

THETFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thetford Town School District Board of Directors

board@thetfordeschool.org

DATE: Tuesday, June 14, 2011

TIME: 6:05 p.m.

PLACE: Thetford Elementary School Art Room

MINUTES

Approval of minutes, orders, public correspondence, public comment

Elise Tillinghast convened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. in the art room. The following were also present: Howard Sussman, Lisa Swett, Charlie Buttrey, School board; Keith Thompson, TES Principal; Don Johnson, OESU Superintendent, Shannon Darrah at 7:20 p.m.

Present: Aimee Toth, Kendra Waterbury (TES), Faith Alexander, Cameron Cudhea, Tom Yurkosky, Tim Briglin (TA Trustees), Pauline Fields, Robin Brown, Laura Shepard, Matt Senger, Josselyn Swett, Paul Moses. Joel Teenyanoff

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from Tuesday, May 24, 2011 board meeting reviewed. Draft of minutes will be revised and redistributed with changes as discussed. **MOTION:** Tillinghast/Buttrey moved/seconded to approve minutes from the 5/24/11 board meeting as revised (approval), Sussman abstains.

Approval of Orders: **MOTION:** Swett/Tillinghast moved/seconded to approve payable orders numbers 2308, 2311, 2322, 2337 (unanimous).

Public Comment & Correspondence: All public comment and correspondence is noted below under Tuition Waiver Policy. There was otherwise no public comment and/or correspondence.

Montshire Museum: Buttrey and Swett met with Dave Goudy regarding this program. He reports the Morey School is very happy with their involvement with the Montshire program. The Board strongly urged TES to engage in this program. Keith Thompson reported that he has begun looking into this program and that TES will take part. There should be no cost to TES to engage in this program (Keith will check this).

Policies:

Food Services: Discussion ensued regarding this policy. It will be revised and then reviewed at the next meeting

Bus Discipline: This policy was approved as written. MOTION: Swett/Sussman moved/seconded to approve the Bus Discipline policy (unanimous approval).

TES Strategic Plan Review: Along with Elise Tillinghast and Keith Thompson, members of the committee present were Aimee Toth, Josselyn Swett, Matt Senger, and Laura Shepard. The committee was praised by the Board for their hard work on this Plan. A draft of the Strategic Plan was distributed. A timeline was discussed for final review and publication. The tentative goal for completion is September of 2011, at the beginning of the school year. MOTION: Sussman/Buttrely moved/seconded to thank the committee (unanimous approval).

Elementary School tuition Comparisons: Tillinghast distributed a comparison of local schools non-resident tuition charges, to inform future discussion on recruitment. It was noted that there is great disparity in the amounts charged by each school. Tillinghast also distributed the Lyme School policy of Admission of Non-Resident Students was distributed, as a possible basis for a Thetford policy. Keith Thompson will provide the board information to help determine a non-resident tuition for TES.

Sharing resources: The Marion Cross School principal emailed with Tillinghast regarding sharing resources. This will be further explored.

Tuition Waiver Policy: It was clarified that this is not a de-designation policy. The governing Vermont statute was distributed along with a preliminary draft policy. Buttrely gave a legal overview of the Vermont statute. Buttrely then opened for discussion the preliminary draft policy.

Public correspondence on this issue was reviewed. Conversation ensued on issues including the town's commitment to TA, the school's role as a community hub, how to define criteria for a policy, how to define student best interests,

Executive Session: interviews: TES Foreign Language Instructor: MOTION (Tillinghast/Darrah) moved at 8:10 to go into executive session to interview TES Foreign Language Instructor candidates (unanimous). Out of Executive Session at 9:25

Executive Session: Personnel: MOTION (Tillinghast/Darrah) moved/seconded at 9:25 to discuss personnel, the premature dissemination of which would clearly place the Board at a significant disadvantage; unanimous. Out of Executive Session at 9:40.

Executive Session: Student Matter: MOTION (Tillinghast/Sussman) moved/seconded at 9:40 to discuss a student matter; unanimous. Out of Executive Session at 9:43.

Other Business (TES): NECAPS presentation at July board meeting; Thursday elementary school graduation 10 a.m., board gifts for teacher appreciation day, meeting between Keith Thompson and OESU curriculum coordinator Beth Cobb, technology program – Ipads and staff training;

possibility for OESU business manager to speak with board in July (Tillinghast to follow up); plans to hire Sarah Zack as long-term teaching substitute MOTION (Sussman/Darrah) to authorize the chair to sign a contract hiring Sarah Zack as longterm substitute; unanimous.

Request by Susan Rogers for leave of absence: MOTION (Tillinghast/Sussman) to accept Susan Rogers' request for a leave of absence; unanimous.

Adjournment: MOTION: (Sussman/Swett) moved/seconded to adjourn: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 10:30.

Next Meeting July 12, 2011 at Thetford Elementary School 7:00 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Lorrie Wilkes,
Minutes Clerk

These minutes were approved by the School Board on July 12, 2011