

APPROVED

WASHINGTON NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 21, 2014, Twinfield School Library

PRESENT: Board members: Patrick Healy, Dan Gadd, Chris Tormey, Sharon O’Conner,
Administration: Christina Kimball, Business Manager, Laurence Carnahan, Director of Special
Services and Nancy Thomas, Superintendent

Call to Order : Chris Tormey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Public Comment : None

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve April 17, 2014 Minutes – 3 in favor, Chris Tormey abstained as he was absent from that meeting.

Reports

- a. **Superintendent Report** - Nancy Thomas

- Nancy reviewed the written report she had sent out which covered the work of the summer. She shared the successful start of the new school year beginning with Orientation for new teachers on Wednesday, August 27th at Cabot. There are 14 new teachers and they were joined by their mentors and administrators for the orientation. The full staff attended the first inservice day, on this day, Thursday, August 21st at Twinfield. She reported that the Leadership Team had used their time at the Leadership Academy to design these days and subsequent work during the year. The program included a celebration of the work of the previous year, introduction of new staff and work with the new Vermont Proficiencies. The afternoon session included training for elementary staff in reading assessments and the special education staff provided a workshop for paraeducators.

- b. **Special Service Report** – Laurence Carnahan

- Laurence reviewed the report that he sent earlier that included his May 2014 report and new information for August. He highlighted the paraeducator training and discussed the special education funding formula. He also reported on the work that he has done over the past three summers to clean up and clear out the Red School House. He sorted, boxed and disposed of over 200 boxes of records in the past 2 years. The remaining records are being held in compliance with fiscal and educational record keeping requirements, are labeled, organized and accessible. He has worked with the Twinfield custodians to recycle or dispose of furniture that is no longer usable.

- c. **FY14 Financial Report** – Christina Kimball

- There was a small deficit in the FY 14 WNESU budget.

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- Legal fees were higher than anticipated.
- Unexpected repair to WNESU phone system.
- Travel reimbursements were higher than budgeted.
- Christina will closely monitor the current budget and provide monthly projections.

Board Discussion

a. Policy First Reading – E14 Fund Balance Policy

- The group reviewed and discussed the policy
- Nancy noted that both Cabot and Twinfield schools will be reviewing and if both schools adopt it, this board will not need to conduct a second reading of the policy.

b. Superintendent Goals

- Nancy distributed a draft list of goals.
- The group reviewed and discussed:
 - Act 77: Taking next steps to implement Proficiency Based Learning and Flexible Pathways to Graduation, and include the development of Personalized Learning Plans.
 - Communication with communities
 - Wellness: supporting the Culture of Wellness Team to increase and support a healthier workplace.
 - Expanding Preschool opportunities: State law requires schools to provide access to preschool for 3 and 4 year olds. Work with the school boards to determine how best to do that.
 - Completing Policy Updates: With completion of VSBA review of model policies, work will begin on updating and creating recommended policies, Nancy asked for board assistance in moving that work forward.
 - Cabot Planning and Principal Search: Seek community input and share information regarding facility challenges and the search for a long-term principal.
 - Twinfield Capital Project and Maintenance Plan – Develop long range capital project plan, the solar project and next steps for the Red School House.

Executive Session T

- The board went into executive session at 8:07 for the purpose of discussing a personnel issue, returning at 8:25, p.m. No action taken.

Adjournment - 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Nancy Thomas, Transcriber