



Item M  
SBE Meeting: 1/16/19

Mark Tucker  
Superintendent

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January 11, 2019

To: Donna Russo-Savage, Agency of Education  
From: Mark Tucker, Superintendent, Washington Northeast SU  
Subj: Cabot/Twinfield Representation on the CCSU Board

Donna,

Since the SBE first announced its preliminary decision to reassign Cabot and Twinfield Union Schools to the Caledonia Central SU on October 29, 2018, Washington Northeast and Caledonia Central have been engaged in a cordial and collaborative process to work through the myriad issues that arise from this reassignment. Administrative staff have worked together; the Washington Northeast SU Board and Caledonia Central SU Board have comingled at each other's meetings; and the Caledonia Central SU Board has passed a budget that reflects the added support needs for the Washington Northeast Districts. I am very happy with the quality of the work we have done together, and I expect this cooperative work will continue right up to the official date that Cabot and Twinfield join their new SU.

What *hasn't* happened is the formal seating of representatives from Cabot and Twinfield on the Caledonia Central SU Board during the transition period. I understand that seating representatives from my two school boards requires action on the part of the SBE, and that this could have been done at the same time that the SBE issued the Final SWP, without consultation with either Supervisory Union.

I encourage the SBE to seat the representatives from Cabot and Twinfield at their earliest convenience. My District Board Chairs (who will likely be among the ones appointed to represent the respective District Boards) would like to have a formal voice during the transition, and there has been no opposition to this notion of transitional seating by the Caledonia Central Board that I have heard. I understand that the Caledonia Central Board is separately requesting the SBE to address existing concerns regarding proportional representation within their current Board configuration, but I do see the issues as separate matters that do not have to be resolved together, unless the SBE chooses to do so. On behalf of the Cabot and Twinfield Boards, I hope the SBE will address the transitional representation question regardless of how they view the proportionality question.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Tucker".

Mark Tucker, M.A.  
Superintendent

Cc: Patrick Healy, Twinfield Chair  
Chris Tormey, Cabot Chair  
Lou Bushey, Caledonia Central SU Chair  
Mat Forest, Superintendent, CCSU