

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

COHASSET SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

6:00 PM

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

Streamed Live on Cohasset 143TV
Zoom (*chat enabled*)
Cohasset Live Streaming Facebook
(*watch / listen only*)

In Attendance:

Ted Carr, Secretary
Lance Dial, Vice Chair
Jennifer Lesky
Craig MacLellan, Chair

Also, In Attendance:

Michael Stapleton, Director of Student Services
Sarah Shannon, Superintendent

All School Committee Meetings Are Recorded.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman MacLellan welcomed everyone and called to order the Wednesday, July 10, 2024 meeting of the Cohasset School Committee at 6:07 p.m. All School Committee members who are present are asked to indicate so in **Roll Call: Mr. Carr-Present; Mr. Dial-Present; Ms. Lesky-Present; Mr. MacLellan-Present. Ms. Hanna-Absent.**

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman MacLellan would like to implement a slightly different procedure than they've had in the past that is not to criticize their prior process. The Board has been very effective and efficient, but the Chair has been a bit concerned with the amount of time the administrators such as building principals and teachers as well as the volunteer board members at night during school committee meetings. The one thing they'd like is to have more effective streamlined meetings. Some school committee meetings have a lot of substance and important content, and these time restrictions will be expanded. In general, the goal is to ensure the school committee meetings are held within a 90 minute to a 2-hour period. The restrictions are going to be placed on various parties or parts of the school committee meeting agenda. First and foremost, each school committee member will have 3 minutes to express their feelings and to ask questions on topics on the agenda which should be enough time to do what they need to do. The Chair will see how this goes, if it doesn't go well, they can always change it. Invited guests will be informed to have 10 minutes to make their presentation whether it's about school field trips or whether the principals are presenting their school improvement plans. Invited guests should be able to prepare their presentation to keep it within a length of 10 minutes.

Superintendent Shannon and Mr. MacLellan will discuss before each school committee meeting and if needed on the Superintendent updates, School News this would be expanded to 10 minutes if there were something important coming up or some large event happening.

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OPENING REMARKS

The Chair has discussed with Mrs. Owen when it comes to the Budget and Mrs. Owen said 10 minutes for a standard budget update would be plenty of time. Obviously, there are times during the year when the budget is much more involved, and the school committee will expand that topic on the agenda to 15-20 minutes.

The same thing when it comes to the academic updates 10 minutes but there are times during the school year when discussing MCAS results and things of that nature or a different curricular they'll be implementing, and the school committee would expand that time. Generally speaking, topics on the agenda should be no more than 10 minutes.

There will be no time limits on any spotlights on learning or student presentations. Members of the school committee want to make sure that students are not pressured in any way and want to hear everything students want to share at school committee meetings, and everyone can watch their wonderful classroom practitioners show their art on their presentation from students in their classrooms. The Chair notes he'll take care of the time and will give a heads up as they're closing in at the last minute just so folks can be aware of what the time is.

The Chair would like to remind the wonderful families and any other participants that the school committee will adhere to the 3-comment maximum per household, per meeting. At this point, the Chair is not going to implement any time restrictions on participants or folks that attend the school committee meeting, the 3-comment maximum will take care of that, where they want to encourage participation and certainly don't want to have a chilling effect on that.

The Chair will constantly recognize every member of the school committee in alphabetical order. If any member of the school committee wants to be recognized outside of alphabetical order just indicate to the Chair verbally, or physically, by raising their hand, he'll recognize them if the timing is appropriate. If there is a motion made, whether there's a second for that motion at any point in time it's going to move to an immediate vote. An example would be if Mr. Dial is speaking and he makes a motion, and someone seconds that motion, it's going to go to a vote. It would be appropriate to see if there's a second on the motion if there is, then it moves to a vote. The Chair asks members of the school committee to be considerate so that everyone has had a chance to speak before making that motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

SCHOOL UPDATES

• School News (Mrs. Sarah Shannon)

First of all, Superintendent Shannon says she's very excited to be here. She's been working since July 1st, with the holiday there, this is her seventh day of work, and it's been a great start to her time here in Cohasset. Superintendent Shannon is so appreciative of how welcoming everybody has been. She's had the opportunity to start meeting a lot of different people, getting to know folks and get to know how things work here. Every day she has another whole list of questions to figure out what the answers are, and it'll be that way for her foreseeable future.

Superintendent Shannon notes she'll be sending a letter out to the community sharing her excitement for being here but also inviting people to participate in getting to know her. She's working at the Farmer's Market and hopes people will stop by and say hello in a casual setting if they want to and set a date to meet at the "Back to School Ice Cream Social" the end of August.

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SCHOOL UPDATES

• School News (Mrs. Sarah Shannon)

Superintendent Shannon will be offering a couple of forums for the community and staff to come meet with her in a more formal setting, but also invites folks to email her to set up a one-on-one meeting if anyone is interested in that. Coming into August with staff coming back and then students and families coming back there'll be a lot of opportunities to meet with people, but the Summer is a nice quieter time if people want to meet with her one-on-one, and Superintendent Shannon says she's excited to send her letter out to start meeting more families and staff as well.

• Recommendation of Mr. Michael Stapleton as Director of Student Services

One of the things that Superintendent Shannon has been able to do in her first few days here in Cohasset is wrap up the search for a new Director of Student Services. Superintendent Shannon is very excited to be here tonight to recommend to the school committee the appointment of Mr. Michael Stapleton for the position of the Director of Student Services of the Cohasset Public Schools. Superintendent Shannon wasn't in her position at the time but feels she was very fortunate to be part of the process for the hiring.

Superintendent Shannon would like to take this moment to thank Dr. Leslie Scollins who ran the process, she did this at a very busy time of the school year where they were wrapping things up and Dr. Scollins took this on, over and above the tasks she normally does at this time of year, and she did a phenomenal job in making that process run smoothly. The process Dr. Scollins ran started with gathering a committee with a school committee representative on the Search Committee along with staff members, administrators, and families, they gave up a lot of their time to be a part of this process. They also sent out a survey to the community, both staff, parent, and the caregiver community to assess what they thought the strengths of the Student Services Department were, what the growth areas were and what qualities they were looking for in the new Director of Student Services. They took that feedback as a committee and from that survey they determined what the top qualities were for the candidates they were tentatively looking to hire. The things that rose to the top was someone who was a really good communicator, someone who could build strong relationships and trust, and someone who was able to be very transparent and consistent in how they worked and how they communicated with families. Also, someone who has a lot of experience in Student Services knowing there may be more things this person knew once they got into the position. After the initial round of interviews, the Search Committee felt very strongly there were 2 candidates they wanted to move forward with, one of whom was Mr. Stapleton. The second round both Dr. Sullivan and Dr. Scollins and herself were able to meet with both finalists for a second interview. After those second interviews, they also felt that Mr. Stapleton was the right candidate for this position. In that second round of the interview, Mr. Stapleton was able to share more about what he currently sees as the strengths and areas of growth for the Department of Student Services as well as share his vision for the Student Services Department which is aligned to what the district has been doing but has a lot more for the future, they're looking forward to seeing it come to fruition. Mr. Stapleton talked about his desire to build stronger relationships with families and within the Student Services Department itself.

Superintendent Shannon would like to thank the following folks who were on the Joseph Osgood School Principal Search Committee. Susan Owen, Director of Finance and Operations, Aleisa Gittens-Carle, METCO Director, Lisa Farrell, former Principal at Osgood Elementary School. Principal John Mills, Cohasset Middle School, Megan Greeny, Secondary Educator, Cohasset Middle School, Caitlin Stromberg, School Psychologist Cohasset High School, Kathy Breen, Elementary Team Chair, Theresa Miller, Student Services Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Lesky, Cohasset School Committee Member, Beth Frazier, SEPAC Member and a Parent Representative, and Susie Roberts, also a parent in the community. All of them really were incredibly thoughtful and incredibly insightful as they went through the process.

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SCHOOL UPDATES

• School News (Mrs. Sarah Shannon)

• Recommendation of Mr. Michael Stapleton as Director of Student Services

Mr. Michael Stapleton has worked with Cohasset Public Schools for the past 8 school years. He started his first year as a Special Education Teacher at Cohasset Middle School at the Intermediate Learning Center Program with some partial inclusion programs. March of 2020 things shifted with the pandemic where he's been a Team Chair at the secondary level for the past 5 school years and really learned a lot about Special Education Administration in that time building Special Education Programming and felt very lucky to be a part of this community to have developed strong relationships with both staff members and families, most importantly with the students, it's the reason why they're all here today.

Mr. Stapleton is excited to have gone through the process and looks forward to working with the Administration at each building level to move to the district level, which is his goal professionally and personally. The vision Mr. Stapleton has for Cohasset is to build further upon all of their strengths and also identify honest areas for growth for different improvements. Mr. Stapleton's work experience is in Special Education and the role he's taken has given him a lot of time to reflect on what the Director of Student Services is beyond just Special Education. He's also excited to work with different partners whether it's with English Language learners to build programming that will build a larger population within Cohasset as well as making sure they're in compliance with all regulations related to Special Education, Section 504, the umbrella of what Student Services is. Mr. Stapleton also feels lucky the past 4 years that allowed him to grow as a leader and understand where they are as a school. He's very familiar with the day-to-day structure in the building for grades 6-12. One of the first tasks he would start would be to develop those relationships with families who have students at the elementary level, grades PreK-5. Fortunately, in his role, he's had a few chances to work at the Deer Hill level where he's been comfortable working there and Mr. Stapleton really looks forward to partnering with the new Principal at the Joseph Osgood School and feels he has strong relationships with building leaders to start with such as Principal Alexandra Sullivan, Deer Hill School, Principal John Mills, Cohasset Middle School, and Principal Brian Scott, Cohasset High School.

Mr. Carr has known Mr. Stapleton a long time, he'll be great to the school organization and thanks him for raising his hand for being interested in doing this. Having a seamless transition with someone that comes from internally here in the school is great for the school committee and great for the students. This is a terrific recommendation.

Mr. Dial has not yet had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Stapleton and Mr. Dial says it's nice to finally meet. Mr. Dial asks Mr. Stapleton what inspired him to take on this role. What are his thoughts on where they are now and what should they pay attention to going forward.

Mr. Stapleton says from the Special Education perspective is definitely to keep in mind social, emotional needs for students. His capstone research project for his certificate as an advanced graduate studies really focused on teaching social emotional learning which was ironic at the time as the pandemic hit and they saw this spike up for the needs of the students mental health, and social emotional needs has been a focus at the secondary level as they try to build out therapeutic programming for students and wrap around the services to support students both here in school and in their community as well. There's a greater need for emotional support at the elementary level and philosophically if they aren't able to support those where students really develop those skills while students are in those grade levels that will only snowball and become more of an area of challenge for students.

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SCHOOL UPDATES

- **School News (Mrs. Sarah Shannon)**
- **Recommendation of Mr. Michael Stapleton as Director of Student Services**

One of the things definitely on Mr. Stapleton's mind is building out those emotional supports whether that be in the form of additional School Adjustment Counselors or School Psychologists to make sure students at lower grade levels are receiving that support as they focus on social emotional needs for students at the elementary level. Making sure they're in compliance with DESE and Special Education through the IEP process as well for Section 504 accommodation plans to further develop staff understanding of different student needs is something that Mr. Stapleton has been dedicated to in his time here in Cohasset as a teacher and a Team Chair to help his understanding of different learning profiles, and different needs for students whether that be early language students or students that receive special education services. Culturally moving that forward will be really important for staff members and families to know their heard as the Department of Student Services recognizes that. The Department of Student Services overseas many areas of need but they'll continue to build those going forward to make sure all students feel welcomed here and are members of this community.

