

Approved
Twinfield Union School Board Meeting
Twinfield Union School Library
Tuesday, January 14, 2020
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Call to order by Patrick Healy

Board Members Present: Erin Barry, Lauren Cleary, Janna Osman, Manny Sainz, Jaime Spector, Patrick Healy.

Administrators Present: Principal Mooney & Asst. Principal, Mark Tucker, Christina Kimball, Katie Callan, Executive Asst to Superintendent

Adjustments to Agenda – Patrick moved and Lauren seconded to make the following adjustments to the agenda: motion passed.

- Public Comment/Statement from an individual
- Equity Article tabled until March

Public Comment - none

Consent Agenda

Approve December 10, 2019 Minutes – a **motion** to approve the minutes as written by Erin Barry and seconded by Lauren Cleary. Motion passed with Patrick abstaining because he was not in attendance on December 10th.

Reports

Superintendent Report – Lead testing has been done at schools. Nothing back for Twinfield at this point.

Principal Report – Alumni roundtable with students that have graduated, and current high school students got to ask questions of the alumni. 27 students heading to NYC to Broadway to see Hamilton. Middle school had their day of model government. Visited the Capital. February 6th will be an info night for community & parents about school safety. New after-school grades 7-12 is up and running. Offering many different activities.

Student Services – just a brief note and discussion on increase of students requiring services.

Twinfo – Interviewed the PE teacher, Tom Costello. The students go hiking, outdoor exploration, and use the sledding hill. Students have fitness assessments done at certain grade levels. The equipment that Twinfield has is available for the town to use upon request. It can be loaned out.

Board Discussion

FY21 Budget Review – Christina went over the current FY21 budget.

- Discussed Equalized Pupil and CLA rates.
- She also went over the what the current tax rates look like with the figures that are in place.
- If you spend more than the maximum Ed Spending per equalized pupil that is set by the State then you are double taxed on the amount over.
- With the current budget presented Twinfield is under the penalty.
- Christina went over each section of the budget and where increases and decreases occurred.
- A bus payment and tractor payment came off the budget.
- 40,000 is earmarked to offset Food Service deficit from reserves
- 25,000 Transfer to Capital Projects – not currently in the budget, has been done in the past. Mark T. recommends seeing if there are any surplus funds at the end of the year since current budget is close to threshold.

Social Media Policy

Purchasing Policy

A **motion** to adopt the Social Media Policy and the Purchasing Policy by Erin Barry and seconded by Janna Osman. Motion passed.

Alternate Board Representative for CCSU board – State Board of Education agreed to allow the naming of alternates from District Boards to the SU Board, but stressed the importance that the alternate needs to attend all the CCSU board meetings. A **motion** to defer naming of an alternate to the CCSU board currently by Lauren Cleary and seconded by Janna. Motion passed.

Alternative Transportation Update – Tabled for future if there is a need.

Efficiency Vermont Project Update – a brief update on where the projects are at. Lights have been replaced in the gym. More work to be done in the hallway lighting and air handler controls.

Full Day Pre-K Discussion – Twinfield has it in the budget to offer full day Pre-K next year, there will be two classrooms. Discussion on how many students it will attract - unknown until we do PK screening. Once the budget passes, the details will be worked on regarding the program.

Greg (member of public) – Expressed some concerns and questions about an incident that occurred in May 2018 at an AAU tournament in Maine. He has previously claimed that

basketball players (who were then Twinfield students) were in a room with 4 adult men and 1 19-year-old girl. 3 of the adult men provided alcohol to the 19-year-old girl. Head coach did not provide alcohol but this was his hotel room. Others had walked into the hotel room and witnessed this. After the incident, Greg (who was not there himself) spoke with Mr. Mooney. Mr. Mooney spoke to the accused, did not feel anything had happened that the school could act on. Mr. Tucker spoke with head coach and 19-year old's father. Greg feels that both times this was not investigated properly. Mark Tucker wrote those involved letters and his thoughts on what happened on this trip, gave them a warning. AAU trip was not a school sponsored event. DCF was notified about underage drinking but since she was over 18 and it was out of state they did not accept the report. AAU coaches are not hired by, and cannot be fired by the Twinfield School District. Greg's point is that one of the AAU coaches had been subsequently hired on by Twinfield School District. Greg feels like he and his son have been discriminated against for his reporting this incident. He would like to see two current employees fired. He claims it is the Board's job to hire and fire coaches, and said he was told that by Bob Johnson, who runs school sports programs for the Vermont Principals Association. Mark Tucker said this has never been the practice in his time with Twinfield, but he agreed to look into this; if the School Board needs a specific policy, as Greg claims, this can be undertaken.

A **motion** to go into Executive Session was made at 8:12 PM by Lauren Cleary and seconded by Erin Barry, top discuss the allegations made by Greg Breer. Motion passed, and the Board went into Executive Session at 8:13pm. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:26 PM – No action taken at this point.

A **motion** to go into Executive Session to discuss an employee separation issue by Jamie Spector and seconded by Janne at 8:27 PM. Motion passed and the Board went into Executive Session at 8:28pm. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:52 PM - No action taken.

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Janna Osman and seconded by Lauren. Motion passed, and the Board adjourned at 8:55pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Nicky Cole