

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Chairperson Jeff Putnam. Present: School Committee members Jeff Putnam, Suzanne Rugh, Courtney Doughty and Stephen Todd (Jen Belesca was excused late); school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer; and guests Vicki and Caleb Todd.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Courtney Doughty to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Courtney Doughty and seconded by Suzanne Rugh to approve the workshop minutes of September 16, 2017. The motion passed 4-0. Later in the meeting a motion was made by Jen Belesca and seconded by Suzanne Rugh to approve the meeting minutes of September 19, 2017. The motion passed 3-0-2 (Stephen Todd and Courtney Doughty abstained).

Correspondence

Sixth grader Caleb Todd and his mother were in attendance to update the School Committee about Caleb's first month at Harrison Middle School. Caleb reported that the transition has gone smoothly, and prior to going to HMS his participation on Colts soccer helped a lot as he got to know Yarmouth kids during that activity. He also said the 5th grade shadow days were helpful, and he got to know the school layout, rooms and some teachers at the school. He did say that catching the bus can be a bit intimidating at first, and perhaps during orientation the HMS staff could go over riding the bus and catching the late bus a bit more. These suggestions will be passed on to the HMS guidance office. Caleb said he felt well prepared academically for HMS.

Public Comment

None

Reports

School Committee Chair: None

Superintendent/Principal: Mike Pulsifer reported that our CIS students took part in the Coastal Cleanup effort that Maine recently sponsored, and our students were able to clean up one of our beaches and the students and teachers did a great job collecting trash. Mike also reported that the Safety Committee recently met and it is making good progress getting our school and playground safer. Minutes from that meeting were shared earlier with everyone. And finally, Mike noted that the school will be closed on Thursday, October 5th in the afternoon, and all day on Friday, October 6th so the staff can attend the Island Institute educational conference in Belfast, Maine.

Old Business

Renovation/Referendum Public Forum: The School Committee reviewed the plan for the October 21st public forum and some questions were raised about set up, the agenda and seating. Mike Pulsifer will get specific answers to the SC's questions and report back at the next meeting. Mike also informed the SC that the informational packets about the renovation are being put together and placed around the community, and will also be mailed home to all residents the week of October 10th.

Second Reading of Policies: Courtney Doughty motioned and Stephen Todd seconded to approve policies JLF Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect, JLF-R Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect-Administrative Procedures, and JLF-E Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting Form as a second and final reading. The motion passed 5-0.

New Business

Undesignated Funds for the Chebeague Island School Department: A review of school department designated and undesignated funds was done. Currently the School Department has \$135,572 designated in the Capital Improvement Account (that includes \$59,000 from the 2017-18 budget trio line 8615), \$40,152 designated in the Special Education Account, and \$50,218 designated in the Tuition Reserve Account. It was noted that there is an undesignated amount of \$25,737 left over from the 2015-16 year and an unaudited amount of \$72,600 remaining from the 2016-17 year. After a thorough discussion, it was decided to move some undesignated funds into designated accounts. A motion was made by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Courtney Doughty to move all of the \$25,737 leftover funds from 2015-16 into the Tuition Account, and from the 2016-17 funds to move \$20,000 into the Special Education Account, \$15,000 into the Capital Improvement Account, and \$5,263 into the Tuition Account. The motion passed 5-0. The School Committee agreed to leave an unaudited amount of \$32,337 left over from the 2016-17 budget year for future discussion and designation.

2016-17 Maine Educational Assessment Results: The results from the spring 2017 MEAs were shared with the School Committee. It was noted that the Chebeague Island students did quite well overall and compared very favorably to the state results. The Chebeague Island School and the Yarmouth Schools prepare our students well.

CRC/CISD/BOS Memorandum of Understanding: Mike Pulsifer shared an unsigned copy of a 2009 Memorandum of Understanding and asked if this MOU was something that the School Committee would like to follow up on and get finalized. At this time, the SC said that if it can be done easily, it would be good to complete it, but if it cannot be done, then we should continue to follow the responsibilities as we have for the past eight years without the MOU being signed.

Other Business

Warrant #5 was reviewed and approval was authorized for warrant.

Adjournment

Suzanne Rugh motioned and Courtney Doughty seconded to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 7:35 pm. The motion passed 5-0.