

APPROVED

**TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 12, 2016**

PRESENT: Patrick Healy, Scott Harris, Amy Welti, Jill Wilson, Dan Towner, Jack Hoffman Administrators: Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Christina Kimball, Business Manager; Bob Gulardo, Assistant Principal Student Representatives: Sally Weinstein Absent: Jakob Dufresne

Call to Order: Patrick Healy, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve December 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes – Jack moved to approve the minutes of December 15 following an amendment under Board Discussion, Item C, to remove Scott’s name from board members who will be attending Washington Central Supervisory Union merger meetings. Scott seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

Reports

- a. Student Report – Sally Weinstein
 - Students are getting ready for exams and midterms as well as the start of the second semester.
- b. Superintendent Report – Nancy Thomas
 - Work is continuing on the budget as well as preparation for the upcoming public forums.
- c. Principal Report – Bob Gulardo
 - A committee is being formed to address SBAC Testing. The first meeting will be held Thursday, January 14th. The focus of this committee will be to make sure all students are given ample time to practice prior to the test.
 - As part of the League of Innovative Schools Initiative, Mark and a team of teachers visited the Parker School in Lowell, MA. The focus was for them to get a closer look at their system of proficiency based graduation.
 - The Synapse Team was invited to present at the annual League of Innovative Schools Conference.
 - Grades close on Friday.
- d. Twinfo -The Penny Challenge was a huge success. The money raised and the food collected benefits the Onion River Food Pantry. Twinfield has raised a total of \$3,500.

Board Discussion

- a. FY17 Budget Draft #4 – Christina Kimball
 - Christina shared the changes that were made to the budget since the last meeting.
 - Information about the transportation aid has been received.
 - The state made a correction to the equalized pupils count, acknowledging estimated preschool students next year. That addition helps to decrease the equalized cost per pupil.

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- For teachers who have less than 5 years of service, \$1,000. per teacher is budgeted for re-funding teachers' retirement. Three teachers fell into this category.
 - Christina shared tax impact sheets for both Marshfield and Plainfield.
 - As the budget sits, the Act 46 Cost Containment Threshold is exceeded and Twinfield would need to cut the budget by \$253,000. This would mean a cut of 5 teaching positions.
- b. FY15 Audit Review – Christina Kimball
- Christina shared the FY15 Audit. It was a very clean audit.
 - In FY14 there were three findings. These findings were corrected in FY15.
 - This year there was one finding. A bus was purchased last year and was recorded as a short term lease rather than a long term lease. This was corrected.
- c. FY17 School Choice
- Nancy recommended continuing with 10 students coming in and 10 students going out for the school choice lottery.
- d. Announced Tuition
- Christina recommended that tuition for Elementary and High School students remain at \$13,500.
- e. Plan Budget Forum, January 19, 2016
- The board will share FY17 Budget Draft #4 as it stands.
 - Information about Act 46 will be included as well as contact information for local legislators.
 - A slide will highlight significant changes to the budget
 - Information about the updated student enrollment will be included.
 - Factors affecting the tax rate and information about Act 46 will be included. One slide for Plainfield and one slide for Marshfield.
 - Estimated tax calculation with and without spending thresholds.
 - Will post the informational meeting on the front porch forum.
 - A slide will include information about local legislators and their contact numbers.

Board Action

- a. Set School Choice Limit
- Patrick moved to approve 10 students in and 10 students out for School Choice for FY 2017. Jill seconded the motion. School Choice limit set at 10, both sending and receiving.
- b. Approve Announced Tuition
- Patrick moved to approve the tuition rate of \$13,500. Jack seconded the motion. Tuition rate approved.
- c. Approve use of Sick bank
- Patrick moved to open the sick bank for a faculty member. Amy seconded the motion. Use of the sick bank approved.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber