

TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday – September 27, 2011

School Library

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

Call to order: Michael Nobles, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm

Consent Agenda

- a. September 13, 2011 minutes

Amy made a motion to accept the consent agenda and Patrick seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- a. Superintendents Report – none at this time.
- b. Principals Report – Mark reported that the VT Higher Education Collaborative (VT-HEC) have been working with the staff on Brain research. The first open house will be held on October 12th. Teachers will be reviewing how they grade, what their expectations are, and what parents can do to help. Mark will be promoting a parent group at the open house. Mark reported that the All School Energy Challenge presentation by the Alliance for Climate Education was a huge success. The Alliance challenges everyone to Do One Thing (DOT) to help the environment.
- c. Student Representatives Report – The student council held their second meeting. The students would like to decorate the student center. The student center is keeping kids out of the hallways. They are also working on fundraising opportunities for spirit week and the winter carnival. The high school is holding a monthly community meeting called Trojan Time. Both high school soccer teams went to Canaan and came back successful. Students feel that Academic Support needs some improvement. Currently kids get a note from their TA in morning in order to go to Academic Support in the afternoon. The students are then getting homework assignments throughout the day that they need help with and are unable to go to academic support. Some students seem to really like the new block scheduling and some students are still struggling to adjust. Picture day is on September 30th. The new student email is working well. During NECAP testing, high school students not required to test will be volunteering in communities that were hit by Tropical Storm Irene.
- d. Other Board Updates – Nancy reported that we have entered into a contract with Jeff Rubin and Deb Wolfe for our website design. Jeff and Deb have created a general structure that both Cabot and Twinfield have agreed on. Mark and staff are working on providing pictures, colors, the logo, and mascot.

Board Discussion

- a. Truck Replacement – Rob handed out an analysis on multiple quotes for a truck purchase. The board discussed the various options. Rob suggested an eight month loan and putting an article on the warning for 2012 town meeting for a four year note.
- b. Early Retirement Incentive: Support Staff and Faculty – Nancy handed out the information on employees eligible for the early retirement incentive. There are five support staff members eligible. This would be an average payout of \$12,000 each for the first year and \$6269 each for years two, three, and four. There are twelve faculty members

eligible. This would be an average payout of \$17,730 each for year one and \$14,000 each for years two, three and four.

Board Action

- a. Approve purchase of school truck – Patrick made a motion to approve the proposal from Gateway motors for a 2012 1 ton Ford F-350 pick-up with a dump body at \$36,536.00. The old truck will be traded in. Pat seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- b. Michael made a motion to enter into a short term loan for the truck with Passumsic, Pat seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- c. Act on Early Retirement Incentive for Support Staff and Faculty – Monica made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to not offer the early retirement for support staff and faculty. Patrick seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session: The board went into executive session at 7:42 pm to discuss contract negotiations.

Executive Session: The board came out of executive session at 7:49 pm. No action was taken.

Future Agenda items:

- a. NECAP Walk-through with Pat Johnson Knoerl
- b. Appoint Truant Officer

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Kimball
Transcriber