Approved Minutes
Caledonia Central Supervisory Union
CABOT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' BOARD MEETING
Monday, October 28, 2024 – 6 pm

Call to Order by Ellen Cairns

Present: Ellen Cairns, Jason Monaco, Alicia Heber, Chris Tormey, Erica Fucello, Superintendent Matt Foster, Asst Superintendent Mike Moriarty, Interim Principal Jennifer Blake, Interim Asst Principal Eric Nelis.

Ellen went over the agenda with any additions or corrections.
A **motion** to accept the agenda by Ellen Cairns and seconded by Alicia Heber. Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Minutes from September 23, 2024
A **motion** to approve the minutes by Alicia Heber and seconded by Jason Monaco. Motion approved.
Ellen noted some amendments to the meeting minutes. Original motion revoked by Alicia Heber.
A **motion** to approve the minutes with amendments by Alicia Heber and seconded by Jason Monaco. Motion approved.

Public Comment
Rory Thibault – Cabot - Feels like formation of a 706b study committee is too early. Feels like with new administration and the positive changes for this year, it is not the right time to form this committee. Rory shared his thoughts on the 706b.

Reports

Superintendent Report – Matt Foster was present to highlight a few items.
- Teacher negotiations – negotiation process has started.
- Commission of the future of public education – will have info at future meeting.
- Cell phone policy survey – Matt shared the results. So far, 78% have said yes to supporting a cell phone free campus.
- AOE roundtables. Matt shared his thoughts and felt like it was productive.

Mike Moriarty (Assistant Superintendent) - Mike Moriarty was present to highlight a few items.
Strategic plan work – Working on a 3–5-year strategic plan. Staff members and the leadership team are participating in design meetings. Would like representation from all the schools and involves student representation as well.

Student Service Report – no discussion.

Principal Report – Jennifer Blake was present to highlight a few items.
- Jennifer spoke on what the students are currently working on.
- Boiler is being put in.
- Ian Kelly will be staying on as staff.

- 13 new students this year.
- 3-year plan for Cabot was shared with the board.
- Meetings that allow everyone to know what each grade is working on.
- Working with All Learners Network.

Jennifer clarified what Tier I, II and III instructions are.

Curriculum Director Des Hertz – Continuous Improvement Plan. This plan is a requirement.
Every year Des does a data sweep, then the leadership meets to look at how the plan goals were met for the year. Each year two goals need to be identified. First goal is to measure proficiency and growth. Des spoke on assessments and how the data is read and used to assist the student. The other goal is a safe and healthy school goal. Attendance information and behavior information will be incorporated into this second goal. The goals are adaptable. Discussion on major behaviors and what is considered major.

Campus Plans – Paula was present to share the plans.
The current campus swap plan was shared with board members. The map showed how the campus would be laid out. Discussion on space size. The drive for the switch is security and accessibility. Proposed option two was also shared. Went over both plans and additions with each plan. There is a need for additional bathrooms. Doing just a campus swap does not fix the ADA issues. When changes are made, they need to meet code and be in compliance. This idea was originally brought up as a solution to behavior problems and some safety concerns. Jennifer noted that she does not believe Cabot needs to go down this swap at this time. She would like to see some additional bathrooms though if that is possible.

A **motion** to have on the Warning at Town Meeting to be allowed to use the allocated funds for the campus renovation to go towards other facility renovation projects in the school by Erica Fucello and seconded by Chris Tormey. Motion passed.

CCSU Policy – Policy D3. This policy was approved at the SU level. Ellen just wanted the board to be aware of the policy.

VSBA Conference – Ellen and Erica attended. The workshops had lots of good information. Erica spoke on some of the highlights from the workshops. Workshops around accessibility, cell phone use, resource sharing within districts.

Potential Board Retreat – Ellen will work on coordinating a date.

Teacher Recognition – Will add for further discussion on the retreat agenda and share ideas.

November 25 is the next meeting date. Board members are good with keeping this date.

Sustainability Committee – A **motion** to appoint Eric Nelis as a voting member to the committee by Jason Monaco and seconded by Erica Fucello. Motion passed.

Chris spoke on the last committee meeting. Discussion on how to improve communication regarding PBL. Possibly have a dinner and exhibition so that community members can see PBL in action. Committee feels like at this time it is important to hold off on any discussions around merging with Twinfield. This is a long-term process if it is looked at. Focus energy on getting more people to come

into the school. Ellen was disappointed that the committee did not want to hold a community forum for discussion.

706b Study Committee – Ellen shared data. Currently only 3 high schools in the state serve fewer than 100 students. Cabot is one of them. Point was made that a concern is that if Cabot high school were to merge with Twinfield, they would have the minority vote.

Cost of a facilitator is around 4-10k and the largest cost is having the attorney create the documents which can come in around 20k.

Chris pointed out that once a committee is formally formed and the boards enter in agreement, then they are committed.

Alicia feels like there are a lot more discussions to have.

A **motion** to form the 706b study committee by Erica Fucello and seconded by Chris Tormey.
Ellen does not feel like she is tied to the 706b study committee but does feel obligated to look at all options since that is what was conveyed to the voters. Board discussion followed. Motion failed.

Rory noted he could share some vision documents from another district that looked at merging.

Discussion on having informal conversations with Twinfield.

A motion to adjourn. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nicky Cole