

Approved
Twinfield Union School Regular Board Meeting
Twinfield Union School Library – Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, February 9, 2021
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

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

Board Members Present: Janna Osman, Manny Sainz, Lauren Cleary, Erin Berry, Patrick Healy, Jamie Spector

Student Representatives Anna Lindert-Boyes and Given Czuchry

Administrators Present: Superintendent Mark Tucker, Principal Mark Mooney, Asst Principal Rachel Hartman Finance Director Michael Concessi

Members of Public - Bobbi Brimblecombe, Marshfield Town Clerk

Public Comment – none

Consent Agenda

Approve January 12, 2021 Minutes

Approve January 19, 2021 Minutes

A **motion** to approve the minutes by Jamie Spector and seconded by Lauren Cleary. Motion passed.

Superintendent's Report – some points highlighted -

New yield rate – how it affects the district. The increase in the Yield Rate will lower the tax rate for Plainfield and Marshfield from the rates estimated when the budget was approved.

Principal's Report – some points highlighted –

Successful reset for the hybrid remote learning – lots of good feedback from parents.

EST – much easier for parents to be involved in the meetings. Some students have flourished in the hybrid schedule. In the future will this still be a possibility.

Student Services Report – No discussion

Student Representative Report –

Model UN Conference students and staff participated with 14,000 others from around the country (in Zoom) – it went very well.

New Bus Leasing – Michael Concessi: Owning buses after 3 years becomes expensive.

Twinfield has had \$47k in bus maintenance in the last 18 months. Leasing buses would be the best option for 3 years. Cressey honors warranty claims and sends a technician onsite to fix the buses.

A **motion** to accept the bus leasing proposal for 3 years by Lauren Cleary and seconded by Janna Osman. Motion passed.

Not Commingling vs. Commingling - Town Ballot & School Ballot –Bobbi Brimblecombe:
With current legislation, school boards can decide to not commingle the ballots. Would be easier to not commingle the ballots this year. In years past the ballots would be brought together and mixed up and then counted. Would usually not know if one town did not pass the budget.

A **motion** to accept the recommendation to print the ballots separately and not commingle the ballots for counting this year by Lauren Cleary and seconded by Jamie Spector. Motion passed.

Planning for Informational Meeting – Mark Tucker shared what the timeline calendar looks like at this point with all the due dates.

Solar Net-Metering Presentation – Jim from Norwich Solar was online to give the board a PowerPoint presentation of the solar panels and savings that would come from using solar. Also went over what Twinfield would be responsible for. System owner is responsible for the maintenance and taxes - not Twinfield. There is a clause in the contract that would allow Twinfield to get out of the contract if they needed to. Looked at the solar site and schedule for installing. Discussion on how to protect the panels. Discussion on what happens to the panels when they reach the 25-year mark or need to be decommissioned.

A **motion** to accept the proposal with Norwich Solar and authorize Mark Tucker to sign the agreement by Jamie Spector and seconded by Janna Osman. Motion passed.

Black Lives Matter Flag Presentation – students Ana and Given gave the presentation. The students gave a wonderful presentation on what Black Lives Matter means. Explained the difference between Black Lives Matter, All Lives Matter and Blue Lives Matter and why they are not the same. The students gave examples of injustice that takes place. They went back in history to show how race started. 87.2% students and 91.3% faculty support the raising of the flag. Presentation can be watched at <http://bit.ly/2NhNqhY>

Board asked what some of the negative thoughts have been around this. There were only a couple that shared a thought on why they do not support it.

Public Comment –

Betsy – wanted to let Ana and Given know they did a fantastic job.

Eric – also wanted to let Ana and Given know they did a great job.

Terry – impressed with how well Ana and Given spoke

Chris – wanted to speak on behalf of the staff of how proud he is of the school and these students. They give lots of hope for the future.

A **motion** to raise the Black Lives Matter flag at Twinfield School with the American and Vermont flag in February 2021 by Erin Berry and seconded by Lauren Cleary. Motion passed.

Future Meetings:

- Tuesday, March 9th, 2021 at 6 p.m.- Regular Meeting
- Wednesday, March 31st, 2021 at 6 p.m. - Informational Meeting

A **motion** to adjourn the meeting by Janna Osman. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Nicky Cole