

Chebeague Island School Committee Minutes  
October 20, 2020  
6:00 P.M.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by the School Committee Vice Chairperson; Jen Belesca. School Committee members in attendance were Leah Guay, Suzanne Rugh, and Jeff Putnam (about 6:15). School staff present were Superintendent/Principal Ann Kirkpatrick, Nancy Ernest and Polly Wentworth. Community members in attendance were Melissa , John Wilson and Erika Neumann

**Approval of Agenda-** A motion was made by Leah Guay to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Suzanne Rugh. Motion passed 3-0-0.

**Minutes from October 3, 2020-** A motion was made by Suzanne Rugh to approve the October 3, 2020 School Committee meeting minutes. Seconded by Leah Guay. Motion passed 3-0-0.

**Correspondence-** We received a check from John Wilson for money to go towards the general maintenance and upkeep of the playground. A thank you note has been sent!

**Public Comment** -none

**Reports**

School Committee Chairperson- Jeff Putnam contacted the Chair of the Town Select Board to ask about his participation in the interview process for the new Town Manager. The process of selecting a Town Manager is well under way. The town has asked questions regarding the candidate's knowledge about the relationship between the town and the school. Jeff was going to share correspondence about library skills.

Superintendent/ Principal- Ann Kirkpatrick shared the two COVID grants the school applied for have been accepted. The Grants are focused on helping keep the school, staff and students safe while in person learning. It is also focused around the needs of the staff and students to participate in education remotely if needed.

**Old Business**

A motion was made by Jen Belesca to accept the Policies ACAA and ACAA-R in their first reading. Seconded by Suzanne Rugh. Motion passed 4-0-0.

Topics from the Public Comment of October 6, 2020 included tuition students, bussing on Chebeague Island, students riding the boat and parents riding the boat for student activities. Jeff wanted to acknowledge that families on Chebeague Island have options to educate their children and wanted to make sure the topics are addressed by the School Committee. Jeff shared with the School Committee and audience that in the Spring of 2018; the Yarmouth

School Board and the Chebeague Island School Committee signed an exclusive contract that all Chebeague students in grade 6-12 would attend Yarmouth Schools. This contract is good through 2031. The School Committee Chair reiterated that the school committee meetings are a place for the public to share ideas and concerns about the school that are not getting addressed through other means of communication at the school.

### **New Business**

Nancy Earnest told the School Committee about the planning and activities of Forest Fridays. The goal of Forest Fridays is to have the students engage in science and social studies outside the classroom. The teachers want to limit the use of technology and have the students use other modalities of learning. The students are in mixed groups which allows for some leadership and mentoring from the older students as well as letting the strengths of the younger students have a chance to develop with a different set of peers.

Susan Hudson Wilson memorial bench- John Wilson asked for support from the School Committee to place a bench on the school's playground that was built in memory of his wife Susan. The School Committee recommended that a group get together to decide the location of the bench. The committee will include Ann Kirkpatrick, John Wilson, Nancy Earnest, Penny Wahlstrom and Polly Wentworth.

### **Other Business**

Marjorie will send out a notice when there is a warrant to sign.

Adjournment at 7:03 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ann C. Kirkpatrick; Superintendent