

Chebeague Island School Committee Minutes
December 15, 2020
6:00 P.M.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 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, Nancy Ernest, Sarah Klein, Polly Wentworth, and Beverly Johnson. Sixth grade students Gage Putnam and Elizabeth Rugh also joined.

Approval of Agenda- A motion was made by Suzanne Rugh to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Leah Guay. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Minutes from December 1, 2020- The minutes were tabled.

Chebeague Island School Students Transition to Yarmouth Middle School- Gage Putnam was available to share his experience of moving to the middle school during a pandemic. He liked that the first day as there was an adult at the front door directing and helping students find their way to class. Having 4 months of remote learning last year to finish out his fifth-grade year set him up to be successful during the 3 days of online learning he has each week. Both last year and this year the classes are in Google Meets. After COVID, Gage would like to participate in sports, be in class with all his classmates and have no more on-line learning! Elizabeth Rugh shared that there were after school activities like homework club and tennis this fall. The transition was nice and easy. The workload is manageable, but math is hard. The 4 months of on-line learning this spring was also beneficial to her as she is very familiar with Google Meets. Both students agreed that they were ready for the move to middle school!

Correspondence- Senator Kathy Breen wrote a letter to the school commending everyone for the great job getting the school year going in person.

Public Comment -none

Reports

School Committee Chairperson- Jeff Putnam did not have a report

Superintendent/ Principal- Ann Kirkpatrick clarified the reasoning behind moving the school to remote learning on Wednesday, December 9 and 16. The uniqueness of CIS having a small number of students made it possible to start the school year within person learning. CIS also has a small number of staff that travel from the mainland daily. It was the decision of the Superintendent with the previous weeks having Cumberland County on watch and the active cases increasing in Maine.

The Superintendent also explained her rationale for having CIS students stay home if there is a sibling or family member in the household under quarantine. The scenarios were shared with Dr. Kip Webb who agreed with the cautious decisions.

Old Business

Policies that the School Community will be reviewing next are ACAB, ACAB-R and DKC.

New Business

Lead Teacher- Sarah Klein spoke about the upcoming events at the school, Christmas around the world, winter solstice, and forest Fridays. Sarah also discussed the school moving to Yellow and that she has worked with the students to keep progressing with their math and literacy work through self-paced assignments. Sarah, Nancy, & Mary monitor the students' work when online classes are necessary.

Budget- The Cost Centers of Facilities and Maintenance, Care and Upkeep of Grounds, Debt Service and Other were presented to the School Committee.

There was discussion regarding the job description of the Custodian/Cook and whether the split between the two jobs is described there.

The School Committee would like to see the school's audit from the 2019-2020 school year.

Future budget discussion will be around capital reserve accounts.

The committee will plan for items that are of concern in the capital reserve portion of the budget as well as continuing to investigate our transportation needs.

Other Business

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

Adjournment at 7:48 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann C. Kirkpatrick; Superintendent