

APPROVED

**CABOT SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 4, 2016**

PRESENT: Chris Tormey, Lisa Olson, Jackie Folsom, Sharon O'Connor **Administrators:** Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; David Schilling, Principal **Student Representatives:** Megan Walker, Alisha Celley
Absent: Ry Hoffman, Isabella McCallum

Call to Order: Chris Tormey, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve March 21, 2015 Minutes – Chris moved to approve the minutes of March 21st following amendments (loss of two tuition students – three students and Capital Fund balance total \$63,625.00). Sharon seconded the motion. Minutes approved following amendments.

Reports

- a. Student Report - Megan Walker, Alisha Celley
 - Last Friday was an in-service day and parent/teacher conferences were held.
 - There was a showing of “Beyond Measure” last Saturday. The movie was a documentary about project based learning.
- b. Superintendent Report – Nancy Thomas
 - Tamara Feldman and Becky Nally did a wonderful job putting together the community engagement event on Saturday night: dinner, showing of “Beyond Measure” and discussion afterwards. 45 people attended including students, staff, parents and other residents. There was rich conversation about the direction of education for Cabot students.
 - Act 46 is a major focus of effort. The next meeting with all three boards and consultant, Peter Clarke, will share strengths and challenges for all three schools and look at how there could be an increase of opportunities for students.
 - There will be changes in healthcare insurance January 1, 2018 and Nancy attended a meeting last week about the new information. There will be four insurance options available for faculty and staff to choose from with varying premium and out of pocket costs.
- c. Principal Report – David Schilling
 - The showing of, Beyond Measure was a great success. David organized another showing of the film for all high school students and staff with discussion following.
 - Reading to end Racism will be held on Thursday. An assembly will be held in the morning and books will be read in each classroom and followed by a discussion.

Board Discussion

- a. Hiring Recommendation – Nancy Thomas
 - Jane Youngbaer is retiring at the end of the current school year.

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- The position was adjusted to full-time literacy specialist and to become funded .4 through Title 1 funds. The Cabot team has interviewed an excellent candidate and Nancy is recommending hiring her for next year.
- b. Second Reading- Kindergarten Entrance Policy
 - The introductory paragraph was changed from the first reading.
 - Nancy is recommending approval of the Kindergarten Entrance Policy tonight.
- c. ESSA – Nancy Thomas
 - Nancy shared information from the Vermont Agency of Education in regards to ESSA, the “Every Student Succeeds Act” and Vermont’s Education Quality Review.
 - ESSA highlights include:
 - Repeal of Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) and replaces it with state designed system that can include a measure of, “well-rounded education.”
 - Maintains testing requirements.
 - Ends HQT and allows states to determine teacher quality requirements through licensure.
 - Continues strong focus on funding underserved populations.
 - Increases flexibility in funding for well-rounded education, including technology, health and safety.
 - Eliminates required use of Title I funding for SES (supplemental) tutoring.
 - Encourages extended learning through after school and summer programs.
 - Maintains, “Supplement” not “supplant.”
 - EQR (Education Quality Reviews) Goals: Understand the quality of local-based efforts and local-decisions regarding EQS implementation. Recognize the full range of outcomes we expect schools to deliver. Identify promising practices to lift up to share with other schools systems. Create networking opportunities among geographically proximate school systems. Build a collective responsibility for all students in Vermont.
 - EQS/EQR- focused on continuous improvement by all schools.
 - ESSA – focused on identifying and fixing, “low performers” and helping them to “measure up.”
 - The new process is being developed and will be in place by August 2017.
- d. Act 46 Next Steps
 - April 11th will be the next Act 46 Committee meeting.
- e. Plan Teacher Appreciation Day
 - May 3rd is teacher appreciation day.
 - The school board will prepare and serve breakfast for teachers.
 - Board members will e-mail one another to plan.
- f. Food Service Transition – Nancy Thomas
 - The Federal Government has identified the supervisory union and the “Food Service Authority”. Food service receipts, payments and personnel will transition from Cabot and Twinfield School to WNESU beginning July 1, 2016.

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Board Action

- a. Act on Hiring Recommendation
 - Chris moved to approve the hiring of Mary Jane Wright for the position of Literacy Specialist. Jackie Folsom seconded the motion. Motion approved.
- b. Approve Kindergarten Entrance Policy
 - Chris moved to approve the Kindergarten Entrance Policy. Sharon seconded the motion. Kindergarten Entrance Policy approved.
- c. Set Next Meeting – The next meeting date should be on April 18th however this is during school vacation.
 - Sharon moved to not hold a second meeting in April. The next meeting will be held on May 2nd.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment : Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber