

Approved Minutes
Caledonia Central Supervisory Union
TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 – 6:00pm

Call to Order by Patrick Healy

Present: Patrick Healy, Mark Kaufman, Student Rep Marianna Cleary, Milena Yasus, Sara Cain, Superintendent Mark Tucker, Director of Finance Michael Concessi, Principals Rachel Hartman & Stephanie Ainslie

Additions/Changes to Agenda:

- After School program - presentation by new Director

Public Comment: none

Consent Agenda:

Minutes from November 14, 2023

A **motion** to approve minutes of November 14, 2023, by Mark Kaufman and seconded by Milena Yasus. Motion passed.

After School Program – Lydia Vitale was present to talk about the program.

Draft handbook has been created. Looking to hire another employee, make sure they have training. Clubs are starting to run.

Superintendent Report – Mark Tucker was present to highlight a few items.

- The PCB consulting engineer will be back to test a drain near the site where PCB-contaminated oil was found.
- Emergency operation plan being developed. AOE developed guidelines – being reviewed.

Mark Kaufman asked about the PCB's and the effect they have on the students. Concerned about the time it is taking for the State to have a remediation plan. Mark T. said levels are low so students are not at risk.

Student Services Report – no discussion on report

When the school does fundraising is there a plan/outreach to the community to increase awareness to the community? A student group is working with a program regarding networking.

Principal Report – Some points highlighted:

- Hosting a family fun night
- Middle school is going on a ski trip
- Break is fast approaching
- Spirit week is taking place
- Staff took part in a trivia game

- 2 teachers were able to attend a National Conference
- Renaissance Society of Vermont
- Pre-k staff shortage right now – trying to have subs fill in and looking to hire
- Supplied breakfast and lunch menus

Student Report - Marianna

- Basketball has started
- Model UN is going to Boston in February for a conference. Raising funds for the trip.
- The trip to NYC went very well
- Penny challenge has started. Raises funds for food bank and winter carnival
- The prom committee is narrowing down the location
- Freshman class is starting the mentor program

Board Discussion

Central Vermont Career Center – Jody Emerson was present to go over the budget and the goals for FY25. Now that they are an independent district, they can focus and plan on a central location, which would involve building a new Tech Center. Working on long term planning, quality education and community engagement. Looking to implement a full day program by FY2029 and increase student access. Jody went over the cost analysis of the program and the factors driving the budget.

FY25 Budget Discussion – Michael Concessi was present to go over the budget and answer any questions.

Mike went over the revenue side first and showed the factors that are creating revenues to be up. ADM and yield rate are in from the state, still waiting on the CLA. Mike showed examples of what their CLA could be and what effect that would have on the tax rates.

Patrick asked to have a written explanation of the new funding formula around ACT 127. It will need to be clear to read and understand.

School Composting System – Jeff Eddy, Tracy Witherspoon and Cat Buxton.

Cat did a presentation to the board revolving around school composting systems – Super Compost Project. Looking to reconstruct the food stream. Cat shared what some schools are currently doing. Students can use compost in school gardens. A waste audit can be done. Twinfield has \$2500 a year in hauler fees and 28k pounds of food waste a year. A composting system reduces waste and emissions. Patrick asked if there have been any issues with compost – the answer is no due to the recipe. Jeff noted how nice it has been to have Cat come in and talk and do activities with his 5th graders.

Red Schoolhouse – Mark Tucker was present to talk about the schoolhouse. Kristie Farnham approached Twinfield to see if they were willing to sell it. Trying to get a copy of the deed to see who owns the land. School cannot sell the schoolhouse at this point since the school does not own the land. Kristie would like to rehab the old schoolhouse. Once Twinfield receives a deed, an attorney would look at it and then look at all the options.

School Safety Discussion -

Rachel shared the school's emergency drill and emergency plans. Protocol – lockdown building, access threat, make sure staff and students are safe, notify State police, notify superintendent, look at options

based on information, communicate to families. Threats are handled differently based on level. There can be delays between the threat being identified and communication to the families. Staff are trained to handle these threats.

At the next board meeting the principals can share the training that staff have had and will have in the future.

Patrick will look at the cost of a school resource officer and see what other schools do. What it involves and what the resource officer offers.

It was noted by a member of the public that the National Guard does training, and it could possibly be brought to the school. Question on if the training(s) could be available to high school students? Depending on the training, yes.

Employee extended leave request – An employee has a request to be out for a year-long maternity leave. The employee will use all of her remaining sick time, and then go off-payroll for a period of time. Request is for the Board to approve unpaid leave of absence during the runout of her absence. A **motion** to approve the request by Mark Kaufman and seconded by Milena Yasus.

Nuts & Bolts –

PM Potluck with Staff coming up. Erin would like to know if there are any requests? Anything the board would like to bring/cook, would be welcome.

Mark Kaufman shared a list to the board to note what spice/herbs they would like? Mark Kaufman would like to give them as a gift to the board.

Mark Kaufman also shared a list of questions that he would like to discuss in the future.

A **motion** to adjourn by Sara Cain and seconded by Mark Kaufman. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nicky Cole