



*Cohasset Public Schools*  
143 Pond Street  
Cohasset, MA 02025  
*Empower Students to Improve Communities*

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COHASSET SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, January 4, 2023**  
**6:00 PM**

**How to Participate:**

**In Person**

Learning Commons  
Cohasset Middle and High School  
143 Pond Street  
Cohasset, MA 02025

**Virtual**

Zoom (*chat enabled*)  
<https://zoom.us/j/93210720844>  
ID: 932 1072 0844 / Password: 461964  
Dial In: +1 929 205 6099

**Televised**

Streamed Live on Cohasset 143TV

*Facebook (watch/listen only)*  
Cohasset Live Streaming

**All School Committee Meetings Are Recorded**

**AGENDA**

**In Attendance:**

Lance Dial, Chairman  
Paul Kearney  
Craig MacLellan, Vice Chairman  
Lydia St. Onge

**Also In Attendance:**

Susan Owen, Director of Finance & Operations  
Leslie Scollins, Assistant Superintendent  
Patrick Sullivan, Superintendent

**Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Dial called to order the January 4, 2023, regular meeting of the Cohasset school committee at 6:00 PM. Mr. Carr is absent for this meeting for other commitments, and Mr. MacLellan will be a few minutes late. We have 3 out of 5 school committee members who are present in which we have a quorum, and we will proceed with **Roll Call: Paul Kearney-Present; Lydia St. Onge-Present; Lance Dial-Present.**

## Opening Remarks

Chairman Dial addresses that this meeting is from a meeting that was right before the holiday break on some important work with the budget. Therefore, this meeting is all about budgets. There is no public comment section in the agenda for this meeting, but if folks want to make a comment to share with the school committee, we encourage them to do so via email, and we'll certainly address them in due course. Our focus right now is to plan the financing of our fantastic institutions and how we're going to continue to provide excellent education for students here in the Cohasset Public Schools.

## Budget, Resources and Governance

### • **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget** **(Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen)** [Materials B-1]

Our approach with the calendar budget has many steps in it, all leading towards a final approval by the school committee on March 15, 2023, just following a public hearing on the budget. Before that, there are a series of workshops, iterations of our budget so that we're making sure that we get all stakeholders, community input, and obviously the school committee so that folks who may have some input via comment, that we'll be able to work with our town officials and the teams that govern the advisory of all our budget requests so that we'll be able to talk with our administration. At our last meeting, we had a combined workshop by all Principals that presented our first run through of our budget. We didn't include the Capital Budget presentation part of the input was to bolster the thoughts we have of the bit point data to have more rich conversations involving positions we're advocating for, and to present a little more formally, the Capital Requests.

Dr. Sullivan notes that Mr. Carr suggested that we look at our budgets through the lens of what if things aren't going as well as we hope they do, and what is it that we could potentially live without or work without of the schools because that is part of a healthy process for looking at resources and applying help to our teaching and learning which we're in the process of that. Part of what is handicapping us in that regard is that we didn't have a lot of time to do this as a leadership team. This was done right before the holiday break and now we've returned to do this mission.

Dr. Sullivan shares the FY24 Budget & Capital Update with data they put in, to sort of look under the hood, to see why we're asking for these particular items, a little bit more on what we've already added. [FY24 Budget Priorities]

<u>Requested School Budget</u>		
<b>Current FY23 Appropriated Budget</b>	<b>\$22,345,352</b>	
Contractual Salary Obligations	\$ 684,604	3.06%
Increase in Circuit Breaker Funding	\$ (468,753)	-2.10%
Increase in Special Education Tuitions	\$ 46,983	0.21%
Projected Retirement Savings	\$ (180,000)	-0.81%
<b>Roll Over Requests</b>	<b>\$ 82,834</b>	<b>.37%</b>

**Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

• **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget**  
**(Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen)** [Materials B-1]

**Staffing/Other Requests**

**Overarching Requests**

1.0 Add Grade 3 Teacher (Enrollment)	\$ 66,000
.50 Add Math Specialist – Osgood School	\$ 33,000
1.0 Add Pre-School Teacher	\$ 66,000
1.0 Add Pre-School ESP	\$ 26,000
.50 Add .50 Math Specialist – Deer Hill School	\$ 33,000
1.0 Add Math Teacher – Middle School	\$ 66,000
1.0 Add Math Teacher/Specialist – High School	\$ 66,000
.50 Add .50 Athletic Trainer	\$ 35,000
1.0 Add Library ESP – High School	\$ 41,235
1.0 Add Custodian – Middle/High School	\$ 40,000

**(A) Staffing/Other Requests**

Redistribute Leadership position from Director of Technology & Digital Learning to Director of Data, Curriculum & Evaluation.

