

UNAPPROVED

**CABOT SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 7, 2016**

PRESENT: Chris Tormey, Jackie Folsom, Sharon O'Connor, Lisa Olson, Ry Hoffman

Administrators: Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Christina Kimball, Business Manager; David Schilling, Principal **Student Representatives:** Isabella McCallum, Cameron Mueller-Harder

Absent: Taylor Abbott

Call to Order - Chris Tormey, chair called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve November 21, 2016 Minutes – Jackie moved to approve the minutes as written, Sharon seconded the motion. Minutes approved as written.

Reports

- a. Student Report – Cameron Mueller-Harder, Isabella McCallum
 - The Scholar's Bowl Team has competed in several competitions. A state tournament will be held on January 28th.
 - The Marine Biology Class/Costa Rica Trip held an auction and raised over \$4,500.00.
 - Last Wednesday grades 3 and 4 presented their exhibits about the United States.
 - Basketball season is underway and the gym has been very busy.
- b. Superintendent Report – Nancy Thomas
 - The focus continues to be on Act 46, negotiations and budget work.
- c. Principal Report – Dave Schilling
 - This Friday will be the second meeting for the Big Husky/Little Husky program.
 - One student from each grade will be honored as a Random Rock Start Student. Teachers send David positive feedback about each student.
 - Tomorrow afternoon will be professional development for staff/faculty. Grades K-4 will be working on literacy and pre-literacy skills. Grades 5-8 will be meeting with the Tarrant Institute and the high school will be holding a retreat about advisory.

Board Discussion

- a. FY18 Budget Draft #3 – Christina Kimball
 - Christina shared Cabot FY 18 Budget Draft #3 and highlighted changes since the last meeting.
 - Overall changes: Health Insurance has been updated to reflect 6 months on current plans and 6 months on new plans (professionals only). The support staff health insurance reflects the FY 17 rate.

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- Construction services: A curtain drain was added to the facilities plan. The cost is estimated at \$40,000.00.
 - Peter Ackermann will attend the next meeting to discuss the facilities plan and prioritize repairs.
 - Christina also shared the draft tax impact sheet, indicating a significant tax increase with current information.
 - Board members expressed concerns about the cost maintenance repairs and suggested separating those costs from the budget and having the town vote on repairs as a bond.
- b. Act 46 Update
- After a conversation about five proposed merger options, Committee members decided to vote on which merger options to present to community members for discussion. The Committee voted 6 to 1 to go out to the communities with 2 options for merger for discussion and feedback.
 - The two options summarized are:
 - 1. Continue with Danville and Twinfield High Schools building on their current program strengths and close Cabot High School. Students from all communities could choose which high school to attend. Transportation would be provided at the beginning and end of the day.
 - 2. Continue with Danville and Twinfield High Schools and also hold a Project Based Learning Program at Cabot School that would be available to students from all communities. The program would be a full day program and could be accessed for a semester, a full year or more. The administrators and committee members discussed a focus on performing arts and use of CSPAC and one of the satellite building as desirable, flexible space. This option could also allow for a district wide drama/music co-curricular afterschool program.
 - The community discussions will also include the “no” option and what would be required for an “alternative structure” under the law.
 - As committee members prepare to go back to their communities with merger options for discussions and questions, Nancy shared that “Everyday Democracy” has offered to hold a facilitator training for students and community members.
 - The facilitator training would teach students as well as community members how to hold meaningful conversations about Act 46. There will be one training held for all three communities. The hope is to do the training in December or early January and schedule community forums in mid-January with the Committee coming back together in late January with the input from the forums.
 - The next Act 46 Study Committee Meeting is scheduled for December 12th at 6:00pm and will be held in the Cabot School Library. At this meeting Peter will share some example articles of agreement and will familiarize the committee with the process of developing the Articles.

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b. Negotiations Update

- Chris shared that the teachers' negotiating council has sent a letter to Nancy indicating that they do not want to continue to negotiate in open session. They intend to seek clarification from the Labor Relations Board. The Board members are seeking advise from Attorney, Scott Cameron.

Board Action: None

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber