

**APPROVED**

**TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, December 13, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Patrick Healy, Scott Harris, Jill Wilson, Dan Towner **Administrators:** Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Christina Kimball, Business Manager; Mark Mooney, Principal; Bob Gulardo, Assistant Principal **Absent:** Chandra Miller, Jack Hoffman, Sally Weinstein, Jakob Dufresne

**Call to Order:** Patrick Healy

**Public Comment:** None

**Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve November 22, 2016 Minutes - Scott moved to approve the minutes of November 22<sup>nd</sup> as written. Jill seconded the motion. Minutes approved as written.

**Reports**

- a. Student Report – None
- b. Superintendent Report – Nancy Thomas
  - Central Office has been busy working on, budgets Act 46 and negotiations.
  - Last Thursday Nancy along with Patrick Healy (School Board Chair), Mark Tucker (Special Services Coordinator) and Jakob Dufresne (Twinfield Student) attended a conference about governance issues and student voice around these issues. This conference was sponsored by The Nelly Mae Foundation.
- b. Principal Report – Mark Mooney, Bob Gulardo
  - Winter Term will run from January 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>. For grades 9, 10 and 11 students will have second chance opportunities to work on proficiencies previously offered. These will be new learning opportunities for students. Seniors will have be working on writing college essays, resume building, writing cover letters, mock interviews as well as working with the VSAC representative. At the end of each day students will have screen-free time and will play various board games.
  - The middle school team submitted an application to the New England League of Middle Schools. As a result of this application the team has been invited to the NELM conference and will share a presentation about the 8<sup>th</sup> grade canoe trip.

**Board Discussion**

- a. FY18 Budget 3<sup>rd</sup> Draft – Christina Kimball
  - Christina shared the FY 18 Budget 3<sup>rd</sup> draft and reviewed the highlighted changes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft.

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- Overall Changes – Health insurance updated to reflect 6 months on current plans and 6 months on new plans for professionals only. Support staff health insurance is set at FY17 rates.
  - Regular Education –Preschool tuition rates increased from \$3,092.00 to \$3,178.00.
  - Fiscal Operations – Increased Revenue Anticipation Interest.
  - Operations – The facility plan has been updated.
  - Debt Service – Added lease payment for new boiler system.
  - Christina also shared the draft copy of the Twinfield/Marshfield tax impact sheet.
- b. Act 46 Update
- The Committee voted 6 to 1 to go out to the communities with 2 options for merger for discussion and feedback.
  - The two options summarized are:
    - 1. Continue with Danville and Twinfield High Schools building on their current program strengths and close Cabot High School. Students from all communities could choose which high school to attend. Transportation would be provided at the beginning and end of the day.
    - 2. Continue with Danville and Twinfield High Schools and also hold a Project Based Learning Program at Cabot School that would be available to students from all communities. The program would be a full day program and could be accessed for a semester, a full year or more. The administrators and committee members discussed a focus on performing arts and use of CSPAC and one of the satellite building as desirable, flexible space. This option could also allow for a district wide drama/music co-curricular afterschool program.
  - The community discussions will also include the “no” option and what would be required for an “alternative structure” under the law.
  - As committee members prepare to go back to their communities with merger options for discussions and questions, Nancy shared that “Everyday Democracy” has offered to hold a facilitator training for students and community members to help with community forums.
  - The facilitator training would teach students as well as community members how to hold meaningful conversations about Act 46. There will be one training held for all three communities. The hope is to do the training in December or early January and schedule community forums in mid-January with the Committee coming back together in late January with the input from the forums.
  - At the Act 46 Study Committee Meeting held on December 12<sup>th</sup> Peter shared some example articles of agreement and familiarized the committee with the process of developing the Articles.

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### c. Preschool Transportation

- Dan Towner and Mark Mooney shared with the board two concerns that had been brought to their attention about preschool transportation.
- A grandparent was concerned about the effectiveness of using a large bus to complete the preschool run. A small bus is not more cost effective and costs essentially the same amount in gas. Twinfield is working on purchasing a large van.
- Currently a monitor has been hired to ride on the bus during the mid-day preschool run. In the morning and afternoon students often help the younger children. The board will look at possible options for changing this current practice. This may mean hiring monitors for each preschool run or providing training and community service hours and training for students who wish to help out with preschool students during bus runs.

### d. Negotiations Update

- The Board moved to go into executive session to discuss negotiations with the teachers. The premature disclosure of which to the public would put the board at a substantial disadvantage.

**Board Action:** None

**Executive Session:** Patrick moved to go into executive session at 7:42pm to discuss negotiations. Jill seconded the motion. The Board went into executive session at 7:42pm. The Board returned from executive session at 7:55 p.m., No action taken.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber