

APPROVED

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

PRESENT: Patrick Healy, Jack Hoffman, Chandra Miller, Dan Towner **Administrators:** Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Mark Mooney, Principal; Bob Gulardo, Assistant Principal; Pat Knoerl, Curriculum Director **Student Representatives:** Jakob Dufresne **Absent:** Jill Wilson, Scott Harris, Sally Weinstein

Call to Order: Patrick Healy, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve April 12, 2016 Minutes – Jack moved to approve the minutes as written. Dan Towner seconded the motion. Minutes approved as written.

Reports

- a. Student Report – Jakob Dufresne
 - The students have returned from the French trip and it was an exceptional experience for all.
 - The first baseball and softball games were unfortunately cancelled due to weather.
- b. Superintendent Report – Nancy Thomas
 - Nancy visited her family in Finland and was able to attend a day at her granddaughter's Finnish elementary school. She shared some of the highlights of the similarities and differences with our schools.
- c. Principal Report – Mark Mooney
 - SBAC Testing is underway.
 - Green-up day is coming up and students in grades 7-12 will participate on Friday, May 6th.
 - J-Term planning is underway. A new requirement for J-Term: students must meet all course proficiencies in order to participate. Students who are not proficient will be able to get extra support during that time to meet proficiencies.
- d. Twinfo - Bob Gulardo
 - June 2nd – June 5th is the 8th grade canoe journey. If all students attend there will be a group of 39 student.
 - May 14th is the Jimmy Kennedy breakfast and auction. All proceeds will be put toward the canoe journey.

Board Discussion

- a. Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements Policy – Second Reading
 - The board briefly discussed changes made to the policy.
 - Pat briefly discussed proficiency indicators found in each content area.
 - The content areas include: English/Language Arts, Global Citizenship, Mathematics, Science, Visual and Performing Arts, Health and Physical Education and Transferrable Skills.

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- b. Proficiency Indicator Walk-Through
 - Mark shared a handout that high-lighted each content area and proficiency indicators.
 - At future meetings each content area will be reviewed with proficiency indicators.
- c. Planning For Act 46 Informational Meeting
 - For next steps Peter Clarke will be meeting with the school boards individually. This will allow him to get a handle on where each school is planning to go and see what the needs are.
 - Nancy suggested holding off on an information meeting about Act 46 until May.
 - The board will brainstorm and email questions that board members as well as community members might be asking. Answers will be prepared for the meeting.
- d. ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act)
 - Nancy shared information from the Vermont Agency of Education in regards to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the Vermont’s Education Quality Review.
 - ESSA (federal) Highlights include:
 - Repeals Annual Yearly Progress and replaces it with state designed system that can include a measure of, “well-rounded education.”
 - Maintains testing requirements.
 - Ends HQT status (Highly Qualified Teacher) and allows states to determine teacher quality requirements through licensure.
 - Continues strong focus on funding underserved populations.
 - Increases flexibility in funding for well-rounded education, including technology, health and safety.
 - Eliminates required use of Title I funding for SES (supplemental) tutoring.
 - Encourages extended learning through after school and summer programs.
 - Maintains, “Supplement” not “Supplant.”
 - EQR (Education Quality Reviews) (Vermont) Highlights:
 - Looks at the quality of local-based efforts and local-decisions regarding Ed Quality Standards implementation.
 - Recognizes the full range of outcomes we expect schools to deliver.
 - Identifies promising practices to lift up to share with other schools systems.
 - Creates networking opportunities among geographically proximate school systems.
 - Builds a collective responsibility for all students in Vermont.
 - EQS/EQR- focused on continuous improvement by all schools.
 - ESSA – focused on identifying and fixing, “low performers” and helping them to “measure up.”

Board Action

- a. Act on Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements Policy
 - Patrick moved to approve the Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements Policy as written. Chandra seconded the motion. Policy approved as written.

Executive Session: None

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Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber