

President's Report

Mark Curtis

April 19, 2017

Good evening and welcome families of Wilcox Primary, George G. Dodge Intermediate, and Twinsburg High School. I am Mark Curtis and it is my privilege to be your Board President.

I'd like to welcome our students back from Easter break. I trust all of our families were able to enjoy time with loved ones as well as find time to hunt for eggs and indulge in good food. Unfortunately, this community was at the center of a tragedy that resulted in the death of an innocent individual in the city of Cleveland. Due to the uncertainty of the whereabouts of the perpetrator, a heightened awareness and a heavy presence of local law enforcement was necessary as we returned to school yesterday. It goes without saying that the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and parents is of the utmost importance. It is for this reason that we have taken steps to prepare for similar situations in partnership with our safety forces. I would like to thank the Twinsburg City Police Department for their vigilance and direction in working with Superintendent Powers and our administration to allow us to continue educating our students under these circumstances. While we hope that these instances are few and far between, we truly appreciate your support when it is needed.

On a lighter note, I would like to acknowledge the retirement of Mr. Keith Holiday with 22 ½ years of service to the district and Martin Ryan with just over 18 years of service. We truly appreciate the contributions you have made to our district and our children and wish you the very best.

I'd like to also congratulate our Treasurer, Mr. Martin Aho and his staff for receiving yet another award from the Auditor of State. A recent financial audit of the Twinsburg City School District by the auditor of state has returned a clean audit report. As a result, they were recently honored with the **Auditor of State Award with Distinction**. As the school funding formula changes with every biennium budget and has become increasingly more complex, this award is an acknowledgement of our continued commitment to being fiscally prudent. We

continue to spend less per pupil than neighboring school districts and the state average. We've made cuts to help offset projected tax revenue shortfalls, and we've controlled spending. All of this in light of funding that has been flat over the last 10 years despite the rising costs for goods and services. I commend our treasurer for working collaboratively with the board and the superintendent in allowing us to deliver high quality instruction to our students.

To that end, our levy campaign continues where we are asking the community's support in saying yes to issue 15 on May 2nd. Last weekend, we were out in full force knocking on doors and handing out literature to residents. Thanks to everyone that volunteered their time to this important initiative. It is extremely important that you know and understand the facts regarding the district's financial status and the financial landscape around school funding. For your convenience, we have scheduled one additional community forum tomorrow at Twinsburg High School at 6 pm. Please be reminded that there is a Facebook account that is under **Twinsburg Schools Levy**, where pertinent information is posted. We also have a website where information about the levy can also be obtained at www.twinsburglevy.com.

I will now turn the meeting over to our superintendent, Mrs. Powers.