

APPROVED

**TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 08, 2016**

PRESENT: Patrick Healy, Dan Towner, Jack Hoffman, Jill Wilson **Administrators:** Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Mark Mooney, Principal **Student Representatives:** Sally Weinstein, Jakob Dufresne
Public: Scott Harris

Call to Order: Nancy Thomas, Superintendent called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

- a. Elect Chair – Jack Hoffman nominated Patrick Healy for chair. Dan Towner seconded the nomination. Patrick elected chair.
- b. Elect Clerk/Vice-Chair – tabled nomination for clerk/Vice Chair.
- c. Elect 3 WNESU representatives – Dan Towner nominated Patrick Healy, Jill Wilson and Jack Hoffman. Patrick Healy seconded the motion. The Board approved the 3 WNESU representatives.
- d. Committee Assignments, including Central Vermont Career Center Representatives – tabled appointment of representative.
- e. Set regular board meeting schedule – Meetings will continue to be the second and fourth Tuesday at 6:30pm at the Twinfield Library.
- f. Schedule annual board retreat- tabled and will schedule after further discussion.
- g. Designate official newspapers and posting locations: The Hardwick Gazette, The World and The Times Argus will continue to be the official newspapers. The official posting sites will be the Plainfield and Marshfield Stores, The Post Office and The Front Porch Forum.
- h. Discuss and adopt Code of Ethics – Jack moved to have the board adopt the Code of Ethics for Vermont School Board Members. Dan Towner seconded the motion. Code of Ethics adopted by the board.
- i. Identify communications practices - no new practices identified.
- j. Discuss board development opportunities and attendance – Board Chair Training will be held on Wednesday, May 18th.
- k. Discuss local and statewide education advocacy responsibilities - Jack Hoffman stays on top of what is happening in the legislature and all board members also receive the legislature education report.

Public Comment: The parents of a current preschool student came to the board to express their concerns for their daughter. Her birthday falls after the September 1st kindergarten cutoff and the family is disheartened that she may not be able to attend Kindergarten with her peers next year. Nancy explained that a policy is being developed and parents can provide input to the Board when it is presented at the next meeting.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve February 9, 2016 Minutes – Dan Towner moved to approve the minutes of February 9th

Reports

- a. **Student Report** – Sally Weinstein, Jakob Dufresne
 - Eighth grade Students started their model government project last week. A president and vice president were elected. Other students will serve on Congress, be lobbyists and media. Students will visit the State House and will debate about current issues.

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- Winter carnival took place before break.
- b. Superintendent Report – Nancy Thomas
 - Work is continuing with Act 46 and Universal Preschool and the process for registering 3 and 4 year-olds for Pre-K. Nancy is working on a proposed policy for the cut-off for the preschool/kindergarten age.
 - Nancy attended the Limes concert on Saturday which included Twinfield students and it was an amazing show.
- c. Principal Report – Mark Mooney
 - A committee was established to plan for the Smarter Balance Testing. A testing schedule was created.
- d. Twinfo
 - LIFT is a student management system for setting Personalized Learning Goals and building a portfolio. The program tracks proficiencies/content standards.

Board Discussion

- a. Act 46 Study Committee Update
 - Cabot and Danville boards met last week which Jack and Patrick attended as observers. The focus was primarily on looking at collaboration between the High Schools and leaving the elementary schools as is.
 - There will be a meeting with Twinfield and Cabot on March 15th.
 - Washington Central Supervisory Union has expressed interest in looking at possible mergers with 4 towns outside of their supervisory union including Twinfield, though there is no specific proposal. Nancy and Patrick will attend the meeting at U-32 on Wednesday, March 9th at 6:00pm.
 - There has been some great feedback from students about their thoughts on Act 46 and possible merger options.
- b. Plainfield Board Members
 - At the current time there is only one Plainfield Board member. Scott Harris is interested and Plainfield select board will hold a meeting on Monday, March 14th to confirm Scott to the Board for one year. They will also put the word out that there is still one position open on the board.
- c. Tuition Waiver Request
 - Nancy recommended that the board approve a tuition waiver until the end of the year for a pre-K student whose guardian is a staff member. The child's family member recently received temporary custody of the child and it is a hardship for the child to attend a different Preschool program.

Board Action

- a. Act on Tuition Waiver
 - Dan Towner moved to approve the tuition waiver. Jill Wilson seconded the motion. Tuition Waiver approved.

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Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber