dartmouth on outdoor leadership?

UPDATE ON CULVERT WORK: Darrah reports that the culvert will likely not be fixed with this paving project. Darrah is going back and forth with Stuart Rogers, he indicates that the road paving may temporarily help the situation at the entrance. Darrah is insistent that it must be part of the parking lot paving that will occur in 2017. Thompson reviewed the engineering challenges, there are 2 approaches to fixing the bump: the ditches must be completely redone or the drainage at the turnaround must be reengineered in order for the project to be successful long term.

DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR RETREAT ON AUGUST 8TH: Acker to get options and email location suggestions to the group. MacPhee suggested the 4 lenses as an icebreaker, will help us to better understand the thought processes of individuals. He will lead this activity. Petrone will present on PBL and Professional Learning Communities. Goals for the year will be discussed.

OTHER BUSINESS: Buttrey and Downey met to review the Non-Resident Tuition Policy. They will present research and outcome at the August meeting, it is likely that 1 or more policies will be revised in the near future. Darrah reminded the board of the requirements for policy revisions (timelines, public comment periods, etc.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION (STUDENT MATTER): MOTION: (Buttrey/MacPhee) moved/seconded to go into executive session to discuss a student matter at 7:18 p.m. Out of executive session at 7:31 p.m. No action taken.

MOTION: (Buttrey/MacPhee) moved/seconded to recess the meeting at 7:32 p.m. to reconvene at the Colatina Exit. (unanimous approval)

The meeting reconvened at the Colatina Exit at 7:47 p.m. Further discussion of topics to cover at the August retreat ensued, including OESU's PBL initiatives, data reporting, preschool program, Act 46, health insurance changes, strategic planning, and academic programs.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION: (Buttrey/Acker) moved/seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. (unanimous approval).

FUTURE MEETINGS:

08/01/16	OESU/Thetford Town School District Meeting (Oxbow)	6:00 p.m./7:15pm
08/08/16	Thetford Town School District Board Retreat (TBD)	6:00pm

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Julie Acker, Board Clerk