

TRURO SCHOOL COMMITTEE REMOTE MEETING

April 25, 2024, 4:30 PM

Truro Central School

AGENDA

Vida Richter – Chair

Peter Cook - Vice Chair *absent*

Edwige Yingling

Kenneth Oxtoby

Tyler Medley

Superintendent - Stephanie Costigan

Recorder - Jody O'Neil - *absent*

1. Call to Order: Vida Richter called the meeting to order at 4:34pm.

2. Public Comment: None.

3. Approval of Minutes: March 14, 2024, March 28, 2024

A motion was made to approve the TCS meeting minutes of March 14, 2024, and March 28, 2024, by Ken Oxtoby, seconded by Tyler Medley, roll call vote, 4-0-0.

Ken Oxtoby – yes

Tyler Medley – yes

Edwige Yingling – yes

Vida Richter – yes

4. Dates to Remember:

May 2, 2024 @ 4:30pm, School Committee meeting.

May 2, 2024, 5:30pm -7:00pm, Community Night.

May 9, 2024 @ 4:30pm, School Committee meeting.

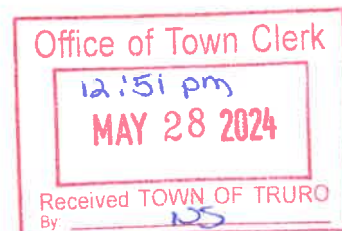
Vida Richter proposed a wrap-up meeting as needed on May 23 prior to the elections. Edwige Yingling may be traveling on that day and if so, will try to be remote; Ken Oxtoby, Tyler Medley Vida Richter and Superintendent Costigan, all available. Pete Cook to be alerted.

5. Administrators' Reports:

5.1 Superintendent: Review of Superintendent evaluation tool, facilities update (doors, kiosk, town meeting planning)

Update on SOA Plan

Superintendent Costigan said the SOA plan has been approved by and is being put into action. An update will be sent to the State in one year's time, with a second progress report sent the following year followed, after which a new three-year SOA plan will be drafted.



Goals Update

Goal #1: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging, detailed in Actions, Benchmarks/Evidence and Progress Reports. This year's focus was on adaptive leadership. Attendance in Foundation Series II and participation in the Social Emotional, and Behavioral Institute, 3-year Academy – first year of participation, wraps on May 15. Grant opportunities being considered for funding of a new curriculum. Other actions include Reviewing Student Data and Analyzing Current Teaching Practices, Targeting Literacy Instruction with Data Analysis and Dr. Kalise Wornum PD sessions.

Goal #2: Professional Practice Goal, year 3 of the New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP). Actions include session attendance, assignments and discussions, monthly meetings of the Old Colony Roundtable and Cape & Island monthly meetings of the Collaborative Special Education Directors, and collaboration with the School Council on the creation and implementation of the School Improvement Plan.

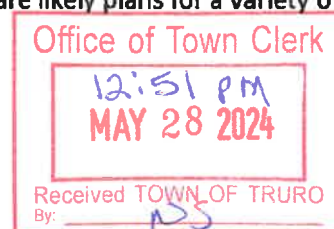
Goal #3: Communication and Family Engagement. Actions: informing families of the elimination of 6th grade next year, educating families on the features of each grade at TCS, supporting the principal in community partnerships, increasing opportunities for families to engage in school-sponsored events and two-way, culturally responsive communications with families regarding student learning and performance. Heather Harper's contributions acknowledged.

Goal #4: Professional Culture: Ensuring that policies and practices enable staff members and students to interact in culturally diverse ways. Creation of a School Improvement Plan, examine and update contracts and agreements.

Vida Richter asked for more information regarding the discrepancy between white and non-white student academic progress being so high as reported, and asked what steps may be taken to resolve that issue. Superintendent Costigan said the plan will be to identify the contributing factors leading to this discrepancy, including promoting better attendance and test taking strategies and skills, and that the matter is in the forefront of the leadership team.

Edwige Yingling mentioned her experience while working in the schools and asked if a contributing factor in the discrepancy under discussion might be attributed to cultural differences in dietary practices; suggested ensuring kids are getting proper nutrition as a stated goal. Superintendent Costigan remarked that MASS Health does not cover nutritionist services which has created an obstacle and agreed that it is important to tread carefully when approaching families on matters of diet and nutrition where cultural differences and preferences are involved. Ken Oxtoby said he appreciated all the moving parts and work being done as referenced in the report.

