

President's Report

Mark Curtis

March 15, 2017

Good evening and welcome. I am Mark Curtis and it is my privilege to be your Board President.

Spring is right around the corner, you can just tell by looking outside right? I don't know about you but losing an hour of sleep and a foot of snow isn't my idea of spring, but hey, it's just another day northeast Ohio right? All kidding aside, believe it or not, we are heading into the last stretch of the school year as spring school activities are well underway.

I would like to acknowledge the retirement of Ann Allard (22 yrs of service), Sharon Barry (14 yrs of service), Susan Orth (19 yrs of service), Velva Salacinski (29 yrs of service), and Judith Velimesis (15 yrs of service). We truly appreciate the contributions you have made to our district and our children and wish you the very best.

I want to thank everyone who came out and supported our schools by attending the basketball fundraiser featuring Twinsburg staff members at the high school two weeks ago. A great time was had by all involved and most of those who played made it out unscathed (myself included). There will also be another community forum on March 20th at the library regarding the May ballot issue so please come out and encourage others to attend as well. We have made a concerted effort to keep the public informed as to our financial status and how these dollars will be spent. 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. There is still time to volunteer or donate so if you are interested, please visit either and submit your information for follow up.

Finally, we have recently received news that the Ohio Department of Education has decided to delay submitting their draft compliance of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. Recall that feedback had been gathered previously form

stakeholders throughout the state, however, upon release of the draft, it appeared none of the feedback was used and things remained status quo. The new federal guidelines offers states an opportunity for more flexibility and control over testing and other areas of academic accountability. If you submitted feedback, called or wrote ODE or our representatives, we truly appreciate your vigilance and activism. You are making a difference. Our Superintendent recently testified in Columbus before the Joint Education Oversight Committee on behalf of our district. I also met with Representative Kristina Roegner and Senator Frank LaRose in Columbus earlier today to keep our concerns at the forefront. It is important to note that our collective efforts are not unique or isolated. We remain committed to ensuring our tradition of excellence continues. We will continue to hold the Ohio Department of Education as well as our elected officials accountable for doing what is best for our school district.

So without further delay, I will now turn the meeting over to our Superintendent Mrs. Powers.