

Tinmouth School Board
Official Minutes
November 10th, 2009

Present were Helen Mango, Chair; Board member Cindy Taylor-Patch. Also present were Susan McKelvie, Principal; Gail Fallar, Town Treasurer; Joan Paustian, Superintendent; Louis Milazzo, RSWSU Business Manager; Tracey Tinsley, Physical Education Instructor; Jonathan Czar, Secretary.

Helen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Helen moved to approve the minutes for October 12th, 2009 as amended. Cindy seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Superintendent's Report

- Joan provided a written report (attached page 4). She also reported she is in her second round of visiting all the classrooms in the SU and will be attending a meeting with the U.S. Department of Education in New Hampshire later in the week.

Business Manager's Report

- Louis reported the TES announced tuition for FY10 needs to be declared by January. The allowed tuition for 2009 was \$9100. Louis recommended the amount of \$10,000. Helen agreed and moved to set the announced tuition for FY 2010-2011 at \$10,000. Cindy seconded, all approved. Motion carried.
- The draft for the Tinmouth audit has been received. Helen asked Gail to make a list of recommendations for the auditors in areas where she felt they could improve their services to Tinmouth and the Supervisory Union.

Principal's Report

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment

- The staff thanked the board for dinner on parent/teacher conference night.
- The Curriculum Coordinating Council will be up and running soon. Three TES teachers are interested in serving on the council.
- The staff will be visiting Neshobe Elementary to observe RTI (Response To Intervention), a system for measuring progress in students.

Building and grounds

- The school received the energy usage report from the state. Norm Elkind from the Vermont Superintendent's Association provided the test results. TES is using less energy per capita when compared with other local schools.

- Susan spoke with Cathy Reynolds about exploring grants for further energy efficiency including a possible solar piece.

Other

- 96% of families were represented in the parent surveys.
- The school appreciates the community volunteers who helped during the first vaccination clinic.

Helen moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Cindy. All approved.

RSWSU SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Systems Management – see policies section.
- Finance – covered in budget discussion.

BILLS AND ORDERS

AP Warrants		
Warrant #	Date	Amount
7	10/19/09	\$5,606.82
8	11/02/09	\$44,175.10
Payroll Warrants		
Warrant #	Date	Amount
8	10/26/09	\$11,307.93

Gail reported a problem with payroll involving some data in two employee records being crossed. It has been corrected.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Audit contract renewal** – Helen moved to renew the audit contract with Angolano and Company. Cindy seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Approve Action Plan** – challenges exist, especially with the RTI piece. Susan has asked for Title funds. Helen moved to approve the action plan. Cindy seconded, all approved. Motion carried.
- **Review FY11 Budget** – Louis will be presenting the third draft of the SU budget to the SU board at the next SU meeting. The board then began reviewing the Tinmouth draft budget. The board reviewed various line items. The board reviewed various line items. Susan and Tracey Tinsley provided an overview of the plans to improve Physical Education and the Wellness program to meet state regulations and quality standards for FY11.

POLICIES

- H-1 School-Community Relations (revised)
- G-1A Curriculum Coordinating Council
- G-1B Curriculum Management and Adoption
- D-8 Alcohol and Drug Free Work Place

Helen moved to accept H-1, G-1A, G-1B, D-8 with very minor editorial changes.
Cindy seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be December 14th, 2009, 7:00 p.m., at the Tinmouth Elementary School.

ADJOURNMENT

Helen moved to adjourn at 9:26 p.m., Cindy seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan Czar



Report of the Superintendent

To: Tinmouth Board
From: Joan Paustian
Date: November 2, 2009

- I have read the Action Plan for FY '10 – FY '12. Closing the achievement gap for students in poverty is a key issue for most schools. It is great that Tinmouth teachers will be creating a plan to narrow the gap for students.
- The Systems Management Committee has approved and the RSWSU Board has approved the “Curriculum Management and Adoption” and the “Curriculum Coordinating Council” policies pending school district approvals. Kirsten Caliguiri will serve as the Chair of that committee. All principals will also serve on the committee with the expectation that each administrator will have a major leadership role. Kirsten with input of the other administrators has created a form which will be sent out to all teachers in the SU asking if they wish to be on the Curriculum Coordinating Council (CCC) (over site committee) or possibly on a curriculum team. We hope to select the CCC at our next Administrative Team meeting. Sue did a wonderful job of rewording the Curriculum Management Policy to align with the wording of the Curriculum Audit!
- I have signed the Stabilization Fund Ed Grant for Tinmouth. It is for \$42,137. This is part of the ARRA funding that was put into the Vermont Education Fund by the Governor rather than a transfer from the general fund.
- Susan McKelvie & Kristen Caliguiri have offered to attend future Southwest Vermont Curriculum Coordinators meetings for me. The curriculum coordinators write regional grants for professional development like the \$750,000 multi year math-science grant that is training a number of folks at no cost to districts. “Star teachers” will become highly skilled and have a deep understanding of the scientific concepts. The Fountas and Pinnell training is currently happening for all of our schools is supported by this group. This group is focused on providing quality regional professional development.