

Trinity Area School District
Minutes of the
Education Committee Meeting
January 19, 2011 – 5:00 p.m.
Board Room – Trinity Hall

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

Committee members present: Dennis McWreath; Board members present: Scott Day and Tamara Salvatori

Others present: Paul Kasunich, Superintendent; Don Snoke, High School Principal; Cindy Garda, Maggie Amaismeier and Erica Hughes, High School Guidance Counselors, and Judy Walz, recording secretary

Community members present: Frances Eates, Maria and Dan Piatt, Brenda Williamson, Deanna Kraeer

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mr. McWreath

Public Comment

None

Dr. Kasunich gave a recap of information provided at the last Board meeting which included Summer School 2010 student performance, the partnership with W & J which will provide tutoring at all buildings, the Operational Plan and the proposed attendance policy at the High School, which is being reviewed by the solicitor.

The High School guidance counselors gave a PowerPoint presentation on Arena Scheduling.

Discussion was held regarding the elimination of classes with fewer than fifteen students. Mr. Snoke noted that in some cases classes could be “married” and that Dr. Kasunich would be provided with a list of classes with less than fifteen students.

Discussion was held regarding the Language Arts curriculum. Mr. McWreath indicated that the adoption of new materials was on hold for another year to allow for consideration of data obtained through OnHand Schools, and noted that the curriculum cycle would change.

Dr. Kasunich discussed the elimination of the Terra Nova test in second grade and indicated that Mr. Minnick was researching other options.

Research regarding full day versus half day kindergarten was discussed, as well as the full day pilot program at instituted at Trinity South during the 2007-08 school year. Dr. Kasunich indicated that teachers were surveyed regarding their opinion of student achievement among those students who had attended the pilot program, and noted that a parent survey would be distributed to those parents whose children had participated in the program. Mrs. Eates suggested that transportation be included in the parent survey.

Mr. McWreath discussed the history of various studies done regarding redistricting or reconfiguration of the schools. He noted current enrollment and building usage and the different options which may be considered and what the educational advantages or disadvantages of those options may be.

Mrs. Salvatori stressed the need for a timeline regarding any changes to the reconfiguration of the buildings or redistricting and suggested more parent involvement.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.