

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Chairperson Suzanne Rugh. Present: School Committee members Suzanne Rugh, Beverly Johnson, Jeff Putnam and Jen Belesca (Stephen Todd excused absent); school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer and Pre-K Teacher Nancy Earnest; and citizen Bob Earnest.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Beverly Johnson and seconded by Jen Belesca to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Jeff Putnam and seconded by Beverly Johnson to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of March 21, 2017 as written and to approve the School Committee Workshop minutes of March 21, 2017 as written. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Belesca abstained).

Correspondence

Mike Pulsifer reported that the Anthem Blue Cross rates are due to come out near the end of this week, and will be sent via mail to each school department.

Public Comment

None

Reports

School Committee Chair: Suzanne Rugh reminded the School Committee that the next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 13th at 6:00 pm, which is a change from their regular meeting schedule. David Brunner will be attending the meeting to update the SC on renovation information.

Superintendent/Principal: Mike Pulsifer shared with the School Committee that the March 24th Early Release day was used by teachers to work on our Pre-K to grade 5 report cards. Since adopting the most recent learning standards in math, reading and writing, the teachers are aligning the report cards to match those learning standards. Mike also updated the SC on the fundraiser that Penny Wahlstrom and our students did in raising \$201 for cancer research. The “Pennies for Patients” fundraiser was a complete success and it was a good learning experience for everyone. And finally, Mike reported that the copier in the office is fading quickly and will either need a complete overhaul or it will need to be replaced. He is working on that currently.

Old Business

2017/18 Budget and Bond Payment: Currently, the 2017/18 School Department budget proposal has \$54,000 budgeted under trio 8000 (Debt Service) to cover a possible bond payment for school renovations. Mike Pulsifer shared that he and Marjorie Stratton recently spoke to the town's bond counsel (Jim Saffian) and Jim suggested that the money might not be paid out as a bond payment next year as the timing for a long term bond payment might not be until the 2018/19 budget year. After a lengthy discussion, the SC felt the money would be better placed under trio 8615 (Capital Improvements Reserve). A motion was made by Jen Belesca and seconded by Beverly Johnson to move \$54,000 out of trio 8000 and into trio 8615 for the 2017/18 budget proposal. The motion passed 4-0. Mike will share that change with the Town Manager.

CIS Website: Beverly Johnson brought up the new CIS website on the projector screen and went through a tour of it with the SC. Overall it was well received, and some new additions on the site were shared. After the review, some positive suggestions were offered as well. Mike Pulsifer let the SC know that a training will be done soon to update some key school staff on managing it.

2016 MEA Results: Mike Pulsifer shared last year's MEA results with the SC, broken down by grades 3-5 CIS students, and also by all Chebeague Island students in grades 3 to 11. Overall, the results were positive, and our students did well on the assessment. Currently, the 2017 MEA assessment is being administered at CIS and hopefully the results will be back to us sooner next year than they were this year.

New Business

School Renovation Public Forum/Open House Discussion: The School Committee discussed the need to inform the public about the school studies that were done and the renovation needs. The SC also discussed a possible timeline for putting out information, having an Open House(s) and the timing for a renovation vote by the public. A subcommittee was appointed (Beverly Johnson and Jen Belesca) and charged to formulate some ideas on how to move forward with the public discussion. The subcommittee will report back to the full School Committee at its next meeting.

Other Business

Warrant #18 was reviewed by the School Committee and approval was authorized for the warrant.

Adjournment

Beverly Johnson motioned and Jen Belesca seconded to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 7:45 pm. The motion passed 4-0.