

Approved

TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday – January 10, 2012

School Library

Present: Jill Wilson, Pat Healy, Michael Nobles, Monica Light, Amy Darling, and Pat Boyle, **Administration:** Carol Amos, Associate Principal; Mark Mooney, Principal; Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Rob Billings, Business Manager; and Pat Johnson, Curriculum Director **Absent:** Student Representative Cristin Martin and Erin Hall

Call to order: Michael Nobles, Chair. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.

Public Comment: Dick Lashoones was present and concerned that the Fieldnotes has not included the board minutes. Nancy explained that the issue has been resolved and they will be included in the next Fieldnotes. Mr. Lashoones also inquired about the FY11 Audit and when the information would be available. Rob said the final reviews were in process and it would be available soon. Mr. Lashoones asked the board what would happen if the school did not meet the annual yearly progress for three or four consecutive years. Monica shared that with the new administration in place and the work they have done it is likely to improve Twinfields ratings. Nancy explained how being an “identified school” works and the improvement plan in place.

Consent Agenda:

- a. December 13, 2011 minutes

Pat made a motion to accept the consent agenda, the motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

- a. Superintendent Report- Nancy reported that the new website is up and running. There are still some details to work through. She encouraged community members to contact the school if they have any questions/ concerns about the website. The preliminary Education Finance Study was released. According to the study Act 60 and Act 68 are achieving the goals of equality of access to resources that they were set out to do. Nancy reported that Amy Sykas’ husband, Steve Sykas had died from cancer this week. Amy is the Special Services Manager at the central office. The board sent their condolences to Amy and her family.
- b. Principals Report: Mark reported on a very successful Penny Challenge, the high school was able to raise \$3,400 for the food shelf. There is a 5th-8th concert tomorrow night. High school exams will be held on January 23rd and 24th. Mark reported that the student council will be hosting a talent show to raise money for their winter carnival. The drama program is starting auditions this month for their production of Cinderella. Carol read a letter from 3rd grade teacher, Anthony Popoli. The 3rd grade is requesting a fieldtrip to Canada to visit the Botanical Gardens and the Bio Dome. Carol also read a letter from 4th grade teacher, Jenna Aube. Jenna is expecting a baby and would like a leave of absence for FY13. The board will revisit the requests at a future meeting.

Presentation: Use of Technology in our classroom. Maria Forman-

- a. Maria introduced the technology committee members who were present: Heather Flinn, elementary teacher; John Harrison, music teacher; Betsy Brigham, art teacher, and Joanna Fowler, high school teacher. Other members of the committee are Peter Herrick, elementary teacher; Mary Whalen, high school teacher; Seth Bishop, Wild Branch Solutions; and Darcy Buret, high school teacher. Maria presented the board with information on the current inventory of computers, laptops, tablets and kindles

the school owns. She went on to share the percentage of these items being used during each period of the school day. Betsy Brigham explained how the technology committee works to achieve technology standards set forth by the International Society for Technology in Education and the New England Technology Standards (NETS). John Harrison explained how the technology is making a difference in his music class. Students get instant feedback and results when recording music. Joanna shared with the board how her classroom has become the first “paperless” classroom at the school. She explained how students always have access to homework assignments and how students can see corrections on their writing assignments. The board then went to Heather Flinn’s classroom for a Smart Board presentation.

Board Action-

- a. Adopt Security Camera Policy - Patrick made a motion to accept the Security Camera Policy as written, the motion passed, 5-1.
- b. Approve Winooski Valley School Choice – Pat made a motion to approve the Winooski Valley School Choice, Patrick seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- c. Set Graduation Day – June 9, 2012 – Pat made a motion to accept the graduation date as June 9th, 2012, Patrick seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The board agreed to let the graduation date be set when the school calendar is created.
- d. Approve Announced Tuition – \$12,000 – Rob presented the board with an announced tuition rate of \$12,000 for both elementary and secondary. Rob explained that if Orange decides to designate Twinfield as their high school, there is still the option of lowering the rate. Monica made a motion to accept the FY13 announced tuition rate as \$12,000, Jill seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- e. Accept Roof Bid – The board reviewed the bids and the possible options for each roof. After much discussion the board awarded the bid for the high school roof to J.A. Morrissey and the elementary roof to EF Wall. Pat made a motion to accept the bid for the high school roof from J.A. Morrissey and the elementary roof from EF Wall, Jill seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- f. Approve FY13 Budget - Rob presented the 4th version of the FY13 budget proposal. The proposal is a 2.9% increase over FY12’s budget. After much discussion Pat made a motion to adopt a \$6,572,233.00 FY13 budget, the motion carried unanimously.
- g. Transportation Bids- Rob and Nancy shared with the board that there was only one bid that came in and that the cost was higher than budgeted for. The transportation issue will be addresses in preparation for the FY14 budget.

Future Agenda Items-

- a. Propose Tuesday January 24, 2012 special meeting – The board agreed to a special meeting on January 24th, 2012.
- b. Snowmobiles on school grounds

Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Kimball
Transcriber

