

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

COHASSET SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, June 5, 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, Chair
Paul Kearney
Jennifer Lesky
Craig MacLellan, Vice Chair

Also, In Attendance: Officer Greg Taylor, School Resource Officer CPD/CPS
Tara Noyes, Assistant Principal, Cohasset High School
Steve Rotondi, Athletics Director CPS
Brian Scott, Principal Cohasset High School
John Mills, Principal Cohasset Middle School
Vinnie Cordon, Director Food Services
Barbara Cerwonka, Director Student Services
Susan Owen, Director Finance and Operations
Dr. Leslie Scollins, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Patrick Sullivan, Superintendent

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dial called to order the regular meeting of the Cohasset School Committee for Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 6:03 p.m. Members of the Cohasset School Committee who are present are asked by the Chair to please indicate so upon **ROLL CALL**: **Mr. Kearney-Present; Mr. Carr-Present; Ms. Lesky-Present; Mr. MacLellan-Present; Mr. Dial-Present.**

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Dial would like to note for the good of the order, this meeting tonight for June 5, 2024 will be the last meeting with members of the Cohasset School Committee of this session. This is a transition time for the schools ending their school year and between school committees with Town elections coming up and how the school committee will be constituted for their next session. There's lots of change in the air, the school year is ending, the district will have a new Superintendent aboard for the next school year and changes to the Department of Student Services as well. Often times folks think ahead towards the Summer, but the Chair is actually looking towards the Fall with changes of new members of the school committee, and new leadership. Fall is a great time for change, there's change to the leaves and leaves fall to the ground, but not at Cohasset Public Schools thanks to Paul Kearney. Paul Kearney has made it a mission to ensure they have the greatest landscape guards that no leaves hit the grounds of Cohasset Public Schools.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Kearney has shown enthusiasm and zeal for all these initiatives that made him a fantastic school committee member for these past 6 years, serving 2 full terms. Mr. Kearney has been through a lot of things with these schools and with this school committee. He's been through COVID, negotiations of contracts with unions, building maintenance issues, the aforementioned landscaping allocations and Mr. Kearney has been a tireless advocate for their schools and students. The Chair could always count on Paul Kearney to raise a point of wellness or raise a point of food, who was always looking for ways to make students' lives better. Chairman Dial wanted to start recognizing Mr. Kearney who in the past couple of years has always been the first contact he would call on and the Chair wanted that to be recognized as well. The schools and the Town are a far better place with Mr. Kearney having served on this school committee.

Mr. Carr has served on many committees in the last 20 years, especially when he did not know Paul Kearney before and went on this great venture while they had not always agreed, they came to resonate issues very, very quickly, and fairly. Mr. Kearney has a great mind for things that are important here in Cohasset in addition to what the schools look like. It's been an honor and a pleasure to work with Paul Kearney and thanks him for his service to this community.

Ms. Lesky loves all the things Paul Kearney has done, not only does he show up to the table at these school committee meetings and brings passion and real dedication to moving forward issues that are important to him, but Mr. Kearney also walks the walk. Ms. Lesky absolutely adored his stories about rolling up his shirt sleeves, coming into these school buildings when schools are closed with paint and his family using their own personal time to make things happen that are important to the schools. That kind of dedication is rare and it's not just sitting here at school committee meetings and talking about things, it's about doing things and getting things done, thank you for that inspiration.

Mr. MacLellan says he had the delight of getting to know the senior member of this school committee very, very well over the past 5 years. Serving as volunteer for school boards takes a lot of time, and a lot of dedication. Some people do this for all the right reasons and Paul Kearney is one of those people. Mr. Kearney is not looking for special privileges, special attention, or accommodation. Paul Kearney is here primarily because he loves kids. Mr. Kearney is very passionate about education, and he's an amazingly dedicated Father. Paul Kearney has helped Craig MacLellan become a better person in a lot of many ways, where he's emulated some of his fathering tips received from Mr. Kearney and certainly absorbed a lot of his passion which is geared toward anyone that has watched any of these school committee meetings or has sat at one of these meetings knows how strongly Mr. Kearney feels about delivering the best possible product to students here in Cohasset. Mr. Kearney raised concerns around wellness, social emotional health, substance abuse, and things very important to him and that's a really important part of creating very responsible worldly adults who will be able to positively contribute to society. Mr. Kearney has served on this school committee through some very tumultuous times and has done so largely without complaint and has shown up every time and time again. It's been an absolute pleasure to serve with Mr. Kearney and hope Mr. Kearney's spirit lives on with this school committee because of a very important voice and the kids couldn't have had a better advocate than they had in Paul Kearney.

Paul Kearney is awarded and congratulated, with a standing ovation by all members of the school committee and administration with a school community plaque created and presented to *Paul Kearney in recognition of his distinguished service to the Cohasset Public Schools always placing students first with his sincere and zealous advocacy for the constant advancement for the district has yielded countless improvements to the overall educational experience for the entire school community as a school committee member from 2018-2024.*

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Kearney would like this opportunity to thank his wife, who has been his biggest supporter in his service to the Cohasset Public Schools. Mr. Kearney recalls coming to school committee meetings during COVID with 40 questions from the community being asked to all members of the school committee. Having Dr. Sullivan as a teammate and leader to get things done was truly admirable for organizing a Wellness Committee and Mr. Kearney looks forward to attending the Wellness Committee meetings as a parent.

Dr. Patrick Sullivan says he has much respect for Mr. Kearney's urgency to get things done. As Craig MacLellan mentioned, it starts with family and Mr. Kearney has a wonderful family where they reflect him, and he reflects them and views Cohasset as his extended family. Everything that Mr. Kearney has done has been urgently done to help the kids here in Cohasset and Dr. Sullivan absolutely respects that and is very appreciative of Mr. Kearney for that.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

INVITED GUESTS

• Spotlight on Learning: Cohasset Police Department (Officer Greg Taylor)

The relationship built in partnership over the years has actually been quite incredible and hope it continues. Officer Taylor has been the SRO, Schools Resource Officer for almost 7 years and he still loves it. Officer Taylor is the liaison between the Cohasset Police Department and the Cohasset Public Schools to cliché building bridges between the staff, students, and the administration. Officer Taylor's accounting role here in Cohasset Public Schools is building good, and solid relationships with students from PreK at the Osgood School all the way up to Cohasset High School. The class of "2024" graduates have been bittersweet they were a great class, and the majority of the female senior class participated this year in the RAD Program. Kids don't have to take the RAD class it's offered to them which was very responsive to the school community.

Officer Greg Taylor would like to thank the school committee because they were the ones who sent a letter to 3 RAD Instructors to be fully trained and certified in order to teach the RAD Program. Officer Lawrence and Officer Taylor teach a kids RAD Program along with Detective Julie Hall to which they also teach the RAD Program to adults. They've seen the kids working at it and now they're trying to figure out how to implement the adult portion community wide into the schools. Over the past 1.5 years they've taught 4 RAD Program classes. For those who don't know what the adult RAD Program stands for is **Resisting, Aggression, and Defense. The kids RAD Program is classroom material, then shows some defensive tactics moves, where the adult RAD Program is basically all hands on. The idea of the class is to use the tools taught to get out of a situation to get help. The number one rule Officer Taylor teaches in the classroom is using their voice which is the most powerful tool to use.**

Chairman Dial notes this is an incredible value for the students, not just the RAD Program but also having Officer Taylor's presence in the buildings to help build those relationships in this world that we're in was being seen with the relationship between communities and police were fraying, and there was distance growing and through Officer Taylor's presence here, they didn't see that at all here in Cohasset especially for the younger kids to understand that the police are there to help them through things and not an adversarial tone is a great unspoken benefit with Officer Taylor being here, and Chairman Dial appreciates that.

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Empower Students to Improve Communities

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• Spotlight on Learning: Cohasset Police Department (Officer Greg Taylor)

Mr. Kearney says the RAD Program is just the frosting on the cake for the kids here in the schools. Mr. Kearney has seen the kids come up to Officer Taylor and they know where his office is if they need him, and Mr. Kearney thanks Officer Taylor for listening and just talking with them and keeping our kids safe. Keep on doing what needs to be done, every day is a different situation.

Mr. Carr would like to first thank Officer Taylor and to please thank his colleagues. They felt very safe at the Graduation Ceremony last Friday where this event is operated outside of this campus. They live in a very safe town, and they take security very seriously, so they don't miss a beat. Thank you to all the Officers who attended the Graduation, they really stepped up to make sure the Seniors had a very special day, and the entire community was able to enjoy the ceremony, thank you.

