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**CABOT/DANVILLE/TWINFIELD ACT 46 STUDY COMMITTEE (706)
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 26, 2016**

PRESENT: Chris Tormey, Ian Covey, Lauren Cleary, Sarah Watkins, Ry Hoffman, Dave Towle, Sandy Hauserman, Jack Hoffman, Tim Sanborn, Bruce Melendy **Consultant:** Peter Clarke
Administrators: Mark Tucker, Special Services Director, WNESU; Mathew Forest, Superintendent, CCSU **Absent:** Scott Harris

Call to Order: Chris Tormey, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Approval of Minutes- Approve October 19, 2016 minutes. Sarah Watkins moved to approve the minutes of October 19th as written. Bruce Melendy seconded the motion. Minutes of October 19th approved as written.

Public Comment: Jen, a resident of Cabot shared with the committee that she is excited about change but she is also proud of the community at Cabot. The students form a tight bond and although there are not many options for course selection, this is not holding students back. The students go on to college and are confident in who they are.

Discussion:

- The 706 Committee briefly reviewed the many options created by the study committee in the spring. Then each committee member, “nominated” what options they felt were feasible and in need of further study and why. The committee also decided to eliminate options that they felt absolutely would not work.
- The Committee discussed one option where preK through 8 would remain in their respective schools and there would be two high schools, one at Danville and one at Twinfield, each with its own areas of specialty like magnet schools. Any high school student from any of the four towns could choose either high school.
- The Committee also discussed the option Chris presented the previous week where prek through 4 would stay at their respective schools. Danville middle school (grades 5 – 8) students would remain at Danville. Middle school students from Twinfield and Cabot would come together at Twinfield. Then each school would host particular academic areas. This would put most faculty in each discipline together, creating the possibility for more course offerings, joint planning and professional development.
- Peter Clarke shared another possible option for the committee. Elementary students would remain in their current respective districts. Once students reached high school there would be one multi-campus high school. Each campus would house specific

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proficiency based pathways. Cabot could focus on design STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math, Danville would focus on International Baccalaureate programming and/ or environmental studies, Twinfield would focus on humanities/foreign language, history/social studies; St. Johnsbury and Central Vermont Career Center for vocational/technical studies; Twinfield or Danville could focus on business finance, entrepreneurial studies. Grades 9/10 would get students ready for the pathway sought in 11/12. There could also be one campus focused on remediation.

- After discussion the committee agreed to eliminate all other options.
- The remaining options, including the options presented by Peter Clarke and Chris for one high school/3 campuses will be examined further.
- Some key points to consider include: critical mass of students, student/teacher ratios, student interest, core facilities/ needed renovations, transportation, flexibility and afterschool programming.

Next Steps:

- At the next 706 Study Committee meeting more information will be presented for the 2 high school option and the various versions of one high school with 3 campuses. Dave Towle also suggested to the committee that transportation should be considered in all of these scenarios.
- The next meeting will be held on November 16th in the Cabot Library from 6:00-8:00pm.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber