

**TRURO SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**December 19, 2024, 4:30 PM**  
**Hybrid Meeting**  
**Truro Central School**

**Vida Richter - Chair** *absent*

**Peter Cook - Acting Chair** - *present*

**Amy Costa** - *present*

**Oxtoby** - *present*

**Tyler Medley** *absent*

**Superintendent - Stephanie Costigan**

**Principal - Patrick Riley**

**Admin. Business & Finance - Heather Harper Kenneth**

**Recorder - Jody O'Neil**

**1. Call to Order:** Pete Cook called the meeting to order.

**2. Public Comment:** None reported.

**3. Approval of Minutes:** None.

**4. Dates to Remember:** January 9, 2025, next school committee meeting @ 4:30 pm.  
January 16, 2025, school committee meeting and public hearing @ 4:30 pm.  
January 21, 2025, No School - Staff professional development day  
January 23, 2025, Curriculum Night, 5:30-6:30 pm.

**5. Administrators' Reports:**

**5.1 Superintendent:** Superintendent's [goals](#)

**1. Student Learning Goal #1: Welcoming and Inclusive Environment for All**

**ACTIONS:** Attendance at DESE's REDI Foundations PD (free of charge); Social, Emotional & Behavioral Institute, Year 2; review & analyze data via Panarama Platform; provide foundational training on trauma, overseen by Principal Riley; continue to provide PD, culturally responsible, instruction to staff.

**2. Professional Practice Goal #2: Outreach and Collaboration**

**ACTIONS:** Monthly meetings of Old Colony Roundtable and Cape & Islands Superintendent meetings; collaboration with School Council on creation & implementation of School Improvement Plan; weekly leadership meetings; attendance at TSCFG meetings; Farm to School & Wellness meetings; Budget Task Force meetings.

**3. District Improvement Goal #3: Teaching All Students**

**ACTIONS:** Conduct core, supplemental & intervention curricula; contract with The Hill for Literacy (consultancy); data usage by grade-level teams; conduct a comprehensive & inclusive approach to high-quality instructional materials; create & implement a master schedule through a staggered block approach.

**4. District Improvement Goal #4: Professional Culture**

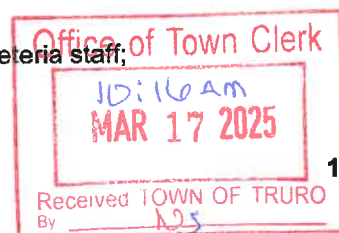
**ACTIONS:** Create a School Improvement Plan aligning with the Strategy of District Improvement; create a timeline of building maintenance aligned with the 5 yr. CIP; examine and update manuals and handbooks; consult with Mass Clean Energy Center on the ACT Bus Advisory Program for bus electrification.

**FY25-26 Budget Questions**

Ken Oxtoby thanked Superintendent Costigan and Business & Admin. For Business & Finance, Systems, Heather Harper, for putting together the new budget and with a bottom line increase of 1.34% which he noted is well within the Town's hopes for approval at Town Meeting.

Stephanie Costigan and Heather Harper addressed questions fielded by the Select Board, represented at today's meeting by Select Board TSC liaison Susan Girard-Irwin.

- 1. Staff salary contracts** include three unions: teachers, assistants, and custodial cafeteria staff; administrative staff have individual contracts.



2. Large increase in textbook software media is a one-off expenditure.
3. Drop in tuition from 7-12 Regular and Special Ed. reflects a reduction in Special Ed. due to declining enrollment as well as a decrease in services, two out of district placements to be discontinued at a savings of almost \$350,000. Previous budgets did not reflect a decrease in these areas but these numbers were maintained through decreases in other line items. Full-time Equivalents (FTEs) are not being replaced once they vacate the position.
4. Grade 6: Still too early to anticipate how many 6th graders might be expected; currently, two from the 5th grade have expressed interest in advancing to grade 6 at TCS.
5. Budget: While the overall school budget is at 1.34%, a deeper dig shows an increase at almost 13% for TCS, which is contingent on \$418,000 in tuition out for Regular and Special Ed. Removing the \$100k budget line for the new curriculum reduces the increase to 10.32%, but with a bottom-line decrease of .31%.

**5.2 Principal Report: Annual Carol Sing, Social, Emotional & Behavioral Academy (SEB) Academy Professional Development, Cape Cod 5 Mini Grants**

SEB Academy resulted in a multi-point action plan to be implemented immediately to help students increase their capacity for growth and learning. Annual Carol Sing included 30 students, with families joining in at the Council on Aging and news coverage by the Provincetown Independent. Principal Riley expressed gratitude for community partners. Three TCS educators received \$500 Cape Cod 5 Mini Grants.

Ken Oxtoby asked if there have been any school cases of Whooping Cough as reported in the local news, to which Principal Riley said there have not.

**6. Subcommittees:** None

**7. New Business:** None

**8. Unfinished Business:** Consider Proposed [FY26 Operating Budget](#) -

Committee members will review the proposed budget. The vote to adopt a budget is normally taken at the end of the Public Hearing, which is scheduled for Jan.16, 2025.

**9. Other:** None

**10. Executive Session:** None

**11. Adjournment:**

**A motion was made by Ken Oxtoby to adjourn the meeting at 5:09pm, seconded by Amy Costa. The motion passed, 3-0-0.**

**These minutes were approved by a vote of the Truro School Committee at their meeting on**

February 13, 2025

**Respectfully Submitted:**



**Truro School Committee Member**

