

APPROVED

**CABOT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 6, 2014, Cabot School Library**

PRESENT: Chris Tormey, Ry Hoffman, Lisa Olson, Jackie Folsom, Sharon O'Connor;
Administration: Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Pat Knoerl, Curriculum Director; Gail Curtis,
Principal; Dave Schilling, Principal Intern; Student Representatives: Megan Walker; Absent:
Heidi Cookson, Gage Sironi

Call to Order: Chris Tormey – 6:06 p.m.

Public Comment : None

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the Minutes of September 8, 2014 and September 15, 2014: Jackie moved to approve the minutes. Ry seconded. Minutes approved.

Reports

a. **Superintendent Report** - Nancy Thomas

- Nancy shared information on Act 166, Universal Pre-K. WNESU early education team will be holding information sessions on October 27 in Cabot and October 28, in Twinfield 5 pm to 6 pm, for parents of 2 and 3 year olds.
- The bus remains at Clark's repair. Rental bus continues to cost \$350/day. Administration will follow up with Pete on next steps.
- Nancy reminded the Board of the upcoming Barre Tech Open House. Cabot and Twinfield have a number of students in these programs that provide diverse options.

b. **Principal Report** – Gail Curtis

- Gail reported that she is spending significant time doing observations of the new teachers.
- She shared that Alexis Kramer, the new behavioral interventionist, has done excellent work creating positive behavioral plans.

d. **Student Report** –Megan Walker,

- Megan shared information about the Marine Bio trip to Massachusetts, including a very successful whale watch and visit to Wood's Hole. The trip was funded through the Gear-up Grant.

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Board Discussion

- a. Early Retirement/Career Change option
 - The Board discussed pros and cons of the newly approved option which allows the Board to determine whether the option will be offered each year and how many slots might be offered. Nancy anticipated financial savings by offering the program and suggested opening two slots.
- b. Discuss Principal Search Schedule
 - Due to a negotiations meeting scheduled for the evening of Monday, October 20, 2014, at Cabot, Nancy requested moving the public forum for input regarding new principal characteristics to a different date. The Board decided to move the full Board meeting, including the public forum to Thursday, October 23, 2014. The public forum will be held during the first hour.
- c. Retreat follow-up
 - The Board will continue to plan the community conversation regarding facility needs at the next meeting.

Board Action

- a. Act on Early Retirement/Career Change option
 - Chris moved and Lisa seconded the motion to approve two slots for the early retirement/career change option for teachers for FY 16. The Board approved the proposal on a 4 to 1 vote. Jackie voted against the motion.

Executive Session: The Board moved to go into executive session at 7:58 pm for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations. The Board exited at 8:04. No action taken.

Adjournment - The Board adjourned at 8:05 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Thomas, notetaker