



Cohasset School Committee Meeting

School Committee Minutes

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

Cohasset Middle-High School

Community Use Room

143 Pond Street

Cohasset, MA

In Attendance: Jeanne Astino, Chairman

Katie Dugan

Ellen Maher

Barbara Stefan

Amanda Zani

Also in Attendance: Louise Demas, Interim Superintendent

John Tuffy, Interim Business Manager

Call to order and Roll Call-Chairman Astino called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. **Roll Call Vote; Barbara Stefan-Present, Katie Dugan-Present, Jeanne Astino-Present, Ellen Maher-Present-Amanda Zani-Present.**

Invitation to Speak-None.

Pledge of Allegiance-Recited.

Warrant-Motion by Mrs. Dugan to approve Warrant 17-07S, seconded by Mrs. Zani. Roll Call Vote; Barbara Stefan-Aye, Katie Dugan-Aye, Jeanne Astino-Aye, Amanda Zani-Aye. Mrs. Maher abstained from the vote.

Finance-Monthly Update-Mr. Tuffy reviewed the School Budget Summary Report and Expenditures with the Committee. The Committee briefly discussed Special Education Tuitions and Circuit Breaker monies. Mr. Tuffy explained that contracted services is at 71% because it includes a multitude of services including; IT services, library, classroom equipment, testing and legal settlements. He will keep an eye on this account. Mr. Tuffy also stated that all grants are not in however they are starting to receive money.

Bus Maintenance-Mr. Tuffy advised the Committee it has been a good year so far for the buses. There have only been a couple of minor items. Mrs. Dugan asked if there was any update with the disposal of the two vans. Mr. Tuffy stated he has spoken to the Town Manager and he indicated that they may want the food service van to use for animal control. He will check back with Chris Senior and follow up.

Superintendents Report-Technology Try It-Ron Ford presented the SC with an overview of how he is using Google Classroom with his freshman physical education classes. He discussed one of his units is called Alcohol Edu. He stated the technology saves time to teach a lesson, prepare for the lesson and the kids really seem to enjoy it. Mr. Ford showed the Committee an overview of the work the students take. Sgt. Lopes has attended classes and answered questions the students had.

Technology Professional Development Update-Mrs. Demas advised the Committee there will be a full professional development day on November 8th dedicated to Google Classroom. Susan Skeiber has put 15 members together for a group to work as a Committee on Technology. The Committee is led by Bart Riley and Susan Skeiber. Mrs. Demas stated tomorrow in utility block the Middle High School classes will

be taking a survey on Technology which should have more accurate results for the Committee. Chrome books have been delivered to the Middle High School. Mrs. Demas has interviewed 4 people that have offered to maintain the website and social media pages. She may have two people do the project.

2017-18 Calendar-Mrs. Demas discussed the calendar briefly with the Committee. They did move a few ½ days from Friday to Tuesday in hopes of having better attendance of students. Mrs. Dugan suggested they should communicate to people that this is a positive thing and that this is a pilot. The focus of the additional half days is curriculum mapping which is critical in moving the district forward. Mrs. Demas stated she has spoken to Amanda Thompson from the Cohasset Mariner and explained why this is much better for the schools for a richer curriculum. **Motion by Mrs. Maher to approve the calendar of 2017-18 to be amended with summer dates after election, Katie seconded. The vote was unanimous (5-0).**

FY18 Budget Priorities-Mrs. Demas stated she and Mr. Tuffy have looked at the budget. They have had an audit done regarding Special Education Services and how they are delivered at Middle High School. They will come back to the Committee with recommendations. They discussed other areas they are looking closely at that may lead to some budgetary changes.

Resignation-Mrs. Demas received a resignation letter from the Deer Hill/Osgood School psychologist who accepted a position closer to home. They have received resumes and have interviews lined up.

SC Comments and Communications-Chairman Astino asked Student Representative Jane Cavanaro if she would be willing to give the committee a student update at their meetings. Jane Cavanaro agreed to give a 3 minute update.

FY17 Goal Review and Progress Report-Mrs. Dugan presented a quarterly review of the SC Goals. It is important to make sure the committee is making enough progress on each goal.

SPED Policy-Chairman Astino stated the Long Range Planning Group, Advisory and Board of Selectmen have all seen the SPED Policy. The Selectmen approved at their 10/11/16 meeting. **Motion by Mrs. Dugan to approve the Special Education Stabilization Fund Reserve Policy, seconded by Mrs. Maher. Roll Call Vote; Barbara Stefan-Aye, Katie Dugan-Aye, Jeanne Astino-Aye, Ellen Maher-Aye, Amanda Zani-Aye.**

Policy EBC-Emergency Plans-1st Read-The Committee reviewed the policy and will put on the next agenda for a 2nd read and vote.

Report of Sub committees of SC-Chairman Astino attended AEC on Monday night. Palmer Capital was present and there was a discussion on solar arrays at the landfill. Mrs. Maher stated she and Mrs. Zani attended the Capital Budget meeting on Monday. They discussed security and the portable gates being proposed. They asked if the gates will be anchored to the walls when not in use. Mr. Tuffy will look into and speak with the Fire Chief. Mrs. Maher stated they also had questions about the reconfiguration of the vestibule at Osgood. The Capital Budget Committee will speak with Deputy ITO Bart Riley. Mrs. Maher stated the Committee was very supportive of the requests from the schools. Mrs. Dugan stated Cohasset Safe Harbor has a screening of the film If Only tomorrow night at 7 p.m. at the Middle/High School. Mrs. Zani attended the PSO meeting. There was a successful Boost-a-Thon recently and they raised \$54,000 for Deer Hill and Osgood Schools. Mrs. Maher stated she and Mrs. Zani are on the Superintendent's Evaluation Sub-committee and they have met with Mrs. Demas and have reviewed the first draft of Mrs. Demas' entry plan and goals. She also reminded everyone of the upcoming Cohasset Hall of Fame awards dinner over Thanksgiving weekend. She will continue to give details of the event. Mrs. Maher stated there is a Cohasset Middle/High School Council meeting on 10/25/16.

Minutes-10/5/16-Motion by Mrs. Maher to approve the minutes of 10/5/16 as amended, seconded by Mrs. Zani and the vote was unanimous (5-0).

Mrs. Astino asked for a motion to go into executive session for Exemption #3-strategy with respect to collective bargaining with CTA and Exemption #2-strategy with respect to negotiations with nonunion personnel: Interim Superintendent. The SC will return to open session to adjourn. Motion moved by

Mrs. Dugan and seconded by Mrs. Maher. Roll Call Vote; Barbara Stefan-Aye, Katie Dugan-Aye, Jeanne Astino-Aye, Ellen Maher-Aye, Amanda Zani-Aye.

The Committee went into executive session at 9:12 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Maher to come out of executive session at 11:34 pm, seconded by Mrs. Astino. Roll Call Vote; Barbara Stefan-Aye, Katie Dugan-Aye, Jeanne Astino-Aye, Ellen Maher-Aye, Amanda Zani-Aye.

Motion by Mrs. Zani to adjourn open meeting at 11:35 pm, seconded by Mrs. Stefan and the vote was unanimous (5-0).

Documents used at the Meeting

Monthly Update-Budget	E-1
Bus Maintenance Log	E-2
2017-18 School Calendar	F-1
FY17 SC Progress Report	G-1
SPED Stabilization Policy	G-2
Policy EBC	G-3
Minutes 10/5/16	H-1

