

TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

School Library

Present: Jill Wilson, Patrick Healy, Michael Nobles, Amy Darling, Monica Light, and Pat Boyle (6:20pm)

Administration: Carol Amos, Nancy Thomas, and Pat Johnson **Student Representatives:** Ethan Warshow

Absent: Ian Young

Call to order: Board Chair, Michael called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Reorganization of the Board (to be completed from Monday's meeting)

- a. Elect 3 WNESU representatives: Michael nominated Pat, Amy, and Jill to be the Twinfield representatives on the Washington Northeast Supervisory Union Board. Patrick seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Select meeting dates and times: The board discussed changing from two board meetings a month to one, once the board committees are set up and meeting on a regular basis. Until further notice the board would like to continue meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. The board did change the start time from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm. If and when they change to one board meeting a month, they would consider starting at 6:00 pm.
- c. Committee assignments: Pat, Amy and Ethan volunteered to be on the Policy Committee, they will be holding their meetings at 5:15 pm, at the school before board meetings. Michael, Monica and Jill volunteered to be on the Finance Committee, they will be holding their meetings at 7:00 am- 8:00 am, location to be determined. Michael and Patrick volunteered to be on the Facilities Committee, their meetings will be held at 7:00 am-8:00 am, location to be determined. The board would like to see the Committee meetings posted at the bottom of board agendas.
- d. Select official newspapers and posting locations: The board selected the Hardwick Gazette, the World and the Times Argus as the official newspapers. They would like to continue posting the agendas at the Plainfield and Marshfield Post Offices, the Red Store, Tim's Convenience, Derricks, Marshfield General Store, and emailed to Town Clerks to post.
- e. Review School Board Code of Conduct: Nancy handed out the Code of Conduct to be voted on later in the meeting.

Public Comment

- a. Mary Lou Wells was present to suggest updating the drug use policy. She would also like to have a personal finance class available to students. Pat Johnson shared with the community and board that it is on the radar screen for future curriculum.
- b. Laurie Martin was present to say "thank you for hiring the principal that you did".

Reading Assessment (Fountas and Pinnell) Presentation:

- a. Mary Goodyear and Pat Johnson Knoerl provided the board with the Fountas & Pinnell Reading Assessment results from December 2010. Fountas & Pinnell is a local reading assessment for kindergarten through eighth grade students. This assessment was piloted at Twinfield three years ago in Krista Larrows fourth grade. The assessment is based on several levels of reading including words per minute, accuracy and fluency. The students are assessed on reading both fiction and nonfiction material.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve minutes of February 14, 2011
- b. Approve minutes of March 9, 2011
- c. Accept Facility/Energy Committee notes
- d. Accept School Board Code of Conduct

- e. Set Graduation Date: June 18, 2011, 11 a.m.

Pat made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda, Patrick seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

Student Board Member Report: Ethan Warshow, shared with the board that Tony Caccavo has some fruit for sale in his classroom, the fruit sale was a fundraiser for the Washington DC fieldtrip.

Board Discussion:

- a. Snowmobile Use on School Grounds – Gerard Ducharme (student) and Gail Ducharme (parent) were present to discuss riding snow machines to school. Nancy handed out an email from Tim Vincent, Vermont School Board Insurance Trust. Tim stated that allowing students to ride snowmobiles to school was a risk that the school should not allow. After much discussion Patrick asked that Gerard create a plan and map outlining where snow machine trails would be and where they would be parked. Gerard agreed to put a proposal together.
- b. Student Behavior Expectations – Patrick would like to review the policy, practice and procedures for use of personal electronics in school. Carol shared with the board that preschool through sixth grade is not allowed to bring any personal electronics to school. Patrick would also like to review the policy, practice, and procedure for dealing with Public Display of Affection in the school. This information will be brought back to the board by the administration.
- c. Budget process- The board reflected on what worked well during this past budget process. Pat would like the board to continue with community forums to gather information to build the budget. Patrick liked the new format of the budget in the annual report and was glad that the school board started the budget process earlier than in previous years. Michael was pleased to see a good turnout at the last annual meeting. There was a suggestion to track Twinfield graduates after high school.
- d. Food Service for Preschoolers- Nancy shared with the board that the food service will be providing lunch to the preschool program effective immediately.
- e. New Principal Mentor- Nancy shared with the board that Mark Mooney will be mentored by Joe Bowen, Principal of West Rutland, at no charge to the school district.
- f. Michael discussed with the board the practice of the Public Comment section of the agenda. The board discussed Winton Goodrich's suggestion on the structure of public comment. The board agreed that the public comment section should be at the beginning of the meeting. The Board Chair will offer public comment during discussions, after the board has had a chance to discuss the matter.
- g. The board will not hold a board meeting next week, the next board meeting will be on April 12th at 6:30 pm.
- h. The board discussed the student handbook and who is responsible for updating it. Carol shared with the board that the Administrative Leadership Team (ALT) will be updating the handbook for FY12.
- i. The board discussed a possible fundraiser, creating a school calendar. The calendar could include concert dates, play dates, and sports seasons beginning and end dates.
- j. The board would like a presentation from the Food Service department.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Kimball
Transcriber

