

Twinsburg City School District  
Business Advisory Council (BAC) Meeting  
Tuesday, September 28, 2021  
Twinsburg Public Library, Meeting Room #1

### **Meeting Minutes**

*In Attendance: Rob Felber (Board of Education), Kathi Powers (TCSD), Chad Welker (TCSD), Belinda McKinney (TCSD), Alex Popovich (TCSD), Brian Linn (Twinsburg High School Principal), Todd Courtney (Crown Composites), Melissa Mertes (Mad About Marketing), Mark Annichine (Twinsburg Schools Foundation), Allyson Tonozzi (Twinsburg Chamber of Commerce), Jennifer Goings Smith (retired Eaton Corp.), Jenny Stupica (ConxusNEO)*

**Meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m.**

**Minutes from the April 6, 2021 meeting were approved.**

#### ***Welcome & Introduction of New Members – Kathi Powers:***

- Mrs. Powers introduced Alex Popovich, Curriculum Supervisor, who is replacing Norm Potter.
- Also introduced was Brian Linn, Principal of Twinsburg High School replacing Laura Hebert.

#### ***Update from the Board Members – Rob Felber, Mark Curtis (not in attendance):***

- Rob Felber – we are still in the pandemic and still watching and doing mandatory reporting each day.
- The Board recently hired a Allterton Hill Communications, a Public Relations firm to help with the communications within the District.
- The Board recently contracted with the Cleveland Clinic to provide services to the District athletes.
- The only school issue on the November ballot is the election of three (3) school board members.

#### ***COVID-19 Update – Kathi Powers:***

- As of 9/27/2021 we had 82 positive cases; this is higher than a year ago but there are more kids on campus than last year.
- Approximately fifty (50) students are enrolled in the virtual learning option offered through the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio. This program is known as TOLA (Twinsburg Online Learning Academy).

- Summit County Superintendents recently sent a letter to Governor DeWine to encourage him to designate the virus as a Level B – less restrictions, less reporting, less quarantines. Still awaiting a response.. Additional data will be presented to the Board at the October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting so the Board can provide further direction for the next six (6) weeks. The population being impacted now is the younger children. The Quarantine Support Teachers are supporting the learning of the children that are in quarantine. Additionally, our Food Services Staff is delivering Meal Bags to students who test positive and are in isolation.

***Update Regarding Twinsburg High School – Brian Linn:***

- Opened the doors to 1,367 students.
- Homecoming Week is going on – lots of school spirit being shown.
- All Athletic teams are working their best.
- The Community came together for the 9/11 Celebration at Twinsburg Square. Twinsburg High School was represented by many student performers in the program. 3,000 flags were placed on the lawn of THS in memory of the lives lost on 9/11/01.

***Update Regarding Career Readiness Curriculum – Alex Popovich:***

**Introduction**

- We are currently evaluating The Academy at Twinsburg High School. There is much value in the program, however, we believe that adjustments can be made to encourage a greater percentage of student participation.
- We appreciate our partnerships and we need to determine ways to connect more students to our business partners.

**Scheduled and/or Continued Efforts of Career Readiness/Exploration**

- The Course of Study for the Freshman Success Class was recently revised with a greater focus on career exploration and career building.
- Alex toured the Reuter-Stokes facility, local business partner. Through the generosity of the Reuter-Stokes staff, three STEM challenges were developed for our students. The plan is to take a group of THS students to an October 20<sup>th</sup> STEM event at the Reuter-Stokes facility.
- The partnership with Case Western Reserve will continue. This partnership will be valuable for students who have an interest in becoming a Physician’s Assistant.
- Connected with Maplewood as a place for students interested in working with people diagnosed with Dementia. An internship could be done in-person or virtually.
- Alex and Brian will be meeting with Joe Spiccia, Superintendent of Wickliffe City School District who has had a very successful internship program.

**Big Idea: Senior Experience/Senior Seminar merger for 2022-2023 school year**

- Senior Seminar at Twinsburg High School – never got past 20 students.

- Senior Experience was a volunteer opportunity – Approximately 150 students participated in 2018. Students would shadow in an organization during the last 3 weeks of their senior year. Some of the difficulties were that the student had to find an opportunity and it was difficult for companies to take on a large number of students all in the month of May. Alex suggested that it might be more beneficial to have shadowing going on all year.
- During an upcoming planning day in November, Alex will collaborate with staff to investigate merging the Senior Seminar Class and Senior into a year-long course. This new course would count toward a Social Studies credit. For the class, students will either report to campus or devote time to their shadowing experience. Students will present a Capstone Project during the month of May. Areas to focus on will be Manufacturing – Health Care – Business.
- Pushing this into the school day and giving the opportunity to earn credit will hopefully allow more students to be involved in the career development opportunity. Looking to attract more students, in different areas, including students with disabilities.
- Employers have different concerns and opportunities for potential student interns – bigger companies have more opportunities than smaller businesses. Their knowledge of how to deal with students is going to differ also.

***Next Steps:***

- Set up some Focus Groups to work with the partners and determine what their needs and opportunities might look like for our students
- Develop timelines for implementation.

❖ Proposed next meeting Date/Time:

Tuesday, November 30, 2021 @ 8:00 a.m., Location TBD

Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

Meeting Minutes approved, November 30, 2021