Facilities/Security Coordinator (increase of responsibilities)	\$ 15,000	
Human Resources/Payroll Manager (increase of responsibilities)	\$ 10,000	
→ Continue process of reducing Full-Day Kindergarten Tuition	\$ 50,000	
Increase to supplies/materials & curriculum materials	\$ 272,188	
All Schools in the District (Arts and Math)		
Additional Recommendations	\$ 819,423	3.7%
Roll Over Requests	\$ 82,834	.37%
<b>8.5 Total FY24 Budget Increase Requested</b>	<b>\$ 902,257</b>	
<b>FY24 REQUESTED BUDGET</b>	<b>\$23,247,709</b>	<b>4.04%</b>

**(B) Staffing/Other Requests**

Redistribute Leadership position from Director of Technology & Digital Learning to Director of Data, Curriculum & Evaluation.

Facilities/Security Coordinator (increase of responsibilities)	\$ 15,000	
Human Resources/Payroll Manager (increase of responsibilities)	\$ 10,000	
→ Make Full-Day Kindergarten – FREE	\$ 300,000	
Increase to supplies/materials & curriculum materials	\$ 272,188	
All Schools in the District (Arts and Math)		
Additional Recommendations	\$ 1,069,423	4.8%
Roll Over Requests	\$ 82,834	.37%
<b>8.5 Total FY24 Budget Increase Requested</b>	<b>\$ 1,152,257</b>	
<b>FY24 REQUESTED BUDGET</b>	<b>\$23,497,609</b>	<b>5.16%</b>

## **Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

### **• Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget (Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen)** [Materials B-1]

- Slide (A), there are a couple of other factors at play, particularly Kindergarten tuition, and how that would affect us. That would be chipping away \$50,000 to reduce this a little each year that we weren't able to do last year. With all that included in the \$50,000 we're at a 4.04% increase.
- Slide (B), part of that is if we absorb that \$300,000 making full-day Kindergarten Tuition free, that puts us at a 5.16% increase, which would be a bad loss. Last year we were at 5.07%, and we were chipped back down to 3.04%. In this stage in the process, we're asking for quite a little bit less than we've had coming out of COVID. In terms of full-day Kindergarten Tuition, Cohasset is the only one out of the few districts in the area that has a full-day Kindergarten fee with most districts that are similar with their financial budget.

The first district-wide need was mentioned at the December 21, 2022, school committee meeting requesting to hiring a Director of Data, Curriculum, and Evaluation for grades K-12. This individual will not only work closely with the Assistant Superintendent, but the Director of Student Services, the Principals, and Staff looking at data, setting up data dialogues to show student progress and to analyze MCAS data, (and other data points), and to ensure the fidelity of curricular and instructional practices.

This individual will be looking at all the data and working on the ground floor to create plans based on that data with the various grade levels team, for example, helping them set action plans which will guide them right through. Other districts have two (2) folks doing this, one from Humanities, one from a STEM perspective, and some folks also have a directorate data additionally. We can make a huge dent in our action plan with this person who will work closely with Dr. Scollins. Part of that is to analyze those MCAS data points and to ensure the fidelity, taking a real strong look at curricular and instructional practices are happening.

Superintendent Patrick Sullivan wants everyone to keep in mind that this isn't a new budgetary request for a Director of Data & Technical Learning. We had Lisa Radner who left for another position, but that position was going to change because of the trajectory to where we're going and how we've grown. When we hired Lisa as Director of Data & Technical Learning, we were in a COVID situation and we had just shifted to a full on-line virtual aurora, and we didn't have a sense of how that was going to evolve based on the needs of the ESSER funds that we had help from. We were able to pick it up and budget the following year. This is a re-directional on that need, and the next step now in that need that we have some of these structures in place is to hit the ground floor and drive that action plan we have. Also, this person will be helping with teacher evaluations, which is really important, it's another area that we need more people doing and this will help our school Principals to provide feedback to our teachers to improve with what they're doing in the classroom.

**Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

• **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget**  
**(Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen)** [Materials B-1]

**Cohasset 2022 MCAS Results Compared to Like (or) Neighboring Schools:**

	ELA	Math	Growth Avg		Science	ELA	Math	Growth Avg	
	% M/E	% M/E	SGP 3-8		% M/E	% M/E	% M/E	SGP 10	
	3-8	3-8	ELA	Math	5 & 8	10	10	ELA	Math
Cohasset	67%	59%	58	61	58%	77%	67%	58	62
Dover-Sherborn	71%	71%	50	50	73%	83%	83%	53	59
Duxbury	59%	56%	53	48	63%	75%	74%	48	67
Hingham	73%	67%	59	52	69%	91%	82%	52	61
Marshfield	55%	54%	48	49	53%	71%	64%	50	42
Norwell	62%	64%	51	54	67%	84%	88%	56	58
Scituate	61%	59%	51	44	63%	81%	72%	54	56

Dr. Sullivan notes there's no reason why Cohasset shouldn't be the highest performing district in the state, quite frankly! We need to push forward with the promise to support our teachers to help deliver that. As you can see, although we compete with other school districts performances, Cohasset should be ranked on top, as we should be. This position is work we did as a leadership team on what we really need to look for, rather than have a discussion with Lisa Radner who had the tools to do some of this. We're now looking at hiring someone to do the tasks that were just mentioned.

Mrs. St. Onge asks about in terms of pacing the timeline as everything goes through on the position, hoping to be hired at the end of this school year, or would this person start July 1<sup>st</sup>? Just clarifying we have this inventory type of stuff that has to be done before jumping into a new school year. We want to make sure this person is fully ready and would need a full summer of preparation. Could this position be posted in March, as we're looking to next year? If we're going to get the best candidate, the earlier, the better. We could then start that up, so that this person can hit the ground running.

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[Materials B-1] supports 65 slide presentations on topic item **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget** to the 01-04-23 school committee meeting agenda.

## **Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

### **• Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget (Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen)** [Materials B-1]

Superintendent Patrick Sullivan says we would be looking at the end of the school year. This position is really the only one we would be able to hire early. We want the school committee and other committees to know we're making decisions for someone who may be available right now.

Chairman Dial notes just for the record, Mr. MacLellan has just arrived, we now have 4 out of 5 school committee members present for this open quorum.

Mr. Dial asks if there are positions like this in other districts? When it becomes a unique position like this, it becomes harder to find the right candidate for this particular job. It does seem to straddle a few disciplines.

Dr. Sullivan says this is a unique position, there are lots of unique positions out there to analyze data, but it doesn't power up that person to necessarily create a plan, analyzing the data and then sort of ending it off to create a plan to some thoughts on it. If they're a director of STEM, or a Director of Humanities, may often have times with the Superintendent, but not necessarily. Then the issue of making sure they're collaborating and coming together, and not competing for resources. This would be for someone that can do all of that!

Mr. Dial asks how do we find someone who has all these skills? Do we have an idea of who this candidate would be? Where would we look for this person for this position?

Dr. Sullivan states this person would probably be a current director, or a coordinator, someone who currently may be a sitting Director of Pre-K-12 for ELA, a Director of Pre-K-12 staff humanities who is looking to get more involved with a role that has some tenants of an Assistant Superintendent and someone who loves data and loves to work with folks on data dialogues. There aren't a tremendous number of jobs like this, but they're out there!

Mr. Dial thinks this is a great position, we've talked about before. The world is different now with data, some good, some not so good to clear out some of the noise. There's some noise in the MCAS results and data. We need someone who can part through that, then action it by putting it as a plan to reinforce that action through the evaluation data process, this is filling in the gap on something that is missing, that we'll fill in.

Dr. Sullivan states there's another Budget request position we're advocating for Student Services Staffing Requests - Integrated Preschool Classroom for an addition of (1) Pre-K Teacher and (1) ESP.

### **Supporting Data**

- Respond to and partner with community, as annual applications exceed available slots annually, creating wait lists and alternate placements.

**Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

- **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget**  
(Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen) [Materials B-1]

**Supporting Data – Cont'd**

- Foster school community engagement by integrating families into CPS at an earlier age.
- Create an optimum teaching & learning environment experience for students which will naturally and smoothly transition into kindergarten.

Preschool Year                      2020-2021                      2021-2022                      2022-2023

# Waitlisted                              28                                      26                                      21

Cohasset follows the DESE guidance of 15 students in a group with up to 7 students on IEPs and 8 peers, with a minimum of 2 staff members.

This is a high demand position as we get in there. We have an integrated preschool which involves some students who are on IEPs. It's a fabulous collaborative atmosphere for early learners. This is a very small program, ½ day, with one (1) session in the morning, and one (1) session in the afternoon for 3 and 4 year-olds. We also have the space, which is right across the hall.