Ms. Lesky shares Mr. Carr's thoughts somewhat from a different perspective when students and teachers feel safe, they're happier and they're emotionally healthier and that is critical to their learning. This is also a really big part of creating a space where kids can learn and reach their potential where teachers can teach to their best potential and that is priceless, thank you for that. When building those relationships does that happen organically or do they have times when the SRO goes into a classroom to read a book with them?

Officer Taylor notes in years past, he's gone into PreK classrooms to talk and read books to them and has worked with the health teacher at the Deer Hill School. The kids are a great group in this community where they really make Officer Taylor's job a lot easier. It's really just listening and talking with the kids and getting them to their classrooms.

Mr. MacLellan thanks Officer Taylor for this wonderful relationship between this district and the Cohasset Police Department where it hasn't always been this way. It was more failure to the district in the past and they've fostered up a real positive relationship with the school and with the police department and it's an integral relationship because safety is obviously an enormous part of education in today's day and age and this district is really appreciative for everything the SRO does.

Chairman Dial echoes to the sentiments from members of this school committee with sincere thanks and appreciation. The relationship with the Cohasset Police Department and the safety of students is the forefront responsibility of this school committee. If there are things that Officer Taylor or the other SRO's need from this school committee feel free to come to any school committee members to talk through what is needed and the Chair knows Administration also fully engages and supports the SRO, it may not be something you need, but it's helpful for the school committee to hear from the SRO about the things that Officer Taylor was just saying. Thank you very much and let's keep the dialogue going.

INVITED GUESTS

• 2025 Costa Rica Adventure Trip (CHS Assistant Principal, Tara Noyes) **

Tara Noyes, Assistant Principal of Cohasset Middle/High School is presenting the Costa Rica adventure trip for students and seeking approval from the Cohasset School Committee. Assistant Principal Noyes says 3 years ago, Alison Daisy, John Thornton, and herself took a group of freshmen and some sophomores to the Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon and Zion. So far, there have been 30 students who have shown interest for the Costa Rica trip. The trip will be taken over the April vacation of next year. The cost for this trip to Costa Rica is \$4,100, if kids register early, they'll get \$100 off their ticket. It's an adventurous trip, being outdoors, working with marine life, cascading waterfalls and things of that nature. Hotel stay, 24/7 emergency service, and insurance protection are included in the cost for this trip.

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Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

• 2025 Costa Rica Adventure Trip (CHS Assistant Principal, Tara Noyes) **

The brochure for the Costa Rica trip shows a 7-day itinerary agenda with white water rafting, the rain forest and working with organic farms, any kind of learning about the sustainability of farming while able to do farm to table dinners, touring the Capital of Costa Rica, San Jose.

Mr. Kearney loves the itinerary on the agenda of the brochure, this trip looks fabulous. It's great to see when the kids get out of their comfort zone, they come back standing a little bit taller.

Mr. Carr says these programs are great to have and would love to learn a little bit more about the Grand Classroom Tour Organization for this trip.

Ms. Lesky would like to first thank Ms. Noyes because any educator that is willing to go and take kids off into the world to explore deserves extra credit because it's a huge responsibility, it's their own time and allegiance, and thank you for that. Ms. Lesky also loves this trip, it looks like a balance of fun and adventure with some educational pieces, a wonderful travel balance. Ms. Lesky wants to allude to Mr. Kearney comments, kids change for the better having these trips independent of their family dynamics, they walk a little taller, more confident, and a better understanding of the world around them. That to her is one of those invaluable things to do and give to children. Ms. Lesky suggests some kind of methodology or something for families, students, or whoever is paying the cost is not prohibitive to make this opportunity available as much as possible to all.

Mr. MacLellan loves the itinerary, however the school committee expressed reluctance about another trip that was presented and was replaced with a Washington, D.C. trip because it was more like a beach vacation. This Costa Rica trip looks like a great mix of education, culture, and adventure

Assistant Principal Noyes mentions one of the best things about this trip is that everything is remote. They always provide opportunities to students with some sort of fundraisers to help with the cost.

Mr. Dial says this school committee are huge supporters of these trips. Their great growth opportunities for the kids and they absolutely need to have them. He was hoping the Administration would have a list of all these trips and the costs of these trips so the school committee could put these trip requests in content. That would be great to share with the community about the opportunities they're giving to students. How would the dates for this trip square with attendance to those students. How are they assessing our school community abilities to finance and pay for these trips so that they're not systematically excluding families who can't write a check for \$4,100. Do they have any idea of people's abilities generally today, how do they think through that.

