



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

Emergency School Committee Minutes

Tuesday, 5/18/2021

3:00 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
Brian Scott, CHS Principal
John Mills, CMS Principal
Lisa Farrell, Osgood Principal
Steve Rotundi, Athletic Director

Chairman MacLellan called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. 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.**

DESE and MIAA announced new guidance regarding masking, effective today, that do not align with district's current face covering policy.

Dr. Sullivan summarizes new guidance that rescinds mask wearing during recess, youth sport, physical education and any kind of outdoor learning environments as a result of declining rate of COVID spread and higher rates of vaccinations. Contact tracing at recess will not be happening. Contact tracing in outdoor classroom environments will be happening.

Second guidance came out from DESE and MIAA, effective today, masks are not required to be worn at athletic practices and games outdoors. Indoors, in low risk sports, masks do not need to be worn. Other guidance about supplies and sterilization of equipment will be dealt with at an operational level.

State guidance will not require masks at prom and graduation. When people are on the bus, shuttling from photos to prom, masks will be required.

Policy EBCFA as currently written is in conflict with new guidance. Seeking motion to suspend our current face covering policy EBCFA in so much as it conflicts with the relaxed guidance issued by DESE on May 17 and by MIAA issued May 18 but not in any other manner.

The committee members ask questions, clarify points and discuss.



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Mrs. Maher proposes to amend paragraph 2 of policy EBCFA to say: A face covering that covers the nose and mouth must be worn by all individuals inside the buildings and on school transportation even when social distancing is observed. Face covering out of doors is not required.

Dr. Sullivan adds that adults are required to wear masks outdoors if distance cannot be maintained.

Clarification is needed about details of relaxed guidance that will be determined in the next week or so.

Mrs. St. Onge suggests going without amendments to policy language and explicitly communicating relaxed guidance to community.

Motion to suspend our current face covering policy EBCFA in so much as it conflicts with the recent relaxed guidance issued by DESE on May 17 and by MIAA issued May 18 but only in that manner. Motion made by Mrs. St. Onge, seconded by Mr. Kearney. Roll Call Vote: Ashley Colleary - Abstain, Paul Kearney - Aye, Ellen Maher - Nay, Lydia St. Onge - Aye, Craig MacLellan – Aye.

Motion to adjourn emergency school committee meeting by Mrs. Colleary, seconded by Mr. Kearney. Roll Call Vote: Ashley Colleary - Aye, Paul Kearney - Aye, Ellen Maher - Aye, Lydia St. Onge - Aye, Craig MacLellan – Aye.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.