



**Cohasset Public Schools**  
143 Pond Street  
Cohasset, MA 02025  
*Continuing the Commitment to Excellence*  
**Cohasset School Committee Meeting**

**School Committee Minutes**

Wednesday, 6/2/2021

6:00 p.m.

Zoom Video Call

Virtual Meeting – 143TV/Zoom/Facebook

**In Attendance:** Craig MacLellan, Chairman  
Ashley Colleary  
Lydia St. Onge  
Ellen Maher  
Paul Kearney

**Also, in Attendance:** Dr. Patrick Sullivan, Superintendent  
Dr. Leslie Scollins, Assistant Superintendent  
Susan Owen, Director of Finance & Operations  
Barbara Cerwonka, Director of Student Services  
Lisa Radden, Director of Technology & Digital Learning  
Michael Welch, CHS Teacher  
Senator Patrick O'Connor  
Representative Joan Meschino  
Tara Volungis, SEPAC President

Chairman MacLellan called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. He stated the meeting is being held remotely under the Town's Declaration of Emergency. All votes will be taken by roll call vote. This meeting is being live streamed on Cohasset 143TV and Facebook. **Roll Call: Ashley Colleary - Present, Paul Kearney - Present, Ellen Maher - Present, Lydia St. Onge - Present, Craig MacLellan - Present.**

**Honoring Ms. Ellen Maher** – Members of the committee and administration express appreciation for Mrs. Maher and Senator O'Connor and Representative Meschino honor Mrs. Maher for her years of service on the Cohasset School Committee.

**Senator Patrick O'Connor and Representative Joan Meschino** – Present FY22 Budget Overview including Cohasset in the MA FY 22 budget, district wide budget items, federal funding, recent Cohasset grants, Kate's House opening, employee screening bill, DESE guidance, MBTA service updates. Committee asks questions and engages in discussion with the senator and representative.

**Public Comment** - None

**Superintendent's report** – Dr. Sullivan fields questions regarding recommendations for summer learning. CHS Graduation and senior events are highlighted. Dr. Sullivan updates the committee on Kindergarten refund. A refund of \$500 will be sent to each of the 98 kindergarten families.

Mike Welch requests permission for Model UN trips for 2022. Committee members ask questions and express support for the trips.

**Motion to approve the Model UN attending the Harvard conference and/ or the conference in New York city by Mrs. St. Onge, seconded by Mrs. Colleary.**

**Aye – All**



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Lisa Radden, Director of Technology and Digital Learning, provides update about the Digital Learning Committee and the review of the tech plan for the district. Committee asks questions and has discussion.

Community Comment – Jenna Cunningham, 25 Hill Street – Now that it has been confirmed on the record that last year’s families received \$980 will this year’s number be revisited and not incorrectly capped at \$500?

**Special Education Update** – Mrs. Cerwonka provides the annual SEPAC presentation with Tara Volungis, SEPAC president. The roll of SEPAC includes three things: Support parents of children on IEPs or 504s, educate parents in the community on special education issues, liaison with the administration to get information from parents to school and vis versa. This past year, SEPAC meetings and events, annual SEPAC basic rights and DESE guidance on SEPAC is provided to committee. Mrs. Cerwonka and Mrs. Volungis summarized the events and accomplishments of the past year of SEPAC’s work. SEPAC attendees were interested in learning about DESE regulations and updates in the COVID era. In the late winter/ spring a shift was made back to more traditional topics with guest speakers from within the district highlighting a variety of topics. Looking forward, the coming year will have an in-person meeting parent coffee and every other month there will be guest speakers and updates. Committee asks questions and has discussion.

**School Committee Comments and Communications** – In person school committee meetings discussion – it will be important to continue to incorporate zoom and or/ Facebook live as it leads to much higher participation from the community and allows the committee to hear more voices during our discussions. Committee members give feedback and discuss when to go back to in person meeting and how to make it work best in a hybrid model. Mr. Kearney proposes that subcommittees continue to meet on zoom. The guidance allows for some flexibility on this through September. It is determined that August would be an appropriate time to shift to in person/ hybrid models.

School Facilities Committee – Each town entity appoints three members and determines which will have a 1 year, 2 year, and 3 year term. Terms will need to be determined once the committee is fully populated. Subcommittee and liaison reports –

Mrs. Colleary – policy and communications committee will be meeting next week and the following week. Cohasset Pride project will be at the farmers market and library to pick up flags and signs.

Mr. Kearney – Graduation was excellent!

Mrs. Maher – Mrs. St. Onge and I went to town meeting. Our budget and all of our capital items passed. Graduation was great and valedictorian’s speech was amazing. Finished diversity goal by reading book on Juneteenth.

Mrs. St. Onge – asks about Chromebook returns after hybrid learning.

Mr. MacLellan – needs superintendent eval form from all committee members

**Approval of Minutes** – Two sets of minutes: October 28 and December 2, 2020 school committee meetings.

**Motion to approve the minutes for the October 28, 2020 meeting minutes as revised by Mrs. Maher, seconded by Mr. Kearney. Aye – All**

**Motion to approve December 2, 2020 meeting minutes by Mrs. Colleary, seconded by Mrs. Maher. Aye – All**

**Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Maher, seconded by Mrs. Colleary. Aye – all  
Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.**