

APPROVED

**TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 26, 2016**

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

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

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve January 12, 2016 Minutes –Jack moved to approve the minutes of January 12, 2016. Jill seconded the motion. Minutes approved

Reports

- a. Student Report – Jakob Dufresne
 - YATST Team organized an assembly to share the data obtained from a student survey about rigor, shared responsibility, relationships and Relevance.
 - Students attended a presentation by Central Vermont Career Center (formerly Barre Technical Center) to learn what they have to offer.
- b. Superintendent Report – Nancy Thomas
 - The team at central office has been working on the budgets and adjusting numbers that are continuing to change, in addition to finalizing the Annual Reports.
 - The Community Engagement Committee will be hosting a gathering at Positive Pie on February 4th from 5:30-7:30pm.
 - Two merger committee meetings have taken place between Twinfield and Cabot.
 - Nancy met with the PBGR (Proficiency Based Graduation Requirement) Committee today. Cabot and Twinfield teachers have put in a great amount of time working to establish what the proficiency process will be for graduation and are making good progress.
- c. Principal Report – Mark Mooney
 - Synapse Team presented at a League of Innovative Schools Conference.
 - Terry Frey will be going out on medical leave. Two experienced teachers will be filling in while he is away. Terry will hopefully return after town meeting day.
- d. Twinfo - The 8th grade students hosted an elder tea. Students interviewed elder family members or friends and discussed how life has changed over the last few decades. Students then invited the elders to a tea for further discussion. It was a great success.

Board Discussion

- a. 8th Grade Adirondack Canoe Trip
 - Tracey McNaughton shared pictures and information about previous 8th grade canoe trips.
 - This will be the 7th year of the 8th grade Canoe Journey.

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- Each year students create a 16ft cedar strip canoe and then the canoe is gifted to the next class. There is now a fleet of 7 cedar canoes.
 - Students also create their own paddle for the journey.
 - Tracey and Trevor Tate will chaperone the trip.
 - The trip costs \$50. per student. If students cannot afford the fee for the trip there are funds available to help.
- b. FY 17 Budget – Christina Kimball
- Christina shared information that will be going in the Annual Report
 - There are two proposed changes to the Act 46 Cost Containment Thresholds. One possible change would be to add .09% to the current Cost Containment Threshold. Another change would be a lower penalty of \$0.25 per each dollar rather than dollar for dollar. The final piece is that if schools will benefit from counting a construction exclusion they may use it. Twinfield will not benefit from this. The legislature is continuing to discuss the Threshold provision and no decisions have been made yet.
 - The board also reviewed the slideshow from last year's informational meeting and adjusted information as needed.

Board Action

- a. Act on 8th Grade Request
- Scott moved to approve the 2016 8th grade canoe trip. Jill seconded the motion. Eighth Grade Adirondack Canoe Trip approved.
- b. Approve FY17 Budget
- Patrick moved to approve the FY17 budget of \$7,091,863. Jack seconded the motion. FY17 proposed budget approved.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber