

Fifty- Sixth Meeting
Twinfield Union School District No. 33
Twinfield Union School Library
Tuesday, February 11, 2025
6:05 p.m.

AGENDA

The legal voters of the Twinfield Union School District No. 33, a municipal corporation consisting of the member towns of Marshfield and Plainfield, Vermont, were invited to meet in person at Twinfield school to discuss any business involving the Australian ballot. Six members of the Plainfield community were in attendance, and Five members of the Marshfield community were in attendance. The other attendees were present as a result of holding a position on the Board or for the District. Herein are the minutes of that meeting which was called to order at 6:05 pm by Patrick Healy.

Patrick Healy is nominated and elected as Moderator of the meeting.

Erin Barry is nominated and elected as Clerk.

Greg Hooker is nominated and elected as Treasurer.

In the Annual Report Book mailed to residents, you can find important information regarding:

Clerk Report p. 50

Treasurer Report, not this year.

School Report, p. 7

Patrick Healy read Article Five

Patrick Healy read Article Six

Patrick Healy read Article Seven

Article Eight-

*Charlie Cogwell encouraged the board to return the informational meeting to take place on Town Meeting Day. Can be done by petition or by the motion of the board.

*Michelle Edelmann McCormick concurs with Charlie Cogwell. "It is a more democratic process."

*Patrick Healy shared that the law changed, the Informational meeting can now occur 30 days before Town Meeting day. And mentioned that, "the voting would be done by those in attendance. The vote occurs by voice or by paper ballot."

*Linda Walsleben asked for clarity, "If you are not in attendance, then you do not get a vote?"

*Aaila Kaye is inspired to return to a floor vote. "What is the process?"

*Charlie Cogwell said the town would need a vote to get it on the ballot or a petition from the populace, another way is if the board put it forward and voted on it.

*Patrick Healy will check with the Secretary of State and the AOE about the process.

*Tracey Weatherspoon asked if the meeting could be in the evening.

Francis Rose Subbiondo discussed timing. And wondered about a Special Election.

Erin Barry asked, "What is the deadline to take the vote?"

Mark Kaufmann makes a motion to adjourn the annual meeting. All are in favor.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

WELCOME TO TWINFIELD

Stephanie Ainslie, Jackson Scott, Rachel Hartmann

-Demographics- 323 students in '24/'25

Plans- 82 on IEP, 30 on 504, 35 on EST

-One third of students attend the Summer Learning Program

-Implementation of Bookworms Literacy program. It is a 5 year commitment for the program, though they are always taking data. Professional development is in collaboration with University of Delaware.

-From the beginning of the year to the middle of the year, the K-5th grade reading data growth occurred in every category. "Urgent", "Intervention", "On Watch", "Benchmark".

-Illustrative Mathematics K-8, and Open-Up resources are used 6-8

-Utilization of the Outdoor Learning Space happens with all grade levels.

****An ask was made to the community for a gardener to help revitalize our school garden****

-Middle Schoolers attend Craftsbury outdoor center.

-High Schoolers, 4 times a winter, attend Bolton

-K-5 opportunities are on the way.

-High School is graded by Proficiency Based Learning and Flexible Pathways.

-Model UN is available to 9-12th graders.

-Denmark Cultural Exchange Program, October thru November 2025. 20 students from Denmark and 20 students from Twinfield. Three weeks here, three weeks there.

-Community Based Learning prepares students with life skills. It includes middle and high schoolers.

- Allied Arts are still thriving at Twinfield!

-After School Programs for K-12. Some examples are Jewelry Making, STEM projects, Cozy gaming club, LARPing.

-Teachers and support staff are taught Social-Emotional Learning + Support to help students of all ages.

- Twinfield Mentoring Program is building relationships with students of all ages and community members.

-Community Events that all are welcome to attend- Apple Day, Garlic Tasting+Planting, Bike Trails with RIPM, Pumpkin Walk, Soup/Cookie Swap, Ice Globe Walk.

Mike Concessi, Financial Director of the SU.

"What services are provided by the central office?"

Statutorially driven- Administration, Special Education Services, Curriculum Development, Finance, Technology/IT, Physical Health/LNAs

FY26 Budget Drivers:

-Total Budget Expenditures = \$8,402,577

-Education Spending Increase= \$432,693 (+5.5% from FY25 budget)

- SU Assessments
- Summer Program
- M.S. Humanities Position
- Benefits up driven by Healthcare

- Salaries up driven by Substitute Costs

Revenue

- Reduction from Tuition-in (\$33K)
- Fund Transfer in (via unrestricted Surplus) - \$104,000 to pay for the Summer Program

Reserves at 6/30/24

- Unrestricted Surplus (\$246K) will be reduced by \$104,000 for the summer program. Remaining balance will be used to repave the main entrance, driveway, parking lot.
- The Capital Reserve (\$100K)

TUS Expenses

Compensation and Benefits, Assessments, Operations

Factors Affecting the Tax Rate

- Edu. Spending (Budget less revenues) = \$432,936 (Upward pressure on Tax Rate)
- Plainfields CLA 62.19%= Decreased, so Upward pressure on Tax rate
- Marshfields CLA 74.26%

WHO PROVIDES THE MONEY?

Residents = 30%

Non-Residents (second homeowners and businesses) 22%

Gen Edu Fund 48%

Tax Rate at a glance

Plainfield- .02% decrease on the homestead, .33% drop for income sensitive rate
-52% of the residents pay a flat 2.0% or 2.25% rate on your income (under \$400K)

Marshfield- .05% increase (mostly because of a decrease, about 15%, in CLA)
-58% of the residents pay a flat 2.0% or 2.25% rate on your income (under \$400)

QUESTIONS:

- Pam Quinn, Marshfield- Residents only pay 30%, is huge information to share with the towns and should be what we get out before Town Meeting Day. We need a common language graph.
- SU staff comments were made about how to streamline the annual meeting.
- Michelle Eddelman McCormick- Where can the recording of this meeting be found? (On the Supervisory Union website.)
- George Cushing- What is the Twinfield number of how much we pay the SU athletic director? What is the plan for the lower soccer field?
- Patrick Healy- The breakdown of the Athletic Director will be shared with the community.
- Rachel LaMonte- How will the board be educated about the big changes coming from the governor's office?
 - The board does not know the time schedule.

- The board will find out from the AOE and VSBA.
- And then we can share it with the community.
- The legislators have it in their hands right now.
- VSBA website provides a weekly update from the legislation.
- Michelle Eddelman McCormick hopes that folks keep their minds open to the democratic process.
 - You can sign up on a committee- contact Marc Mihaly or Andrew Perchlick.
- Pam Quinn hopes everyone becomes involved.

March 4, 2025

Article Five Marshfield and Plainfield

Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend eight million forty-nine thousand eighty-four dollars (\$8,049,084) which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

YES	NO	BLANK		TOTAL	RESULTS
363	186	5		554	PASSED

Article Six Marshfield and Plainfield

Shall the voters of the Twinfield Union School District No. 33 authorize the Board of School Directors to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2024 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?

YES	NO	BLANK		TOTAL	RESULTS
425	117	12		554	PASSED