

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting
Board Room, Trinity Hall
10:00 a.m. – September 7, 2011

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

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

Board member present: Ronald Harton and Tamara Salvatori

Others present: Paul T. Kasunich, Superintendent; Michael P. Lucas, Assistant Superintendent, and Judy Walz, recording secretary.

Community members present were: Gordon Lowry, Canton Township; Deb Lucas, Amwell Township; Pattiann Berton, South Strabane Township; Donna Connell, South Strabane Township; Lynne King, North Franklin Township; Heidi Leep, South Strabane Township; Mary Aber, South Strabane Township; Paula Phillis, South Strabane Township; Mariann Sprouse, South Strabane Township; Eric Quedenfeld, South Strabane Township, Kerri McIlvanie, South Strabane Township; and Wendy Cameron, South Strabane Township.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. McWreath, Chairperson, at 10:00 a.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Dr. Kasunich indicated that Mrs. Nalepka, Principal of Trinity West Elementary, will report on the results of the summer school program at the September 15 board meeting.

Dr. Lucas reviewed the district's PSSA results, noting that AYP was met by all buildings except the high school, which is on warning. Discussion was held regarding what factors may contribute to the high school's warning status.

Dr. Kasunich indicated that the additional physical education classes at the elementary schools were going well. He also updated the members on the status of the cyber program, indicating that students who had failed were being identified and offered the option of cyber classes first. The next groups of students to be targeted are those in the after-school program.

Mr. McWreath reviewed the survey which was taken last February regarding grade configuration of 65 school districts. Community members who cited concerns regarding changing the current configuration of Trinity Area were: Gordon Lowry, Pattiann Berton, Lynne King, Heidi Leep, Mary Aber, Paula Phillis, Marianne Sprouse, Eric Quedenfeld, Kerri McIlvaine and Wendy Cameron. Mr. McWreath noted that the Board would vote on whether or not to authorize the

administration to develop a plan to implement a K-4, 5-7, 8-12 configuration at the next Board meeting scheduled for September 15.

Dr. Kasunich indicated that the district currently has Student Teacher agreements with WVU, Indiana and California Universities, and that Waynesburg is in the process of developing an agreement. He will meet with W & J regarding a contract with them.

Mr. McWreath reviewed the Middle School class size report, noting that some classes had decreased in size since the last report. Dr. Kasunich noted that Mr. Keruskin was still reviewing class size and that he would have an update on September 15. He also discussed a pilot Spanish program currently being offered after school at Trinity East for one hour, twice a week, and that the program would alternate between the four elementary schools every nine weeks.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.