

Approved

**Cabot and Twinfield Board Meeting
July 29, 2015
Chris Tormey's Home
Minutes**

PRESENT: Chris Tormey, Patrick Healy, Jackie Folsom, Jack Hoffman, Sharon O'Connor, Scott Harris, Ry Hoffman Lisa Olson, Jill Wilson **Administrators:** Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Mark Tucker, Special Services Director

Call to Order Chris Tormey, Chair called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Discussion: The Board members and administrators brainstormed ideas following these questions in regard to Act 46:

WHAT BENEFITS COULD BE CREATED FOR STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS IN A MERGER?

- Larger number of kids to learn together.
- Two high schools merge in some way to create more classes, more opportunities.
- Increase teacher contact – more teachers to choose from.
- Afford more options within small school feel: examples: art, music, theater, languages.
- More stable tax base.
- More staff to work together in school improvement efforts.
- Student supports: options including extra-curricular-after school, plays, sports.
- Increased options for teacher/student contact/inspiration.
- School choice within district.

WHAT QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS DO YO HAVE REGARDING MERGER?

- What about salary differences?
- What might faculty composition look like, especially high school, could it expand electives, etc?
- How would it be decided who/how choice within district?
- How would combined tax rate change?
- What about debt – current and future facility construction?
- What would representation on the new board be?
- How should we work to help residents learn about Act46?
- How is the budget voted on? Town Meeting floor?
- How do we become us instead of us and them? New definition of community.

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SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDY COMMITTEE PARTICIPANTS

- Charge for Study Group?
- Make up of Study Group?

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

- Reduced access for community to meetings?
- In reaching out to other districts are our philosophies in sync?
- How would transportation work? Cost?
- If we got together with Danville/CCSU, what about different policies, data systems?
- What about stress on faculty with travel?
 - Benefits with additional colleagues?
- Community identity – Name, Mascot, Etc?
- How can we involve student voice?
- How can we articulate benefit to share with community?
- How can we articulate possible benefits and detriments to creation of 900 district?
- CLA effect?
- What about Tech Center Groups?
- What about assets and liabilities?
- Stipend for committee members?

The Board adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Thomas, notetaker