Ms. Lesky says she was lucky enough to be part of the process on the Search Committee and to have worked with Mr. Stapleton before his role as Team Chair. Ms. Lesky would like to mention this was a very robust process and important for the public to know this process involved multiple days of multiple hour meetings and that's what the larger committee was involved in, let alone what happened behind the scenes. Ms. Lesky only says this because that's a testament to the fact that Mr. Stapleton was not only the most experienced and knowledgeable person for this role but his genuine interest and care in special education supporting students, supporting families, and supporting staff all came together in this really beautiful package in Mr. Stapleton. It's really hard to put all of those pieces together and add to that his understanding of the culture here in Cohasset where he knows the community and he'll be able to hit the ground running.

Chairman MacLellan would like to say the reason why he's happy that Mr. Stapleton has been recommended is because of the culture that he built at the secondary schools surrounding special education. Comments from the school committee can sometimes be viewed as criticizing those that are already in positions that are working in certain areas and Mr. MacLellan is not and he's certainly not besmirching Mrs. Cerwonka's efforts. Mr. MacLellan is stating what he thinks is an objective truth given information that has been communicated to him from families along with the other 4 members that represent this school committee that there is a basic distrust surrounding the Student Services Department and Mr. Stapleton is being handed the range on something where a lot of people in a special education room have some scar tissue around their child's learning difference and their struggles. They feel that their concerns have not been heard and that they've not been given full access to every programming that they feel they're entitled to and the process and determining of what is included in any given IEP has been fairly opaque. The Chair just wants Mr. Stapleton to be very cognizant of that as he approaches families especially those families at the elementary level because they're just beginning their Public-School journey as they're struggling with their new readers, watching their new readers have challenges that may not develop at the same speed or the same celebrity of their classmates. Please do everything to firmly establish those relationships with the elementary families as much as possible.

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SCHOOL UPDATES

• School News (Mrs. Sarah Shannon)

• Recommendation of Mr. Michael Stapleton as Director of Student Services

Mr. Stapleton has already established wonderful relationships with the secondary level families, and Mr. MacLellan says not to lose that, try and transfer that amazingness he brings to the district and to the elementary school families because there's a real need there. Keep a close eye on the elementary operations as much as possible with his new position. Mr. MacLellan says personally Mr. Stapleton is an absolute credit to this district and they're lucky to have him and don't think the school system would be the same without him. A lot of secondary grade level families feel that way and it's one of the reasons Mr. MacLellan personally supports Mr. Stapleton's recommendation as the Director of Student Services. Mr. Stapleton is the only candidate that could have been in that pool that will hit the ground running with a lot of love and support from it for at least half the families in this district.

A motion was made by Mr. Carr to accept the recommendation for the Director of Student Services Search Committee and the Superintendent of Cohasset Public Schools recommendation to appoint Mr. Michael Stapleton as the Director of Student Services for Cohasset Public Schools, seconded by Ms. Lesky.

Aye--All

The Chair states the next order of business would be Mr. Stapleton's contract, but this needs to be discussed in an Executive Session if discussing the terms and that's absolutely welcomed if any member of the school committee wants to do that. They can also streamline the process if no member has seen anything they want to discuss in the contract.

Motion to approve the contract language and terms that was disseminated to members of the Cohasset School Committee prior to this meeting for Wednesday, July 10, 2024 was made by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Dial.

