

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Chairperson Jeff Putnam. Present: School Committee members Jeff Putnam, Suzanne Rugh, Courtney Doughty, Jen Belesca and Stephen Todd; school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer and Pre-K teacher Nancy Earnest; and guest Matt Ridgway.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Jen Belesca and seconded by Stephen Todd to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Stephen Todd to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of September 4, 2018 as written. The motion passed 4-0-1 (Belesca).

Correspondence

Mike Pulsifer included in the School Committee members' packets an email from Carrie Ridgway that she sent that day. Jeff Putnam suggested we review it when the Pre-K topic comes up on the agenda and all agreed to wait until that time.

Jeff Putnam shared that he and Board of Selectmen Chairperson Herb Maine would like to schedule a joint workshop together to discuss BoS contingency funds and School Committee Capital Improvement designated funds that will or could be targeted for the school renovation. Jeff will work something out and report back to the SC at a later date.

Public Comment

None

Reports

School Committee Chair: None

Superintendent/Principal: None

Old Business

Student Numbers and Class Sizes for 2018/19: This topic was discussed at the last School Committee meeting as it pertains to the Pre-Kindergarten program, and as further discussion was

needed, this special meeting was scheduled. Matt Ridgway was in attendance, and as the father of a current Pre-K student, he asked the School Committee to reconsider starting up the stand alone Pre-K program again. He gave examples of why the current plan of having Pre-K with the Grade K-2 class was not optimum for his child, and he suggested that the long running Pre-K program with Ms. Earnest was the best option for his child. The School Committee discussed Matt's suggestions and also reviewed his wife's email, and had many comments of their own. After a lengthy discussion and confirmation with CRC Director Matt Hoidal, a motion was made by Courtney Doughty and seconded by Jen Belesca to reinstate the stand alone Pre-Kindergarten program with Nancy Earnest as the teacher for the 2018/19 school year at the Kids Place. The motion passed 5-0.

New Business

None

Other Business

None

Adjournment

Suzanne Rugh motioned and Stephen Todd seconded to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 5:49 pm. The motion passed 5-0.