

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting
Board Room, Trinity Hall
5:00 p.m. - April 27, 2011

Members of the Committee: Dennis McWreath (Chairperson); John Keisling; Dorothy Tecklenburg and JoAnn Standish

Committee members present: Dennis McWreath, John Keisling, and JoAnn Standish

Board member present: Ronald Harton and Tamara Salvatori

Others present: Yvonne Beverina Weaver, Assistant Superintendent; Donald Snoke, High School Principal; and Judy Walz, recording secretary.

Community members present were: Jennifer Morgan, South Strabane Township; Tom Bodnovich, Canton Township; and Diane Ecker, South Strabane Township

The meeting was called to order by Mr. McWreath, Chairperson, at 5:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Discussion was held regarding the committee's recommendation to administer the CSI section of the Terra Nova to second grade beginning in the fall of 2011.

Mrs. Weaver discussed the redistricting of students from Trinity West to Trinity North. She discussed projected staffing and enrollment for all elementary buildings, noting retention of students and those students with IEP's. Discussion was held regarding the diversity of the school district and how inclusionary practices impact class size, as well as how the buildings are utilized.

Mr. Bodnovich noted that it was his opinion that all building should be redistricted, not just one segment of the population.

Mr. Snoke addressed the impact of adding a physical education class to the elementary schedule will have on the high school. Mrs. Weaver discussed increasing physical education at the elementary level to two 30-minute periods per week, noting modifications that will be required in the buildings' schedules.

Increasing graduation requirements in English and Math was discussed. The increase will require 24 credits in all four core subjects, beginning with the Class of 2013.

Mr. Keisling discussed the possible decrease in non-academic courses and noted computer/technology courses offered by other districts.

Mr. Keisling discussed the budgetary impact of full day kindergarten and noted several high performing school districts who offer half-day programs.

Mrs. Morgan noted the possible elimination of support staff and stressed the need for support at Trinity East.

Mr. McWreath indicated that the redistricting, addition of physical education classes at the elementary, increase in graduation requirements and the administering of the CSI portion of the Terra Nova would be on the May Board agenda.

Topics to be discussed at the next meeting include Cyber School and the possibility of Trinity offering a blended program, as well as an On-Hands Schools report and reports on the Pennsylvania Educational Leadership Initiative and the Keystone Educational Consultants.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 11 at 10:00 a.m.