

## **CABOT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Present: **School Board:** Chris Tormey, Sharon O'Connor, Paul Stecker and Linda Gabrielson.  
**Administration:** Karen Stewart, Principal, Laurence Carnahan Director of Student Services,  
Rob Billings, Business Manager and Nancy Thomas, Superintendent. **Absent:** Jackie Folsom.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm.
2. Public Comment: none.
3. Consent Agenda: Paul made a motion, seconded by Sharon to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.
  - a. Approve January 9, 2012 minutes.
4. Reports:
  - a. Principal's Report: see attached.
  - b. Superintendent's Report: see attached.
  - c. Teacher's Association Report: none.
5. The board went into executive session at 7:10pm to discuss contract negotiations.
6. Executive session was concluded at 7:55pm. No action taken.
7. Board Discussion:
  - a. FY13 Proposed Budget: Laurence Carnahan discussed a proposal to reduce the special education support staff by three full time equivalent (FTE) employees and increase the professional staff by one FTE. The new professional position would allow for the expansion of the co-teaching model. Presently, Cabot School is using the co-teaching model which involves the regular education teacher and a special education teacher creating lesson plans using differentiated instruction. The co-teaching model has been shown to reduce behavioral referrals, thereby the student is in the classroom more receiving direct instruction in the core areas of reading, writing and mathematics. Co-teaching puts the teaching responsibility on a professional and the student, not the paraeducator. This change in the special education program does not have a significant effect on the FY13 budget. Rob discussed the changes to the proposed FY13 budget as follows: an increase in the WNESU assessments due to an increase in student enrollment, an increase in the building maintenance budget, an increase in administrative costs to support assistance to the administrative assistant and a decrease in the transportation budget due to the eliminating using an outside transportation company.. The total proposed FY13 budget of \$3,634,987 translates to a 6.97% increase over the FY12 budget and a decrease in the tax rate of \$.09.
  - b. Planning for Town Meeting: Chris will update the report from the board and bring the power point presentation to the board for review at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting,

- Karen is working on the Principal's report and Nancy is working on the report from WNESU. Rob reminded everyone to submit their report to him by January 30<sup>th</sup>. The reports will be sent to the printer on January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- c. WNESU Meeting Update: Chris mentioned that he would like to continue discussions with Twinfield on ways to collaborate on February 23rd.
8. Board Action:
- a. FY13 Proposed Budget: The Linda made a motion, seconded by Chris to approve the proposed FY13 budget of \$3,634,987. Voted 4-0.
  - b. Special Informational Meeting: The board has scheduled the special informational meeting for February 22, 2012 in the library at 6pm.
  - c. Annual School Meeting: The board decided to schedule the annual school meeting for Monday, March 5, 2012 in the gym at 6pm. Ed Smith will be invited to attend the board meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup> to review Robert's Rules of Order.
  - d. Thank You letter: Chris will write a letter to Linda Walbridge thanking her for her years of service.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Epinette  
Transcriber