

**Unapproved Minutes**  
**Caledonia Central Supervisory Union**  
**TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**  
**Tuesday, November 14, 2023 – 6:00pm**

Call to Order by Patrick Healy

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

Public Comment:

Asa: Question on school safety – will be addressed in meeting

Additions/Changes to Agenda:

- Jody Emerson tabled to next month
- Jeff Eddy tabled to next month
- Strategic Planning
- VSBA Update

Consent Agenda:

Minutes from October 10, 2023

A **motion** to approve minutes of October 10, 2023, by Erin Barry and seconded by Janna Osman. Motion passed.

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

- PCB remediation – has not received anything on correction action plan. Will keep trying to get some information from the State.

Question on the best way to communicate with Randy Rathburn – seems to be hard to reach. Mark will reach out to Randy to see what can be done.

**Student Services Report** – Discussion on what extraordinary costs mean.

**Principal Report** – Some points highlighted:

- Thank you to the board for the offering of massage spots. All spots were quickly filled.
- Community meetings up and running.
- Celebrations are being earned.
- High School is looking at proficiency system.
- Menstruation projects in school – offered in all female, mixed gender, single bathrooms, and office. Students are comfortable asking for what they need. Will connect with students on what products they want.
- Pumpkin walk – great turnout.
- Conference day went very well.
- Art displays are up from various classes.

### **Student Report - Marianna**

- PSAT & SAT scores came out last week.
- Mixed opinions on cell phone usage.
- Mr. Sheehan's fellowship – students met with Mr. Sheehan regarding a Civis Seal. Spoke on what Mr. Sheehan is working on with the students in Kentucky.
- Junior class will be having a bottle drive to help fund prom.
- Pie fundraiser will be done for a trip to New York.
- Student voice creating a survey to HS students on the proficiency system.
- Penny challenge and food drive are being planned for the week after Thanksgiving – beginning of December.

### **Board Discussion**

**Preliminary FY25 Budget** – Michael Concessi was present to go over the draft budget. Still waiting for figures from the State before tax rates can be calculated.

Increase of \$567k from last year's budget. What is causing the increase:

- Compensation
- SU Assessment
- Health costs
- Afterschool program (now locally funded)
- Benefits such as FICA, VMERS etc.

Michael went over the figures for each category. Board discussion on the Afterschool program and how the figure was calculated. Principals looked closely at what they feel they could run the program for. Currently set at \$75k for next year. Patrick requested to see an overview of the Afterschool program and the track for it. Rachel will prepare this. Mark Kaufman noted that he is afraid the budget is estimated too low due to the rate of inflation etc. Michael noted that thankfully the largest part of the budget is based on CBA that has already been approved. Mark Tucker noted that due to the flooding that took place in the area, he has pushed for conservative budgeting. Taxpayers could be seeing Municipal tax increases as well. Rachel noted that she would like to see snacks included in the food service budget. The food service director is working to see what funds could cover that.

Jessica – wondering where the increases are going every year. Also, wondered what the obesity rate is at school if we are talking about feeding more snacks. Michael noted that the food service budget is up due to comp & benefits along with repairs and supplies.

Asa - Question on the line items that did not get spent last year but are up for this year? These are contractual requirements.

**Stormwater Abatement Project** – TUS needs to change the path of their storm water runoff. The project estimate comes in at \$285k. TUS can pay for that by tapping into a state fund as long as TUS commits to providing education around stormwater runoff and pollution. Mark submitted the application.

**NYC Trip** – Tracey Witherspoon – Tracey is currently teaching a seminar class to utilize mentors in the community. This seminar is about textiles and fabric and why it matters. Students are learning about the history of textiles and how they are created. Students went to a Weaving School and learned about natural dyes. 4 students from the class will be traveling to NYC. Will be visiting the Museum of Fashion

Institute of Technology, walking tour of the Garment District and finish Bryant Park Winter Village. Next day will be going to the Metropolitan Museum of Arts, Central Park and then heading home.

Students have been fundraising for the trip. Currently only falling about \$380 short.

A **motion** to approve the trip to NYC by Erin Barry and seconded by Sara Cain. Motion approved.

#### **School Safety Discussion -**

After the hoax threat what is the takeaway for any future situations? What protocols have been established?

Notify the police, notify the superintendent – then make choices based on the actual threat such as secure the building, notify staff and then notify families.

Emergency procedures are listed in the handbook, but it does not share all the details. It is not advised that all procedures are listed. Information will be released as the State Police advise.

Board discussion on how to handle the concerns in the future. Should staff have professional development regarding debriefing and releasing the stress of these events?

Discussion on staff all having basic first aid.

Asa – Is not sure the board/school is doing all they can to make sure the school is safe.

Is the school thinking about a resource officer? Petition was signed. The school board needs to see the petition and review it.

Board discussion on this option – the pros and cons were looked at.

Mark Kaufman asked for a one-page crisis overview procedure to be shared.

School safety will remain to be discussed.

**VSBA Conference Update:** no update

**Nuts & Bolts** – everyone went around the room and gave a shout out or shared information.

- Rebecca Emerson finished a half marathon & was recognized as teacher of the year.
- Thoughts on something special for the teachers/staff for the Holidays.
- Mark Kaufman would like everyone to think strategically about what our students will need in the future and what will be best for them.
- A few grants are still available.

A **motion** to offer more massages to the staff by Mark Kaufman and seconded by Janna Osman.

A motion to adjourn by Erin Barry and seconded by Sara Cain. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nicky Cole