

**Act 46 Working Group  
September 12, 2017 Meeting  
Cabot School Library**

**Minutes**

In attendance: Fran Voigt, Roz Daniels, Angela Ogle, Aimee Ducharme, Chris Tormey, Karen Larsen, Jen Boucher, Susan Socks, Cynthia Lubas

The meeting began at 6:30PM

In the public comment period, the committee welcomed C. Lubas to the meeting, and invited her to talk about her experience and concerns with Cabot school.

Chris Tormey reiterated the purpose and goals of the Act 46 Working Group. The purpose of the Committee is provide the Cabot School Board with information to help them make decisions regarding possible paths under Act 46. The three tasks that the School Board has asked the Working Group for help with are:

- 1) Collect information regarding possible collaboration with partner schools
- 2) Look into funding sources to augment Cabot school programs
- 3) Assist the school board in assembling information for the AGS proposal

The admin levels of Cabot, Craftsbury Danville, Hardwick are already meeting to discuss collaboration, so the Act 46 WG should focus on goals #2 and #3

There was a discussion about applying for grant money. It was agreed that you need to have a vision and a solid plan (specific detail, metrics and a definite need to be filled) before approaching grantors. Grants deadlines also need to be watched carefully.

Committee members gave updates on community outreach. Alternative school conversation notes have been made into a Google doc for viewing, and any new comments received will be added. Karen's conversation with Dave Schilling (feasibility of IOTA, mentor/internship program, concentration areas) is on hold due to Dave's extremely busy schedule at the beginning of school. Likewise Chris's meeting with Dave about the Christ Church community is on hold. C. Lubas spoke on behalf of the choice-focused community, speaking to a poor experience at the 5/6 level and reservations re: the adequacy of Cabot high school. Billie was not at the meeting to talk about conversations with students who have chosen other schools. Aimee talked with several Cabot alums who have gone on to successful careers. Aimee, Angela, and Roz will work on further individual and group interviews, both for information gathering, and use in marketing. Angela will craft some interview questions based on info needed for AGS proposal. Susie will create a Google folder to allow all outreach notes to be gathered in one place.

A question was asked about how the school deals with underperforming teachers. Chris summarized the process.

Unapproved

Karen provided an overview of the Cabot Academy program. It will be a 5013C organization with the following purposes:

- 1) Seek out tuition students to boost enrollment and add to the school's revenue stream
- 2) Leverage funds (grants, endowment, or other) for enrichment programs
- 3) Oversee the boarding arrangements for out-of-area tuition students

Seed funding for Cabot Academy would be a combination of grants and loans. The organization would also benefit the wider community: boarding payments to individual families, and solid property values from having a strong school. In October, there will be an article in the Cabot Chronicle, and a public information session.

Chris walked the committee through the AGS rules and requirements as written up by Rory Thibault. He indicated which sections will be handled by the business office, central office, school board, and Act 46 WG. Assignments are as follows:

- 1) 3450.5 part 13, community statistics -Susie
- 2) 3450.8 part 3, historical high school subjects/AP offerings -Karen, Chris
- 3) 3450.8 part 5, pK-12 non-traditional learning opportunities -Angela
- 4) 3450.8 part 6, career readiness of grads -Chris

It is expected that 3450.8 will be a large section of the AGS proposal, and eventually need contributions from more people.

The draft minutes of the September 5 Working Group meeting were approved without any changes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Socks

(with minor additions by Chris Tormey)