

APPROVED

## **CABOT SCHOOL BOARD RETREAT MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, November 20, 2017**

**Chris Tormey's Home, Cabot, VT**

**Present:** Chris Tormey, Sharon O'Connor, Lisa Olson, Jackie Folsom, and Rory Thibault **Administration:** Mark Tucker, Superintendent; Dave Schilling, Principal; Christina Kimball, Business Manager

**Call to order:** Chris Tormey called the meeting to order at 6:15pm

**Consent Agenda:** Approve November 13, 2017 Minutes

Jackie moved to approve as written, with the spelling of one name corrected, Chris seconded. Approved as amended.

Dave asked to add an agenda item to discuss three applications from students for an open student seat on the School Board. Item added without objection.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Board Discussion:**

#### **Initial FY19 Budget Review**

- Christina reviewed the first draft of the FY19 budget. There are several "unknowns" that are affecting her ability to firm up budget numbers. These include: unsettled teacher and support staff contracts, expectations of a deficit in the State Education Fund that will require additional cents-on-the-dollar to close, and pressure from the Governor's office to level fund school budgets. At the same time, Cabot is trying to rebuild staffing at the high school.

#### **Review Draft AGS Proposal**

- Rory led a discussion of portions of the proposal, including the Executive Summary. The proposal will outline Cabot's argument before the State Board that the school can substantially meet the requirements of Act 46 by continuing to operate as a standalone PK-12 school, with reassignment to a new Supervisory Union. The proposal is due at the Agency of Education not later than December 26, 2017.
- The community will be invited to the December 4<sup>th</sup> regular Board meeting to hear a presentation on the outlines of the AGS proposal and ask questions.

#### **Transgender and Gender non-conforming Students – First Read for policy adoption**

- The Board reviewed the draft policy.

#### **Applications for open student seat on the School Board**

- The Board reviewed applications from three students: Callahan Burke, Koschei S., and Billie O'Connor.

### **Board Action:**

#### **Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students**

- The Board agreed to move the draft policy to Second Reading at the next Board meeting, where it will be considered for adoption.

#### **Open student seat on the School Board**

- The Board appointed Callahan Burke to the open seat. They expressed their appreciation to the two other candidates who applied, and hope they will consider re-applying next fall when there will be two open seats resulting from the graduation of Taylor Abbott and Cameron Muller Harder.

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**Future Agenda Items:**

- Review facility estimates for budgeting
- Discuss Board position on certain aspects of the Advantage Cabot proposal
- Second reading of the Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students

**Adjournment:** 9:15 PM

**Future Meetings:**

**1. W NESU Board Meeting:**

January 11, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Twinfield Union School Library

**2. Cabot Board Meeting:**

December 4, 2017, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Cabot School Library