**Budget Request: Additional Middle School Special Education Teacher**

**Supporting Data:**

- Numbers in grade 6, due to increased initial evaluations, far exceed the other grades.
- Best practice to meet student needs including, but not limited to the current MCAS scores includes lower staff to student ratio.
- Enables us to continue building therapeutic programming for student and vertically align with the high school.

Office of Student Services - Additional Middle School Special Education Teacher

Grade	Number of Special Education Students	% of Class
6	26	23.6%
7	19	22%
8	13	13%

**Central Office/District Wide Requests**

1.0 Custodian for the Middle/High School

- A comprehensive custodial staffing analysis was performed using the APPA, Association of Physical Plant Administrators operational guidelines for educational facilities back in 2018.

The study showed the following:

<b><u>Building</u></b>	<b><u>Current FTE</u></b>	<b><u>APPA Recommended</u></b>	<b><u>Current vs. Recommended</u></b>
Joseph Osgood School	2.6	3.0	(0.4)
Deer Hill School	2.4	3.0	(0.6)
Cohasset Middle High School	5.0	7.5	(2.5)

## **Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

- **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget**  
(Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen) [Materials B-1]

### **Central Office/District Wide Requests**

#### 1.0 Custodian for the Middle/High School

- Joseph Osgood and Deer Hill School have increased their custodial staff to the recommended FTE of 3 custodians per school.
- Currently, the Middle High School have 6.5 custodians. The addition of a 1.0 custodian will help with coverage at the Middle and High School Day shift as we currently only have one (1) custodian to cover both the Middle and High School from 6:30 am to 11:00 am. This position would add a second day person to help cover both schools.

A request for an additional floater is needed in case someone calls out sick. We would still be low if we do get this additional 1.0 Custodian.

This is a great suggestion made by Mr. Kearney for an additional custodian in the district. Mr. Kearney says this is great, it shows that we're making progress. We need that extra clean up especially after our sport games, he truly appreciates this.

### **Central Office/District Wide Request**

#### Facilities/Security Coordinator

- This will be a stipend position will increase existing staff member's responsibilities.
- This person will view and monitor all school cameras during the school day.
- This staff member will walk each individual school daily checking on doors, windows, security issues, etc.
- Based on a recent study by a security firm it is recommended that CPS have 4 staff members assigned to safety/security – 1 at each building.

### **Central Office/District Wide Request**

#### Human Resources/Payroll Manager (name change from Bookkeeper)

- This change will include streamlining the "onboarding process" for new staff.  
*This does not take away any responsibilities from the Town Hall*
- This staff member will work with the Superintendent regarding personnel issues such as leave of absences, FMLA, position changes and salary changes.
- This staff member will continue to process payroll, support the transportation coordinator, manage facility rentals, student activity funds, MTRS reporting, and perform many other duties.



## **Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

### **• Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget (Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen) [Materials B-1]**

Mr. Kearney notes having someone who know Human Resources and updating everybody from year-to-year, is great. It's very important for new hires to have access to training classes, we want our new hires to get the right resources, especially when it comes to their personal time off. All these things for these new positions we're looking at will be handled appropriately by a Human Resources/Payroll Manager.

### **Central Office/District Wide Request – Two Options**

- **Option 1** – Continue to reduce the cost of full-day Kindergarten by adding \$50,000 to the budget to offset full-day Kindergarten tuition – a decrease in tuition in the amount of approximately \$200 per child. This will bring tuition from \$3,300 to \$3,100.
- **Option 2** – Add \$300,000 to the budget to eliminate the full-day Kindergarten tuition all together.

According to DESE, our district could be eligible for additional Chapter 70 financial aid in the second year depending on the impact that counting these students as full-day Kindergarten on our aid eligibility.

We would need to fund the first-year cost because the students would not be counted as full-day Kindergarten for Chapter 70 purposes until the following year.

Superintendent Patrick Sullivan says there are thirteen (13) districts who pay a fee for full-day Kindergarten, with the choices of \$3,300 vs \$50,000. Some of Chapter 70 can be taken by the town, with different formulas based on the district.

Chairman Dial states we should make Kindergarten free, that is self-evident. The question is obviously the resources and Chapter 70 is something Mr. Dial would like to hear more about. This could be a significant offset to that expense.

## **Budget Requests to Support Student Learning Osgood School**

### **Increase number of Math support with an additional .50 person.**

- Work with full time Math Specialist to support pull out and in class interventions in early numeracy.
- Increase the number of students meeting and exceeding expectations on MCAS.

### **Data Supporting the Budget Priorities – Osgood School**

- District Strategic Plan and School Improvement Plan
  - Social Emotional Learning
  - Culturally Responsive Teaching

**Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

- **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget**  
(Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen) [Materials B-1]

**Data Supporting the Budget Priorities – Osgood School**

- School Based Assessment Data
- MCAS Data: Increase the number of students meeting, or exceeding expectations.

Mr. Dial asks if these budget requests were posted to the website from the 12-21-22 school committee meeting? If that can be done, he could look at these at home.

Dr. Sullivan states no, we haven't fully embedded these yet because they would look like a draft. Whenever we decide on something like this, we want to make sure folks know the school committee agrees with it for a final approval.

**Budget Requests to Support Student Learning  
Deer Hill School**

**Elementary .50 Math Specialist**

- Implement targeted, flexible pull-out groups using the Bridges Math Intervention Program.
- Math .40 ESP would transition to skills work based on MCAS data and building-based measures.
- MCAS Data: Increase the number of students meeting or exceeding expectations.

**Elementary Grade 3 Teacher**

- Students currently in grade 2 were in kindergarten in 2020-2021 school year, which was hybrid for most of the year.  
Progression of Building Updates (Capital)

**Elementary Enrollment & Class Sizes**

	<u>Enrollment</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>Class Size</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>Projected Enrollment</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>Projected Class Size</u> <u>2022-2023</u>
<b>Grade 3</b>	104	20.8	107	17.8
<b>Grade 4</b>	103	20.6	104	20.8
<b>Grade 5</b>	97	19.4	103	20.6

Ensure small class sizes for incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students by increasing to six sections in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, thus maintaining the same amount of sections currently in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

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[Materials B-1] supports 65 slide presentations on topic item **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget** to the 01-04-23 school committee meeting agenda.

**Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

- **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget**  
(Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen) [Materials B-1]

**School Capital Process**

- Conduct a facilities condition review for each building once a year.
- Update the capital needs list, recording items that have been addressed and adding new items.
- Review priorities with district leadership and school committee finance and facilities sub-committee.
- Identify a proposed funding source and timing for each item.
- Present list to school committee.
- The priorities are submitted to Town Manager/Capital Budget Committee.

**FY24 DRAFT CAPITAL LIST**

<b>Draft – FY24 Capital List</b>	<b>Sum of 2024</b>
1. Bus Lease (2024-2027) (District) & Diesel	\$ 151,331
2. Bus Parking Lot	\$ 200,000
3. Replacement of Aging Chromebooks (540-3 yr. lease \$143,000)	\$ 52,000
4. Replace Smart Projectors in all Rooms (CMS)	\$ 155,161
5. Replace iPads DHS/Osgood to Include (253 iPads, cases, charging stations)	\$ 93,960
6. Continue retiling of all classrooms (DHS) all spaces with old tiles/carpet	\$ 200,000
7. Replace Furniture –Teacher/Students DHS *adding new grade 3 class	\$ 35,000
8. Fitness Center MS/HS (5-year lease at \$48,000/year)	\$ 48,000
9. Asphalt Road from Pond Street needs to be resurfaced (CMHS)	\$ 80,000
10. New Scoreboards at Alumni Field	\$ 95,000
11. Asphalt Rd/Sidewalk between DHS/JOS needs resurfacing (DHS)	\$ 120,000
12. Extend Sidewalk to Pond Street (CMHS)	\$ 50,000
13. (2) New Transit Vans (Athletics) 48-month lease (\$2,662.13/month)	\$ 31,946
14. Generator for Osgood School	\$ <u>200,000</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,512,398</b>

Chairman Dial states the school committee already approved the \$200,000 ask for the Fitness Center and Ms. Owen can keep the amount shown of \$48,000 for however this is presented to the Town, but don't think the school committee wants to be in a situation next year where we can't ask for something we didn't need, because we didn't ask for it this year. Mr. Dial doesn't want the \$48,000 to be again on top of the budget list, because we have no choice, pushing down something else that's going to make it a Capital thing next year. Mr. Dial wants to make it very clear that this is funded.