Principal Scott says it's a paid filter, but a school-based activity as well.

Dr. Sullivan says they're trying to look at this district wide to have the CEF potentially sponsor some scholarships, that's a hope and something the Administration has been working on with them. They also have mechanisms they would develop to have a fund that catapults to all of these groups that are taking these trips into a scholarship scenario. This would defray cost, or it could go to the individuals who need it.

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• 2025 Costa Rica Adventure Trip (CHS Assistant Principal, Tara Noyes) **

The Chair would first like to suggest to Dr. Scollins to somehow broadcast this financial aid to the students. This way students will know there's a way for them to get the financial support they might need so they feel included if they want to go. The second suggestion is the Administration, and the School Committee at a future session should come up with a school trip policy where it addresses all those perennial questions. For any trip they should establish a gender segregation, make sure there's a sponsored ratio, something that hits on the 4 important things with answers to them.

Mr. MacLellan reminds everyone there is a payment plan, so the cost is a little bit more manageable to do over time. Monthly payments can be made in advance for these trips.

A Motion was made by Mr. MacLellan to approve the 2025 Costa Rica Adventure Trip for April 2025 as presented by Assistant Principal Tara Noyes, seconded by Mr. Carr.

Aye-All

INVITED GUESTS

• Food Service (Mr. Vinicio Cordon)

Mr. MacLellan would like this opportunity to introduce Mr. Vinicio Cordon, who has made some wonderful improvements to their Food Service Department and program. Mr. Cordon would like to share his plans for the future with the school committee tonight.

Dr. Sullivan says it's been an absolute pleasure introducing and having Vinnie Cordon as part of the staff. His enthusiasm and his urgency to make a difference is really appreciated, he really set the ground running. Everything Mr. Cordon has brought in has been very exciting.

Vinnie Cordon says it's been a fantastic last 7 months here in Cohasset Public Schools, and he considers himself very lucky to have landed here, appreciates the opportunity that was offered to him in the Food Service Department. Food Service and the hospitality industry is Vinnie Cordon's life, and he wants everybody around him to embrace it because it's very important. The signage in front of the cafeteria is interactive for the students, it engages them and gets them thinking about what they want for lunch. The meals that pertain to the schools are very important, it's the one outlet where students engage with one another and really be in the moment.

Next year, Massachusetts is going to make it mandatory to have free breakfast across the board. Most indefinitely free lunches are offered at all Cohasset Public Schools. This is good for those who need it, and busy parents that don't have the time to put together lunch bags. It is the Food Service Department to do the best they can within their knowledge and needs. Mr. Cordon says he practices **offer versus serve**. Serve is just a trade and looks the same across the board. The one thing that is mandatory is to offer students free lunch or breakfast because it's reimbursable to the school district. Food Service offers a variety of fruits and vegetables.

Food Service offers a variety of healthy breakfast and lunch options, daily vegan/vegetarian alternatives as well as assorted fresh fruits and vegetables. All schools are now outfitted with utensils and napkin dispensers that are more hygienic. Able to accommodate any dietary restriction with vegan/vegetarian offerings. The Food Service Department introduced a salad bar with assorted toppings, daily pasta station, and new breakfast and lunch options at the Middle and High School. Vinicio would like to note the leadership here is terrific and Sue Owen has been fantastic and a great support.

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Empower Students to Improve Communities

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• Food Service (Mr. Vinicio Cordon)

The Senior Café at the High School has opened to expedite service. New menu boards for signage were purchased to support and expand offerings at all Cohasset Public Schools. As the Food Service Department meet some challenging menu ideas, they'll be other things needed that will require new equipment in the kitchen to do the job properly and faster.

Since Vinicio Cordon was hired as the Director of Food Service, he held meetings with students and leadership to learn what strengths and weakness they have with the Food Service program to help him better understand the direction and plans for the future of Cohasset Public Schools Food Service. Mr. Cordon wanted to focus on the menu as the driver. Identify the strengths and challenges that were present within the Food Service program. Mr. Cordon found that strength was a great foundation for the program and a dedicated group of food service workers. The area in need of improvement was the variety of menu offerings and how food is presented.

Future plans at the elementary schools Mr. Cordon would like to reconfigure the serving lines for efficiency in preparing meals. Add juice machines to enhance breakfast options. Purchase new equipment to better display daily offerings and expedite serving time to provide faster service and more time for students to eat and enjoy their meal.

