

TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday January 25, 2011

School Library

Present: Patrick Healy, Jill Wilson, Pat Boyle, Michael Nobles, and Amy Darling **Administration:** Christine Barnes, Carol Amos, Nancy Thomas, and David Larcombe **Student Representatives:** Ethan Warshow and Ian Young **Absent:** Monica Light

Call to order: Michael Nobles, Chair 7:02 pm

Public Comment:

- a. Rich Phillips was present to support creating a Green Team at the school. This team would incorporate energy efficiencies throughout the school. It would really benefit the students, staff, and community.
- b. Alan Whitcomb was present to share his concern about the money the state owes Twinfield for the Wood Pellet conversion. Alan would like to have the superintendent write a letter to Representative Janet Ansel. The legislature has put a long term freeze on school construction reimbursement. Nancy shared that she would be talking with Janet soon.
- c. Mary Lou Wells was present to share her concern with the recent student suicides in Vermont. Michael shared with Mary Lou some of the work that the Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) team at Twinfield has been working on.

Principal Search Update: Brian O'Regan

- a. Brian shared that as of this afternoon there were 47 applicants. The screening committee will meet next week to narrow that down to six or eight that they would like to interview. The first round of interviews will be held on February 11th, and the second round on February 14th. There will also be an opportunity for the applicants to visit the school and community. Nancy shared that the board will finalize the criteria for the committee to use in time for the interviews.
- b. Brian reviewed information from the Community Forum that took place before the board meeting.

Student Board Member Report: Ethan Warshow, Ian Young

- a. Ian shared with the board that Student Council will be meeting with Nancy and Christine for the student forum. The student council is also discussing the structure of the council. They would like to have meetings with the principal on a regular basis. Part of the structure would include a requirement of one student council member to be one of the two student representatives on the school board.
- b. Ian reported that the Youth and Adults Transforming Schools Together (YATST) New York City trip was wonderful. Ian visited the School of Violin and Dance in the South Bronx. Those students are coming to Vermont in May for the statewide YATST conference. The Twinfield students did a great job presenting at the conference.

Washington Northeast Board Update:

- a. Pat shared with the board that the WNE board is meeting monthly. She also shared that Nancy is due for the annual superintendent evaluation. The board will review the

superintendent evaluation process and email Pat with any questions or feedback that they would like to have brought up.

Superintendent's Report: Nancy Thomas

- a. Nancy requested an executive session for the purpose of contract negotiations.
- b. Michael suggested posting the written superintendents report on the website.

Principals' Report: Christine Barnes & Carol Amos

- a. Christine shared a letter from Betsy Ziegler and Julia Wayne to offer lunch to preschool kids beginning in FY12. Christine has also looked into sending bagged lunches home to families for the weekend. Nancy and Christine will look into providing lunches to the preschool students.
- b. Christine discussed starting a study group, a Green Team, which focuses on school based energy efficiencies. Charlie Wanzer is heading up the initiative. The board agreed with starting a study group.
- c. Bernie Sanders has invited students in Vermont to submit a State of the Union address into a contest. Anthony Caccavos's class submitted some. Terri Vest is a judge for the contest.
- d. Christine would like to have a sheriff at all the home basketball games for Varsity and Junior Varsity games. The board agreed to have a sheriff present.
- e. Christine has contacted the power company to have the outside lights fixed.
- f. Christine requested for an executive session for student matter.

Board Discussion

- a. Annual Meeting Report Preparation – David presented the new format of financial information that will be in the annual report. The board reviewed it and accepted it.
- b. Review of FY11 Financials - postponed

Board Action

- a. Approve January 4, 2011 minutes approved with a correction
- b. Approve January 11, 2011 minutes approved as presented.
- c. Approve Carol Amos as Associate Principal – **Voted 5-0**
- d. Approve New Hires **Voted 5-0**
 - i. Brian Hebert – Behavior Support Specialist
 - ii. Leah Maurice – Paraeducator
 - iii. Michele Tofel Murray- 5 hours a week ELL English Language Learner.
- e. Approve Warning for Annual Meeting – Pat moves that we approve the warnings as presented, **Voted 5-0.**
- f. Approve Warning for the Bond – The board approved the warning for the Bond, **Voted 5-0**

Executive Session: The board went into executive session at 8:57 pm for a contract negotiation matter.

Executive Session: The board came out of executive session at 9:10 pm, no action.

Executive Session: The board went into executive session at 9:11 pm for a student matter.

Executive Session: The board came out of executive session at 9:20 pm, with no action.

Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Kimball
Transcriber