Aye-All

TEACHING AND LEARNING

• Academic Initiatives (Dr. Leslie Scollins)

Dr. Scollins ordinarily gives the school committee this report but since she's not here tonight that duty has fallen onto Superintendent Shannon. They'll be continuing on with the idea of search committee's and Superintendent Shannon has an update about the Joseph Osgood School Principal search. They've followed a very similar process for this committee search, and they sent an email requesting if folks who are interested to let them know if they want to be a part of the Search Committee. They have a great Search Committee that is inclusive at the Central Office, Osgood School representation with other leadership and some parents as well. The Search Committee includes Superintendent Shannon, Dr. Scollins, Ann Marie Papasodro, Dave Vinton, Liz Deininger, Literacy Specialist, Leslie Dimini, Librarian, Lisa Gowell, Administrative Assistant at Osgood School, Alexandra Sullivan, Principal Deer Hill School, John Mills, Principal Cohasset Middle School, Ms. Jennifer Lesky, School Committee Representative, and 2 parents, Greg Pilotte and Liz Brennan who is also a school Psychologist at the elementary level in another district. A similar survey was sent out to families, and they received a great response, so they used those survey results to help form a list of all the qualities they're looking for in a new Principal at the Joseph Osgood School.

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TEACHING AND LEARNING

• Academic Initiatives (Dr. Leslie Scollins)

Again, similar themes around communication, but really also about being the face of the community and really building relationships with families as they come in because the Joseph Osgood School is the first-time families are entering the Cohasset Public School district, and it's this wonderful threshold moment in these families' lives. Having a principal who really recognizes that and can make that special for students and their parents is so important. The staff were really communicating they're looking for someone who can come in and move the school forward to what has been great. It sets a foundation for taking the school to the next level and they're excited about that. They have 16 candidates, and the Search Committee has narrowed that down to 6 and they brought those 6 candidates in between yesterday and today. While they are not in a place to announce who the finalists are, they are moving forward the candidates as finalists. Superintendent Shannon says they like to give people the opportunity to let people in their lives know that they're going to be named publicly and they can't announce those names quite yet. Once they announce who they are, they'll be sending information out as well inviting staff from the Osgood School and families to forums on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, hours are TBD. They've asked people to hold their morning hours from 8:00-10:30 AM to share specifics a little bit later, but they'll be holding a staff forum, family forum and candidates will meet with the leadership team, and they'll have a one-on-one meeting with Superintendent Shannon before making a final decision. Folks who attend the forums will have the opportunity to provide some feedback as well after they've had a chance to meet the candidate. The hope is after those forums, they'll have enough information to hopefully decide who will be the next Joseph Osgood School Principal and the hope is that they have somebody by the end of July. Superintendent Shannon would like to remind folks that they're not looking to settle in any way.

The AP scores came out on Monday and families can log on to the college board site and see what their child's AP scores are. Between now and the start of the school year, Dr. Scollins, Principal Scott, and Rock Roberts will be looking at the data and doing some analysis of that data and they'll be able to share more information with the school committee but it's sort of fresh and hot off the press.

The Extended School Year Program, ESY began on Monday, and it's been going really well. It's happening both here at the Middle High School and at the elementary level and they have a really good collaboration with the Recreation Department. Superintendent Shannon would like to give a shout out and thank the Recreation Department because their youngest students sort of toggle between the Recreation Department and ESY at times and the Recreation Department is great about having counselors help bring kids up to the Osgood School when it's time for their ESY services and bring them back to Deer Hill School or the library wherever it is they need to be.

BUDGET, RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE

• Approve Feasible Study Contractor/Designer **

Mr. Carr would like to know if they're in compliance with the procurement rules with only that one bid. Chairman MacLellan says they are.

Ms. Lesky notes having been on the School Facilities Committee when AI3 was contracted to do these extreme conditions feasible Study it was a very positive experience, very thorough, and they were wonderful to work with.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Dial to approve AI3 as the Feasible Study Contractor, seconded by Ms. Lesky.

