

APPROVED

TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 26, 2015

Twinfield Union School Library

PRESENT: Patrick Healy, Dan Towner, Monica Light, Scott Harris, Jack Hoffman, Jill Wilson
Administrators: Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Christina Kimball, Business Manager; Mark Mooney, Principal
Absent: Samantha Lege, Bridget Couture

Call to Order: Patrick Healy, chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Public Comment : None.

Consent Agenda

Approve May 12, 2015 Minutes - Jack moved to accept the minutes as amended (change wording of Monica's abstention). Dan seconded the motion. Minutes approved following amendments.

Reports

a. Superintendent Report - Nancy Thomas

- Will need to hire an ELL (English Language Learner) teacher next year for 2 days a week. There are currently 6 ELL students enrolled.
- Special Services Director position has been filled with Mark Tucker. Very excited to welcome him to the team.
- Tuesday May 19th the State Board of Education held their meeting at Twinfield Union School.
- Chris Tormey and Nancy attended the Superintendent/Board Chair Meeting. Patrick attended the meeting in January.

b. Principal Report – Mark Mooney

- 8th grade students are getting ready for their canoe trip. They will leave next Monday
- Prom went very well. 70 students attended. Board member Samantha Lege was one of the Djs.
- The variety show will be Tuesday June 2 at 7:00 p.m.
- Teachers and students are gearing up for J Term.
- Bike Rodeo for elementary students is scheduled for Thursday, May 28th.
- The interview process for hiring an Art Teacher and Athletic Director is complete.
- Bob will be coordinating interviews for the available administrative assistant position.
- Music interviews will begin June 8th.

c. Student Report-

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- None due to absence.

d. Twinfo-

- Mark shared a handbook with board members.
- In the future Mark will review the athletic handbook and get feedback about Sports Eligibility.

Board Discussion

a. TLC After School Program: Carrie Ricker

- This is the second year of operating without a grant.
- Served 57 students this year with 28 regular attendees.
- The program operated on all days school was open. This included early release days.
- Two activities were available each day.
- Special activities included: Fashion show, Animal Stories, mask making, Ready Set Run, bread oven fundraiser
- TLC will end the year with a fund balance of \$9,522.00

b. H361 and Collaboration meeting with Twinfield and Cabot

- On June 9th a joint meeting of Cabot and Twinfield boards will go over the information for H361 more in depth and will discuss future collaboration options.
- Legislative goal is to provide substantial equity in the quality and variety of educational opportunities, despite the significant drop in student numbers across the state.
- The goal is to maximize operational efficiencies through greater flexibility to manage, share, transfer resources with a goal of increasing district level student to staff ratio. Over the years there has been a decline in students by 20%, but no reduction in staff.
- Preferred structures are looking at a school district/ educational district of at least 900.
- The law allows for an alternative structure as long as it meets certain criteria. This includes going through an Educational Quality Review. Must meet standards and have an average daily membership of at least 1100.
- In 3 years if school districts haven't merged they will need to submit paperwork stating that they have met criteria.
- The Agency of Education then would look to combine districts that have not yet merged yet to meet the criteria.
- Small Schools Grants will continue if schools participate in a merger.
- There are tax incentives for a merger. Tax reduction of 10 cents the first year and 8 cents the second year.
- The cost containment structure has changed. Overall 2% cost per pupil limit and will be a graduated system, however, Twinfield will be held to 1.64% increase on a per pupil basis, above which there will be a tax penalty.

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- The bill states that it is not intended to encourage or promote the closure of schools including small schools.

c. Audit Bids

- After reviewing the audit bids Christina recommended that WNESU, Twinfield and Cabot continue to contract with Mudgett, Jennett and Krogh-Wisner, P.C.
- Twinfield Union School Costs: 2015 \$9,200.00 2016 \$9,500.00 2017 \$9,800.00.

Board Action

a. One year leave of absence for Jenna Aube

- Jack Hoffman moved to accept Jenna's request for a one year leave of absence. Monica seconded the motion. Request approved.

b. Approve Part time Art Teacher Candidate

- Monica Moved to accept the recommendation of Meghan Rigali as the new part time Art Teacher at Twinfield. Megan Rigali approved as part time Art Teacher.

c. Approve Firm for Audit

- Jill moved to approve Christina's recommendation for Mudgett, Jennett and Krogh-Wisner, P.C for the next three years of audits. Patrick seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Executive Session : None

Adjournment : Patrick Healy adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber