

TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday – September 11, 2012

School Library

Present: Jill Wilson, Patrick Healy, Dan Gadd, Michael Nobles and Monica Light **Administration:** Mark Mooney, Principal; Bob Gulardo, Assistant Principal; Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; and Rob Billings, Business Manager
Student Representatives: Cristin Martin and Erin Hall **Absent:** Anne Nadel Walbridge **Guests:** Mary Lou Wells and Laurie Martin

Call to order: Michael Nobles, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Public Comment:

- a. Mary Lou Wells was present to thank the Board for all their work.
- b. Laurie Martin was present to share her concerns about the English Courses and how they are being taught. She also shared concerns about the maintenance department, staffing levels of both Twinfield and the central office, and the FY12 deficit.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve, August 14, 2012 minutes
- b. Approve, August 22, 2012 minutes
- c. Approve August 30, 2012 minutes

Monica was not at the August 22, 2012 meeting. Monica made a motion to accept the minutes with the change, Patrick seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- a. Superintendent Report – Nancy handed out a list of coaches for the Board's information. Nancy invited the Board to the Vermont School Boards Association regional meeting and the annual conference. Cabot will be presenting at the annual conference on project based learning. Nancy invited the board to the joint Board meeting on September 20th at 6:00 pm at Twinfield. The October 18th will be a combined meeting to discuss budget development and the impact of Acts 153 and 156.
- b. Principal Report – Mark reported that parents like the change of the office location and the security it creates. There is a new positive behavior recognition system. Students earn wooden tokens and once they reach their classroom goal there is a reward. The annual Corn Roast and Open House are next week. The school is offering after school care for all students; the students will attend the home soccer games. Kids are encouraged to wear the school colors of Red and White. Bob shared that he is enthusiastic and glad to be here at Twinfield. He had an opportunity to speak with the junior class; they discussed expectations and what the students are preparing for after high school.
- c. Student Representative Report – Cristin and Erin shared that Darcy Buret is back from leave. There are a lot of new students in the high school. The students have had concerns about academic support. It is now being offered in the morning rather than in the afternoon. There was a student council meeting today, the focus for the year is the common room. The common room was not maintained very well by students the previous year. They will be looking at ways to increase the responsibility of the students using the common room. The student council will also be fundraising and organizing Spirit Week and Winter Carnival. The Geology class is fundraising for upcoming fieldtrips. One fieldtrip will be to Au sable Chasms in New York. Soccer has started and the boys are playing Danville tomorrow.
- d. Financial Update – Rob handed out a detailed financial report for FY12. There is an anticipated net deficit for the year of \$186,557. Rob reviewed the details of major changes in both expenditures and revenue from the budget with the Board. Two major areas of increased costs include those associated with long term substitutes and unanticipated special service needs. Rob will work with Mark and Nancy to propose a plan to resolve the deficit which will be reviewed by the Finance Committee and brought back to the Board.
- e. Facility Projects Update – Rob handed out project cost information for the roof project, the office move project, and the water system upgrade. Not all bills are in, but the expectation is that the total summer facility work came in under the budgeted amount. The roofing and office moves projects are coming in under the budgeted amounts. The mandated water project has required more work and is slightly higher than originally estimated by the engineering company. The bond will be increased to cover the costs.

Board Discussion

- a. Policies for First Reading:
 - i. B3 Board Member Conflict of Interest
 - ii. D6 Substitute Teacher
 - iii. D7 Volunteers and Work Study Students
 - iv. D8 Alcohol & Drug Free Workplace
 - v. D11 Drug & Alcohol Testing: Transportation Employees

vi. D13 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Compliance (HIPPA)
The Board reviewed the policies and suggested minor changes.

At this point Jill Wilson excused herself from the rest of the meeting.

Board Action

- a. Act on Early Retirement Incentive Faculty and Support Staff- Patrick made a motion that we offer the early retirement incentive for FY13 to the Faculty and Support staff. Michael seconded. The motion was defeated 0-4.
- b. Sign Water Project Bond – Michael made a motion to increase the water project bond to \$85,000. Patrick seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session: The board went into executive session at 9:06 pm for an update on negotiations.

Executive Session: The board came out of executive session at 9:15 pm with no action.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Kimball
Transcriber