Aye-All

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BUDGET, RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE

• Discussion of Public Relations Firm

Superintendent Shannon wanted to raise the idea with all members of the school committee who are here tonight partnering with the Public Relations Firm to support the district in a variety of ways. She's had to opportunity to work with a few different PR firms in the past and found a lot of value in having a PR firm as a partner. The idea of having someone support them as they think about how they can more effectively and actively share good news and highlight academics and extracurricular experiences for students is really important especially as they move into a potential building project and through the Feasibility Study process. Having a Public Relations Firm who can help them think about how they bring people in without necessarily bringing them into the actual school is important. As they look to engage in more Town support for potential facilities shifts. Also, a Public Relations Firm can help when they hopefully don't have any if a crisis was to occur and they needed to think about getting communications out quickly and they have enough information that people will understand what's going on but also in a way that protects some of the confidentiality as a school district they need to protect. As they move into a year with 5 contracts, they need to negotiate and having a PR Firm can help them navigate through some of those waters that can be very helpful. In the past Superintendent Shannon worked in situations where they either had a PR firm on retainer or they had a set contract with them. They work in a variety of ways thinking about what might be right for Cohasset, especially in light of their budget situation, that would be something they need to really seriously consider. Superintendent Shannon just wanted to see if people have an appetite for that or at least start conversations with all that is on the horizon for the district.

Mr. Carr says he used to work in a Public Relations Firm that was expensive. They should give some thought to what their appetite is on money, but they are very helpful. The school committee looked at this loosely before and they've been lucky they have not had any significant issues when they needed them. They've got to balance how much that could possibly be to the district over the return they get from having a professional team. They're always looking for ways for what they can do better here, and Mr. Carr is open to it, but nervous about the cost of something like this.

Mr. Dial thanks Superintendent Shannon for raising this, it's been something that he discussed previously with Dr. Sullivan while he was Superintendent. Mr. Dial sees a lot of value in having a dedicated Public Relations Firm and he'll raise two points. One, there is a Town PR function so that maybe they can have better coordination amongst the schools in the Town Public Relations function. He doesn't know that necessarily fits for the purpose of what the schools have. Over the course of the past couple of years they have had some situations where Public Relations advice would have been very helpful, and they did not have the advice they needed. Mr. Dial definitely sees the need there and is fully supportive of pursuing it. That said, echoing Mr. Carr's comments, they are a district of extremely limited needs. At the last school committee meeting they were talking about raising user bus fees and their current budget falls coming into negotiating with teachers. The school committee just got through a massive budget issue where they had a gap and don't think they fully closed that gap for the upcoming year. Mr. Dial fully supports Superintendent Shannon, putting this on the list of things they should consider but they should make sure they consider in light the priorities they have in the district and the benefits they could get, but it's 100% agreed this can be worthwhile.

Ms. Lesky is in favor of exploring this further knowing they have financial considerations the way in which the district communicates is a really powerful tool and it isn't always maximized because they don't have a communications director.

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BUDGET, RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE

• Discussion of Public Relations Firm

Ms. Lesky thinks that's perhaps a larger conversation would include engaging with an outside PR firm and/or having an in-house position where there's someone who is directing communication so there is consistency between buildings in just the appearance, the tone because all of those pieces says a lot about people who can draw in references both positively and negatively about what's going on based on the frequency, quality, and the content of communication. Communication is something that Ms. Lesky is interested in and can see how hiring a PR firm would take part in that.

The Chair states it sounds like the school committee needs to come up with an action plan and they're all open to considering it. Like the Feasibility Study, for this reason they need to deal with it than just hypotheticals. If the school committee could get what the cost would be for a public school district so they can have a little bit more information in their arsenal as they do. Mr. Dial commented on a very important point to consider where this falls and all other priorities but at least they'll have that number to think about. The Chair asks members of the school committee if they would object to that.

Mr. Dial recommends the school committee go to the next step, having people come and present to them, but digesting information, getting an indicative idea of what the cost would be and how it would be funded and where that funding would come from.

The Chair asks if Superintendent Shannon can get some more collateral information about what services they do provide. The Chair is all in favor for it and will expand meetings by having numerous parties present this to the school committee.