**Budget, Resources and Governance** (Cont'd)

- **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget**  
**(Dr. Patrick Sullivan & Ms. Susan Owen)** [Materials B-1]

Chairman Dial asks that the school committee and the school administration to outline the next steps we need from here:

January 18 <sup>th</sup> 2023	- Item budget presentation, which is the actual account, line by line (itemized list).
February 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023	- Discussion about budget at METCO Headquarters, Nubian Square.
February 6 <sup>th</sup> 2023	- Publish notice of upcoming public hearing in local newspapers.
February 15 <sup>th</sup> 2023	- School committee discussions about budget.
February 15 <sup>th</sup> – March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2023	- Schedule at some point in-between these dates, have a joint meeting with School Select Board & School Advisory Committee.

We have already advertised for a public hearing for March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. On March 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, the school committee votes on the budget and in May, we go to the Town for a meeting on it.

**Food Services**

We have all new equipment in the main service dining area with the Cohasset school logo embedded, which is beautiful. There's also a snack area, and it's a big hit with the students.

- **Report from School Facilities Committee**

A report from the School Facilities Committee will be on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to discuss the MSBA's response.

**Community Relations / Communication**

- **Reports from School Committee Sub-Committees and Liaisons**

A report from Food Services and Nutrition sub-committee from our last meeting at the Deer Hill School exploring more improvements that could be made for that facility through the overall offerings and the Director of Food Services will be getting back to us a sort of wish list of equipment and also a rough plan how we might utilize the now custodial spaces, primary at the Deer Hill School cafeteria and how we might repurpose that space to enhance our potential offerings to elementary school lunches.

**School Committee Governance**

- **Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair**

We received a generous gift from CertaPro Painters of the South Shore who donated \$1,500 to the Cohasset High School for our Senior Class of 2023 lawn signs to continue that tradition.

## **School Committee Governance** (Cont'd)

### **• Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair**

**Motion by Mr. MacLellan to accept gift from CertaPro Painters of the South Shore for our Senior Class of 2023 school lawn signs, seconded by Mrs. St. Onge.**

**All – Aye**

- Approval of Minutes\*\* - None**
- Future Agenda Items**

Mr. MacLellan would still like to talk about the sick policy, the policy for 24 hours with a fever, and figure out the genesis of that origin with the policy sub-committee. Creating a policy that somewhere exists throughout Cohasset Public Schools for staff, for the Town of Cohasset staff in terms, of folks who work for the Town of Cohasset and not necessarily live in the Town of Cohasset, whether or not their children attend Cohasset Public Schools. This would be a nice benefit for Town employees to attract and entertain some valuable assets to our town, like we do with our school staff and students.

*Megan Riski*, no address given. Ms. *Riski* chimes in and has 2 questions to the budget cut, adding microphones and speakers in each classroom, especially at the elementary school to increase cognitive behavior. The second question, what percentage for students who ride the bus and pay for the bus are contributing to the current bus lease? There's a lot of being asked for buses, while the transportation is extremely consistent.

Superintendent Patrick Sullivan states that absolutely the school microphones are operationally, and we've offered them to all our classroom teachers. Dr. Sullivan is a huge fan of this, it's a great resource for teachers and students for a variety of reasons to make sure that everyone can hear. We found this out while masking and found it effective, and we've certainly advocated for them by providing microphones for anyone who wanted to use them, without making any requirements for them.

Mrs. St. Onge says the FM systems are extremely beneficial in most schools where she has worked they were in every classroom across the board. Some students have partial hearing loss, and some children opt out of listening at times, but it's really nice to have. This shouldn't be an option; they should just be in every room.

Dr. Sullivan addresses we want to provide transportation services to folks who pay, but it is a factor that's handicapping us here. We're only required to transport students for grades K-6 who live outside a 2-mile radius from the school. Like other districts do, we offer it for students outside of that, for a price. If we did just what we're required to do to offer that, we would have a less need for buses, which would help our shortage of bus drivers.



## **School Committee Governance**

- **Executive Session**

Chairman Dial states there is no reason to go into Executive Session.

**Motion by Mr. MacLellan to adjourn the January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 regular meeting of the Cohasset school committee, seconded by Mrs. St. Onge.**

**All-Aye**

Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) mandates that in order to go into Executive Session the Committee must:

1. Do so on a roll call vote.
2. State the purpose for executive session.
3. Indicate whether the body will reconvene in public session.

**Adjourn\*\***

**Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM**

**\*\*Requires Committee Vote / Action**

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[Materials B-1] supports 65 slide presentations on topic item **Overview of Proposed FY24 Operating Budget and Capital Budget** to the 01-04-23 school committee meeting agenda.