

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2016

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairperson Beverly Johnson. Present: School Committee members Beverly Johnson, Carol White, and Suzanne Rugh, (Jennifer Belesca and Jeff Putnam excused absent); and school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Carol White to approve the agenda as written. Motion passed 3-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Carol White and seconded by Suzanne Rugh to approve the regular School Committee meeting minutes of December 1, 2015 as written. Motion passed 3-0.

Correspondence

None

Public Comment

None

Reports

Beverly Johnson reported that Sea Bird Sue (Susan Schubel) came to CIS and did presentations for our students on December 18th. Sea Bird Sue is a member of the National Audubon Society and has worked with Maine birds for over twenty years. It was an excellent presentation and it was enjoyed by all. Beverly also reported that the Energy Audit grant that Geoff Summa applied for from the Island Institute was approved for a maximum allotment of \$2,000. To receive this grant, the CISD must also spend "in kind" funds to receive equal "in kind" funds from the grant, up to a maximum of \$2,000. The School Committee was very appreciative for Geoff giving his time and expertise on this beneficial grant.

Mike Pulsifer reported that the state has finalized the 2015-16 Maximum Allowable Tuition (MAT) rates for this year. The MAT rates are what CISD pays to Yarmouth and Greely for tuition for educating CI students in grades 6-12. The MAT rate for grades 6-8 students went down this year, from \$9,392.09 per student to \$9,236.91 (-\$155.18) and the MAT rate for grades 9-12 students went up this year from \$9,754.13 per student to \$10,131.00 (+376.87). Adjustments will be made to our tuition payment schedule to accommodate those tuition rate changes. Mike also reported that there have been some shifts in student numbers in our grades 6-12 over the past few months. We have gained one new student in grade 9, and have lost two students from grades 6 and 10. And finally, Mike reported that the holiday concert the students put on at the Hall on December 15th was a complete success, and the students performed to a packed house.

Old Business

Superintendent's Evaluation: Mike Pulsifer shared a number of possible forms to use for his evaluation, and Beverly has those and will share the different versions with the other School Committee members. Beverly will communicate with the Committee members to get feedback on the forms and the evaluation. This topic will be put on a future School Committee meeting agenda.

Teacher Job Description: After a review and second reading of the Chebeague Island Teacher job description a motion was made by Carol White and seconded by Suzanne Rugh to approve the Teacher job description. Motion passed 3-0.

New Business

First Reading of Policies: A review of current CISD policies was done by the School Committee, and a review of the Maine School Management Association's required policies list was also done. After a general discussion, it was noted that the CISD policy committee (Beverly Johnson, Mary Holt and Mike Pulsifer) would attempt to meet monthly and work on the MSMA's policy list for our adoption. The first three draft policies from the policy committee were reviewed and a motion was made by Carol White and seconded by Suzanne Rugh to approve the first reading of policies ACAA-R Student Discrimination and Harassment Procedure, ACAB Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees and ACAD Hazing. The motion was approved 3-0.

Teacher Contract: A review of the current CIS teacher contract was done by the School Committee, and further discussion may be undertaken at a later time.

Three Optional Early Release Days Information: Mike Pulsifer reported that the CIS staff recently prioritized their requests for the three optional early release days in the 2015-16 school calendar. They would like to use the optional release time to (1) work with a consultant to improve our classroom and school culture in respect to students and staff relationships; (2) work on our school inventory of texts, equipment and resources; and (3) work with a consultant to improve our technological skills in a Google Docs platform for staff communication. Carol White suggested that CIS inform other island schools of our topics and invite any who may want to share in our professional development. Consensus was given to schedule the three early releases at a time that works best for the staff at CIS.

AP Warrant #11: AP Warrant #11 was reviewed by the School Committee and approval was authorized for the warrant.

Other Business

None

Adjournment

Suzanne Rugh motioned and Carol White seconded to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 7:45 pm. The motion was approved 3-0.