Stephanie Saunders from 10 Stratford Terrace chimes in to say using a communication app like school bundle would help with marketing and communication. Families in Scituate speak positively of this as all school alerts, communications, and calendars are all in one place.

BUDGET, RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE

• South Shore Educational Collaborative (SSEC) Board Member (Mrs. Sarah Shannon) **

The South Shore Educational Collaborative is a very valuable resource for schools on the South Shore. They are a multi-purpose service that services students from multiple districts in the area who are challenged with disabilities that can't necessarily be met within the Public Schools and they provide out-of-district services at a much more reasonable cost than many of their private school out of district placements. This is the benefit financially as a district of being a member. Additionally, they provide a wide range of professional development opportunities for staff members in many districts that have other services. Superintendent Shannon was a collaborative member in her prior district, and they had some job alike groups and things like that. It's really a benefit to the district given the support they offer for students and staff. The district has a seat on their board and there's value in that because it allows them to know what's happening at the Collaborative when things are shifting and when things are applicable to students who are attending as they continue to make shifts and improvements to their services, they'll be aware of what's happening. The South Shore Educational Collaborative Information to be reported periodically to school committees, as required by Chapter 43, Accountability and Oversight of Collaboratives.

At each board meeting, the information below will be provided to board members to share with their school committee. Significant changes/updates in programs, activities, services, budgets and property (provided each meeting). Notification of application for real estate mortgages and leases (when necessary). A copy of any capital plan approved by the board (when necessary).

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BUDGET, RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE

• South Shore Educational Collaborative (SSEC) Board Member (Mrs. Sarah Shannon) **

By January 1st a copy of the approved annual report and financial audit. By April 30th, the board shall approve the annual budget and tuition rate for the upcoming fiscal year. By May 15th a vote of the school committee needs to be taken to appoint the representative board member for the upcoming fiscal year. Within 60 days of appointment the board member must complete the DESE required online training (once every six years).

A motion was made by Mr. Dial to appoint the Superintendent of Schools, Sarah Shannon, as the board member for The South Shore Educational Collaborative, seconded by Mr. Carr.

Aye-All

COMMUNITY RELATIONS / COMMUNICATION

• Reports from School Committee Sub-Committees and Liaisons

There were no reports from the School Committee Sub-Committees and Liaisons.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE

• Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair

There were no topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair.

• Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to approve.

• Future Agenda Items

Mr. Carr notes that the School Committee meeting minutes far exceeds what general minutes look like. Members of the School Committee may want to talk about how satisfied they are with the format of their minutes and have a discussion briefly about what the future minutes might look like. An update on the library book process and how that's going. Chairman MacLellan will ask Ms. Owen to look into having some periodic discussions around the priorities of maintenance when convenient to fit on the school committee meeting agenda. Tying in regular meetings with the School Facilities Committee like a quarterly check in on maintenance issues so that the School Facilities Committee can also weigh in on prioritizations.

Ms. Lesky would like to talk about the upcoming school year picking back up on the curriculum mapping project that the entire district has been working on and getting an update on the outward facing piece for parents, so they understand the curriculum mapping as well as the piece for faculty and staff to make documentation of this curriculum. They want to make sure that maintains because it's really an important piece for educators and for parents. What did Mr. Roberts learn in his first year. Some of his takeaways for areas of growth, his takeaways for what they're doing really well with and where the district envisions him digging into next. Have Mr. Stapleton come back specifically to talk about his vision for Special Education after he has time to get his feet on the ground first, keep that on a running list.

Mr. Dial would like to discuss more about the Baseball Field, he knows there's been some discussions among the sub-committees.

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SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE

• Executive Session¹ **

The Chair states they do not have a reason to move into Executive Session.

¹ 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 **

A motion to adjourn the Cohasset School Committee meeting for Wednesday, July 10, 2024 was made by Mr. Dial at 7:10 PM, seconded by Ms. Lesky.

Aye-All

**** Requires Committee Vote / Action**

Respectfully submitted by
Kathleen Bock
July 15, 2024