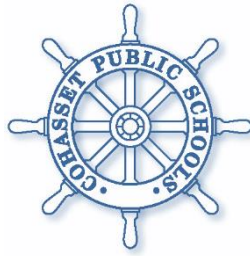


Lance Dial
Chair

Ted Car
Secretary

Paul Kearney
Member



Craig MacLellan
Vice Chair

Jennifer Lesky
Member

Cohasset Public Schools School Committee

143 Pond Street • Cohasset, MA 02025
www.cohassetk12.org

COHASSET SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROTOCOLS

For the purpose of enhancing teamwork among members of the School Committee and between the School Committee and Administration, we, the members of the Cohasset School Committee, do hereby publicly commit ourselves to the following operating protocols:

Whom we represent

The School Committee represents the needs and interests of all children in the District.

It is the School Committee's responsibility to set the tone and promote a positive image for the school system. We accept our roles as ambassadors of the school system, promote support for public education, spread news of the District's successes, and work methodically to address challenges.

How we conduct business

The Board conducts its business through a set agenda. In as much as is possible, all materials relevant to the meeting will be available in advance. Emerging items will be addressed in a future agenda, as is required by the Open Meeting law.

We acknowledge that a School Committee meeting is a meeting held in public, not a public meeting.

The School Committee approaches decision making with an open mind. Research, best practice, public input, and financial impact are carefully considered when acting on behalf of the school community. We uphold and support the decision of the majority of the School Committee once a decision has been made.

We respect the Open Meeting Law and maintain the confidentiality of privileged information.

The School Committee helps establish the vision, create policies, and ensures accountability to sustain continuous improvements in teaching, learning, and the social and emotional health of stakeholders. The Superintendent and Administration manage the day-to-day operations of the district.

Individual School Committee members do not have authority. Only the School Committee as a whole has authority.

When School Committee members attend meetings of other committees or boards as liaisons from the School Committee, they will speak as individuals and not for the Committee except when reporting a decision of the majority of the School Committee.

We recognize the importance of working collaboratively with town officials to improve our schools and seek ways to enlist their support for our efforts.

How we communicate

We work together to build trust between School Committee members, the Superintendent and Administrators by treating everyone with dignity and respect.

The Superintendent and the School Committee recognize the importance of proactive communication and agree there will be no surprises during an open meeting. If School Committee members have questions or concerns, they agree to contact the Superintendent or Chair in advance of the meeting. Should discussion during a public meeting evoke questions or comments that could not be reasonably anticipated, it will be the responsibility of the Chair to ensure all are treated with dignity and respect.

Personnel complaints and criticisms received by the School Committee or its individual members will be directed to the Superintendent.

The School Committee will encourage others to follow the District Chain of Command policy (Teacher, Principal, Superintendent).

We will revise our protocols each May after town elections as part of the Committee's self-evaluation.

Mr. Lance Dial, Chair

Mr. Craig MacLellan, Vice Chair

Mr. Ted Carr, Secretary

Ms. Jennifer Lesky, Member

Mr. Paul Kearney, Member