Edwige asked if a Spanish Farm or Nutrition table would be at the upcoming community meeting. Superintendent Costigan said she believed there are likely plans for a variety of tables.



Superintendent Goals, Page 3

Four Focus Indicators for consideration in terms of ratings for goals and standards. Ratings: P = Proficient; E = Exemplary; NI = Needs Improvement; U = Unsatisfactory. Overall ratings to be recorded along with an opportunity for added comments. Policy Evaluations were requested to be completed by May 3 and e-mailed to Chair Richter.

Facilities Update

Doors installed over the spring break involved almost all the units on the right side of the building as a continuation of a project launched a few years ago; others to be replaced concern the gym, Pre-K Playground, and the Art door.

6. Subcommittees: Policy subcommittee update

The Policy Subcommittee met recently to map out the process for adapting the new policy draft. Upcoming sections for review: E, F, G & H. C & D under current review. Ken Oxtoby made a correction for Section C regarding a heading line, and several corrections for Section D.

A motion was made to approve the Policy Sections C & D, with the exception of sections CHB, DGA, DJ by Ken Oxtoby, seconded by Tyler Medley, roll-call vote, 4-0-0:

Ken Oxtoby – yes

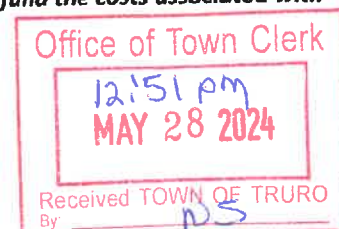
Tyler Medley – yes

Edwige Yingling – yes

Vida Richter – yes

7. New Business:

Authorization for HVAC and Roof repairs, vote required Article 12: Borrowing Authorization for Truro Central School HVAC and Roof Repairs To see If the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow the sum of One Million, Five Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$1,540,000.00) more or less, associated with engineering services, construction, and repairs related to the HVAC system and roof repairs at Truro Central School, including, but not limited to, the flat rubber roof with associated components, all HVAC ventilation components and heating system and controls, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; provided that no sums shall be borrowed or expended hereunder unless and until the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts needed to repay any bonds or notes issued pursuant to this vote from the limitations imposed by G.L c.59, §21C (Proposition 2 ½) or take any other action relative thereto. Requested by the Public Works Director Explanation: This article appeared on the 2023 Special Town Meeting Warrant, but as the meeting was continued to May 2024, the cost associated with this project escalated from \$1,400,000 to \$1,540,000. The Special Town Meeting article will be moved to be indefinitely postponed and Annual Town Meeting voters will vote on this article. As indicated in the Capital Improvement Budget in the 2023 Annual Town Meeting, a \$100,000 grant funded engineering services related to evaluating the existing HVAC system as well as evaluating the roof. The engineering evaluation for both the HVAC system and the roof has been completed and this article would fund the costs associated with



construction for both the roof and the HVAC system. This article requests voter approval to place a temporary increase in the tax levy for the period required to pay the principal and interest on the authorized borrowing for the Truro Central School HVAC and Roof Repairs project. The exclusion only applies for the life of the borrowing - when the borrowing is paid off, the temporary exclusion terminates. If approved at Town Meeting and at the ballot, the exclusion is added to the tax levy only during the year in which the project is being funded and may increase the tax levy above the levy ceiling.

A motion was made to approve Article 12: Borrowing Authorization HVAC and Roof Repairs in the amount of \$1,540,000 by Ken Oxtoby, seconded by Tyler Medley, roll call vote, 4-0-0.

Ken Oxtoby – yes

Tyler Medley – yes

Edwige Yingling – yes

Vida Richter - yes

8. Unfinished Business: Third reading of policy sections C (General School Administration) & D (Fiscal Management), vote may be taken.

See above.

9. Other:

None.

10. Executive Session:

None.

11. Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 PM was made by Ken Oxtoby, seconded by Tyler Medley, roll call vote, 4-0-0.

Ken Oxtoby – yes

Tyler Medley - yes

Edwige Yingling - yes

Vida Richter – yes

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

May 23, 2024

Respectfully submitted: Jody O'Neil



Truro School Committee Member

