

CHELSEA AND TUNBRIDGE JOINT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 8, 2017 – 6:30 PM

TUNBRIDGE CENTRAL SCHOOL -- Library

DRAFT MINUTES

Participants:

Chelsea Board: Joe Spinella, Rebecca Mattoon, *Emily Marshia*, *Jessie Schmidt*, Deborah Ackerman  
Chelsea Principal: Mark Blount,

Tunbridge Board: Maryann Caron, Kathy Galluzzo, Liz York,

Tunbridge Principal: Scott Farnsworth

Superintendent: Bruce Labs Recorder: Betsy Race

Guests: Jenna Young, Bill Smith, Jerimiah Caron, Morgan Caron, Cille Meberg,  
Amanda Flodstrom

1. Call to Order: 6:35pm
2. Adjustments to the Agenda NONE
3. Consent Agenda
  - 3.1. Approve Combined meeting minutes of 01-11-07 (Combined)  
Motion (KG) to approve Combined Meeting minutes of 01-11-07 as written; passed .
4. Public Comment NONE
5. Reports to the Board
  - 5.1. Superintendent's Report
    - ~At meeting last night times for April 11 voting were set for 7 am to 7 pm for all towns.  
Copies of Act 46 Proposals and process are going to all town clerks today and tomorrow.
    - ~ Presentation to the State board of Education will be on Feb 21 at 2:30 pm. The State Board will ask questions of the representatives from WRVSU and the decision will be made that day.
    - ~ The lawyer made a few minor changes on the Act 46 proposal in editing and clearer wording .
    - ~ A grant of \$4000 has been received from the **Byrne Association** for Act 46 presentation and outreach.
    - ~ The business manager candidate is from Arkansas and coming for a few days to visit this month. Boards need to vote on money towards her travel expenses. It will be less than \$100 from each town. Donna Benoit has a contract to mentor for a year.
    - ~ There will be a meeting with Butler bus transportation tomorrow regarding the changes in

transportation for the new districts.

## 6. Discussion Items

### 6.1.1. Pre-K-8, Act 46

Discussion points:

- ~ Some Chelsea board members do not support the changes made most recently regarding in the middle and high school portion of the PreK-12 program. One doesn't feel it meets Act 46 requirement and there are no protections in articles of agreement. The articles are not specific enough to guarantee certain programs that the Chelsea middle school students have had because of the high school being in the same building.
- ~ Boards agree that projections and financial info was not presented early enough for board to review in depth. They all agree it feels very rushed at times.
- ~ Between now and April the boards need to develop very clear recommendations for the new school district as part of presentation to the town.
- ~ Boards' presentation needs to focus on the facts, financial savings and benefits of one middle school for the new district.
- ~ Proposed savings are based on one middle school in one building
- ~ Boards agree the mailer should look the same in each town.
- ~ Chelsea will close their high school only if this new proposal goes through
- ~ Joint forums before April 11 will be important.
- ~ Need to present facts and let community choose.

### 6.1.2. Forum and mailers dates:

Potential Forum Dates:

Feb. 20 in Tunbridge at 7:00 pm (pre committee meeting at 6:00 pm)

Feb. 21 or 23 in Chelsea at 7:00 pm (pre committee meeting at 6:00 pm)

### 6.1.3. A subcommittee will develop info for the forums and mailer: Maryann, Rebecca, and Deb. Maryann will create forum slides. Eric, Sue and Anissa will be invited to help with the forum discussions. **ACTION ITEM: Liz will email Tunbridge Budget Mailer to subcommittee -- it includes Act 46 update from Tunbridge Board to voters.**

### 6.1.4 Act 46 documents will be on SU website.

## 7. Adjourned 8:10 pm