

Chebeague Island School Committee Minutes

March 9, 2021

6:00 P.M.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by the School Committee Chairperson, Jeff Putnam. School Committee members in attendance were Leah Guay, Suzanne Rugh, Jen Belesca, and Carol White. School staff present were Superintendent/Principal Ann Kirkpatrick, Sarah Klein, Beverly Johnson and Polly Wentworth. Community members Chris Auffant, Steve Auffant, and Donna Colbeth.

Approval of Agenda- A motion was made by Leah Guay to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Carol White. Motion passed 4-0-0.

Minutes from February 23, 2021- A motion was made by Carol White to approve the minutes of February 23, 2021 as written. Seconded by Leah Guay. Motion passed 4-0-0 (jb not voting)

Correspondence- Carol White shared that Jeff Summa had gotten in touch with her regarding a conversation he had with Gary Wilson. Gary would like to have something around the school in memory of his wife Karen Douglas Wilson who taught at Chebeague Island School. Karen passed in December 2020. The school committee will ask for help in committee work to come up with ideas of ways to memorialize people with special ties to the Chebeague Island School.

Public Comment -none

Reports

School Committee Chairperson- The School Committee is meeting with the Town Select Board at our next school Committee meeting, March 23, 2021 to discuss the school budget for next year. Ann will have a draft budget by the end of the week for the school committee to review. Yarmouth Tuition for the Middle School and High School students will be calculated differently starting in the 2021-22 school year. There will be a base tuition cost for the students based on the state tuition costs. There will be an additional cost calculated as a percentage of the number of students from Chebeague attending Yarmouth multiplied by the payment for the new construction of the Middle School and High School respectively. The draft budget will reflect this new tuition calculation.

Jeff shared that he has the payment schedule from SAD 51.

Yarmouth School Department is putting together a task force to look into the protocols necessary to go back to school 5 days a week in person. They will meet about every 2 weeks and have reports at their school committee meetings.

There are 2 open seats on the school committee during this election cycle. Jeff Putnam's term is up but he is taking out papers to run again. Jen Belesca term is up, she did not indicate that she was taking out papers to run again. Carol White was finishing out the term of Christin Nadeau and would like to not continue after the school gets through this year.

The Recreation Department is planning after school programs in their building. There is a question about after school programs in the school?

Superintendent/ Principal- SORT- met recently to talk about loosening protocols to allow people into the school building. This topic fits in well with the after school programming at the school question. The SORT developed plans and protocols that the Governor asked for Green, Yellow and Red designations to open the school and keep everyone in the school and on the island safe. The plans made it possible to apply for grant money. The medical experts at this time; Dr. Fauci and Dr. Shah do not recommend loosening the protocols that we have in place at this time. SORT will meet again after April and determine if anything has changed to warrant changing our protocols. We have kept a very tight and closed "School Bubble" and it has worked in keeping people safe. The literature tells us to keep the "bubble" and protocols the same. This does not mean that we do not support after school activities. It means that we have not received any notification that the pandemic is over so we will continue with all protocols and safety precautions for our staff, students and the community of Chebeague Island. The Chebeague Island School Staff were included in the island vaccine clinic on March 17, 2021. We have used all the time slots that we were given. The Chebeague Island school staff continues with our professional development to be a trauma informed school.

Old Business

Budget- Transportation Cost Center

The first line is salary, it is up 9.2%. There is a \$0.50 increase for the hourly employees. There was discussion between a 2% increase and a \$0.50 increase across the board. The School committee gave a thumbs up to the \$0.50 increase as it is fair and equitable for all employees. A 2% increase gave a range of increases from \$0.33 to \$0.59 dependent on the hourly rate. Other factors contributing to the increase include the budgeting for the vacation and holiday pay that was not included in the development of last year's budget.

All health insurance lines are up 10% from last year.

Purchased Professional line includes the cost of student travel to Yarmouth schools, staff parking and travel from Cousins Island, Barging the bus and car for inspection and maintenance and the log parents sign to take to boat to attend school events. At this time the contract with CTC is in process of being negotiated so this line has not been developed. The number that is currently in the line is a carry over from last year.

Violins- The town manager has been informed that the school is looking to dispose of some violins. CIS currently has about 40 violins in various stages of repair. We will be keeping about 10 violins. There is a music teacher coming over next week to look at them- they will be at the recreation center. We will clean the area before the violins are displayed and we will clean the area after the violins are no longer at the recreation center. Any money that is acquired from the sale of the violins will be deposited into the school's general account as miscellaneous funds.

New Business

The school calendar for 2021/22 school year- Motion: A motion was made by Suzanne Rough to adopt the school calendar as presented. Seconded by Carol White. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Staffing for 2021/22- It was the recommendation of the School Committee that the foreign language position continue to be funded.

Other Business

There will be a warrant to sign by the end of the week.

Adjournment at 7:29 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann C. Kirkpatrick; Superintendent