

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of the
Education Committee Meeting
February 9, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.
Board Room, Trinity Hall

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

Committee members present: Dennis McWreath; John Keisling ; Dorothy Tecklenburg and JoAnn Standish. Board members present: Ronald Harton and Tamara Salvatori

Others present: Paul Kasunich, Superintendent; Don Snoke, High School Principal and Judy Walz, recording secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am. by Mr. McWreath followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Dr. Kasunich and Mr. Snoke reviewed revisions to the attendance letter concerning procedural changes that will be implemented at the high school. They also reviewed the elimination of General Studies courses citing the Operational Plan developed by Dr. Manley. Discussion was held regarding the impact on special education students. Dr. Kasunich indicated that supports and remediation was in place and that expectations would be raised for every student.

Dr. Kasunich reviewed classes with less than fifteen students that would not be offered. He indicated that the students would have the opportunity to take other classes and that on-line options were being investigated. Mr. Snoke indicated that some classes could be “married”.

Dr. Kasunich gave a summary of the information gained from giving the Terra Nova test to second graders. He noted that other testing is available and indicated that Mr. Minnick would be providing an overview of other options. He reported on testing used by other districts. Discussion was held regarding different testing being done and the differences between the Terra Nova and PSSA.

Dr. Kasunich gave an overview of 2011 Parent Survey Results regarding full day kindergarten and reviewed the empirical data for Trinity on full day versus half day programs. He noted that second grade curriculum would be revised this summer.

Discussion was held regarding the advantages and possible disadvantages of full day kindergarten. Board members were questioned on reasons why they would consider returning to a half day program.

Dr. Kasunich discussed the impact school configuration has on student performance and reviewed different configurations in other school districts. Mr. McWreath reviewed possible reconfigurations that may be considered at Trinity. Trinity South was discussed and how reconfiguration or redistricting would affect that building.

Discussion was held regarding the overcrowding at Trinity West.

Mr. McWreath noted that advantages and disadvantages of various configurations and curriculum revisions for FDK would be discussed at the February 23 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.