

Tinmouth School Board
Official Minutes
June 13th, 2011

Present were Kimberly Stewart, chair; board members Cindy Taylor-Patch and Helen Telfer. Also present were Gail Fallar, Town Treasurer; Joan Paustian, Superintendent; Jonathan Czar, Secretary.

Present for General Public Comments were: TES teachers Stuart Gerrol, Lisa Edge, Allyn Kahle, Karen Kay; community members and parents Helen Mango, Jen Rocque-Tift, Crystal Usher, Lana Deppert, and Erin Freedom.

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m.

MINUTES

Kimberly moved to accept the minutes for March 28th 2011 as amended, seconded by Helen. All approved, motion carried. Jonathan failed to forward Jan Dente the meeting minutes he received from Helen for April and May, so they have not had a chance to be distributed and viewed by the board. They will be approved at the next meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Superintendent's Report – Joan provided a written report (attached, page 4).

Principal's Report – Susan could not attend the meeting but sent a written report (attached page 3).

BILLS AND ORDERS/FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Gail passed out the Financial Statement and Bill and Orders for the board to review.

AP Warrants		
Warrant #	Date	Amount
19	04/04/11	\$218,487.40
20	04/10/11	\$24,348.83
21	05/02/11	\$15,621.98
22	05/16/11	\$38,983.09
23	05/31/11	\$44,023.20
24	06/13/11	\$12,461.96
PR Warrants		
Warrant #	Date	Amount
20	04/11/11	\$13,435.33
21	04/25/11	\$11,508.37
22	05.09/11	\$13,606.82
23	05/23/11	\$14,343.49
24	06/07/11	\$48,333.72

Gail mentioned the board forgot to appoint or ask for a volunteer to serve on the Community Center Board. Cindy nominated Kimberly to serve as representative. Helen seconded. All approved, motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

The previously mentioned group of teachers and community members met with the board to ask questions about the principal search that was completed in May. The group expressed concern that the search was done too quickly and did not allow for participation from more people. In the past, a committee of community members, teachers, and SU representatives were involved in the search and decision. The board explained that there were other open principal searches happening at other schools. Combined with the possibility of losing candidates and board members being away during upcoming weeks, they felt it was necessary to move quickly. The board interviewed 5 candidates with input from teachers administration and community members. The timeline of the hiring process was discussed. The board acknowledged the concerns and appreciated the input from the participants and will take it into consideration for future searches.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve substitute list - Cindy moved to approve, Helen seconded. All approved, motion carried.

POLICIES

Policies for action:

- F-106 - Idling of Vehicles other than school buses
- G-3 - Field Trips

Helen moved to approve policies F-106 and G-3. Kimberly seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL CONTRACT

Darcy Parrot (Instructional Assistant) resigned. Cindy moved to accept her resignation with regret. Helen seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Gail mentioned an AP for \$1500 for work on the wellness trail that has to be paid by the end of June. A grant will be written to pay for the work but can't be done until after the work is done.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is set for July 11th, 6:00 pm at Tinmouth Elementary School.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Kimberly moved to enter executive session at 8:20 pm for discussion of personnel. Cindy seconded, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan Czar

CONTINUATION MINUTES

9:00 pm Joan Paustian left the meeting

Out of executive session at 9:30

Action taken: To seek legal advice on a personnel issue.

Respectively Submitted,
Helen Telfer

1.) Curriculum, Programs, Assessment

- a. At our final staff meeting last week, we went through the process of assessing our progress this year on the first year of the schoolwide Wellness Initiative. Our accomplishments were impressive and made a significant difference in how our students understand their personal responsibility to be active and eat well. Year 2 of the initiative will be brought before the board in August.
- b. Also, as we reflected on the progress of our Action Plan goals and student achievement, we were again pleased to see the high percentage of our students who score at or above grade level on standardized assessments, including the POA and QRI, as well as on NECAP this year. These assessments affirm that our staff and students are focused on high expectations and hard work. They deserve to be recognized for what they have achieved. For the fourth year in a row, our students score, on average, the highest NECAP scores in this supervisory union in reading, writing, math and science, as well as surpassing state averages. In the last three years, our scores in reading have risen steadily. While this is only one measure of success, it should be recognized and celebrated.

2.) Building and Grounds

- a. Our Wellness Coordinator recently wrote a state grant to purchase a larger refrigerator to store the local fresh vegetables and fruits we will be acquiring in the lunch program through the Farm to School program. We were awarded \$1,400 towards this purchase through the grant. Parents' Club is funding an additional \$700. We will use our equipment line in the budget to make up the remaining funds. Kudos to Tracey Tinsley for this impressive award. The refrigerator was delivered on Thursday, June 2nd (in the middle of a horrendous storm when we were without power!).
- b. O'Raine and Sun has been contracted to paint the "new addition" portion of the building. Part two in our 3-year plan to plan the entire building. They will be painting sometime within the next 3 or 4 weeks.
- c. Harold has a list of projects for maintenance and cleaning over the summer. There are no major repairs slated.

3.) Other

- a. A host of end-of-year activities has brought the year (almost) to a close, including the school picnic, field day with Middletown Springs, and an awesome whole-school trip to the Echo Aquarium and a boat ride on Lake Champlain. Graduation is Monday, June 13th at 6:30. Thank you to Parents' Club for the financial and manpower support for these activities.

To: Tinmouth Board
From: Joan Paustian
Date: June 2, 2011

Comments:

- We have contracted with WestEd again to train and facilitate assessment and curriculum development for four days at the end of June. Participants will learn how to develop common formative assessments to help evaluate student mastery of essential standards. Some folks will spend the remainder of the time creating assessments in English/Language Arts, while others who did not attend the first training sessions in December and January will learn how to identify the essential standards and create instructional calendars. The curriculum target areas are math and science. Currently we have 10 people committed. We are hoping for more folks to participate. Each will receive a stipend of \$400 for their time.
- Louis and I met with Ron Ryan and Laura Jakubowski, Superintendent and Business Manager of Addison Rutland Supervisory Union, to open fuel (oil and propane) bids and to narrow the choices to both the ARSU Board that night and to Kimberly Mathewson and Mary Jo Teetor, RSWSU Fuel Committee members that afternoon. The best options were to accept the fixed price of \$3.40 per gallon or \$.15 over laden price (which was \$3.20 on 5/25/11). Both the ARSU Board and our committee decided to wait longer to see if the price will go down. Laura and Louis are checking oil prices regularly and tracking the trends to determine when it would be best to lock in the prices.
- I know that it may be challenging to check RSWSU mailboxes. I did check with Nick, and he can arrange to forward RSWSU email to your personal accounts. If he were to do so, then the mail would be housed in your personal account and you would need to respond from your personal account. Under Freedom of Information Act, someone could request proof that there was not an online discussions/meetings and a judge could require that you turn over your email. This has happened to one board member that I know. As a result, all of your business or private email would be released along with your SU mail unless you kept the two separate.
- All of our SU and school emails are archived. This is a law as well. We will be creating a policy to archive student email for a shorter length of time (possibly until August 15th of every year). That will significantly reduce our cost for archiving and there should be no need to keep student email longer than that date yearly.
- The selection committee for the Director of Educational Advancement (comprised of two Board Members and myself) will be recommending Jason LaMora (currently our Integration Specialist) as our candidate for appointment. Jay will do both positions at .5 FTE. The Board members on the committee also felt that it was critical to continue to have a full time integration specialist to work with teachers to enhance 21st century learning opportunities. Therefore, we have posted a .5 FTE integration technology teacher.