Future plans for the Middle and High Schools Mr. Cordon will continue to forward the momentum, working with the best products available. Finalize the Senior Café, not only to serve breakfast and lunch but to open opportunities for events outside school hours. Continue partnership with Holly Hill Farm to create a vegetable garden to grow vegetables that will be used in daily menus. Purchase new equipment for a pizza station and a combination oven, convention oven/steamer for faster and more efficient cooking time.

Mr. Kearney says they had a need and Vinnie came in, and all the kids love him, he loves his passion and his food. Mr. Kearney also thanks Sue Owen, she and Vinicio are a great team together. Thank you for pointing out the most important aspect that better food makes for better grades, that's just the bottom line. Not only is Vinnie looking for just one or two ingredients, but he's also helping the environment too.

Sue Owen says Vinnie is very humble, he doesn't realize all the wonderful things he has already done. There are so many more things that he didn't even mention like partnering with Holly Hill Farm, guidance from students at the Middle School, the courtyards for hydroponic gardens, purchasing food from local vendors, and so many other things Vinnie didn't touch upon. Vinnie even had a BBQ for 100 plus Seniors with a Caribbean BBQ theme, they all enjoyed it and loved Vinnie's food.

Mr. Carr says there are things they do notice like the healthy food Vinnie made for the electric school bus ribbon cutting ceremony. Mr. Cordon goes outside of the ordinary and they appreciate that very much. Never tone done, Mr. Cordon is perfect, please keep doing what you're doing. The school committee is a good resource so if he needs anything he can think ahead like the new equipment for the kitchens, they'd be honored to do that, thank you for everything he does.

Ms. Lesky says Vinnie is amazing! She was just joining the school committee when Mr. Cordon was hired somehow coincided a little bit. Ms. Lesky has heard nothing but talk about how wonderful the food is and how many wonderful changes he's making. Everything Mr. Cordon is doing is in line with what is great for the kids, being well fed, being fed with whole and fresh foods as appealing as possible which makes for better learners, makes for happier kids. *Hangry* is a real thing and if kids aren't *hangry*, they're better for all of us, parents included.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

• Food Service (Mr. Vinicio Cordon)

Ms. Lesky also loves Mr. Cordon's eco bench towards the connection between food and the environment, which is super important. Ms. Lesky would like to note she would love to see less plastic in terms of serving food in containers in school cafeterias if that is at all possible. Maybe in long term planning such as dishwashing is a possibility whether or not that's even more ecologically friendly or not more cost effective or not. They're teaching the kids about composting and things like that are all building into their wonderful and positive part of their lives they'll carry forward as adults.

Mr. MacLellan recalls upon Mr. Cordon's hire when speaking with references they said Mr. Cordon had revolutionized their food service program and that is exactly what he's doing for this district. He came in and introduced a whole new level of ambition and innovation that was not here that they were trying to evoke and now they're seeing that and it's really exciting. Keep on doing what you're doing, never stop, onward and upward. The Food Service Department has been the school committee's primary goal as well as Dr. Sullivan and Mr. Kearney's. Mr. MacLellan wants to make sure when the timing is right for Mr. Cordon that they're incorporating educational elements as much as possible. It can be something as simple as decorating the cafeteria area with nutrition facts and poster boards about the nutrition facts on the food they're eating. Kids are learning how to read these labels and understand what these different things mean. The hope is to have some hands-on curricular perspective with cooking, or even hospitality.

Mr. Dial echoes all the sentiments of the school committee. He doesn't know that Mr. Cordon fully appreciates the changes he has made to the schools and the kids just judging by his presentation, he's done a lot. Mr. Cordon should be proud of what he's already done and accomplished. When Superintendent Patrick Sullivan announced his resignation and moving to another district that responsibility fell onto the school committee to form another committee and it was Mr. MacLellan who had the job of letting Mr. Kearney know. Mr. Dial was told that Mr. Kearney's first reaction was "he's not taking the chef with him." Members of this school committee hold multiple jobs. One is education, another one is transportation, but another one is they serve 2,800 meals a day. That's a business, a reasonably good-sized hotel complex resort that should be celebrated, appreciated and Mr. Cordon is taking this massive job on and he's knocking it out of the park. Thank you very much for all that he's doing for this district. The school committee looks forward to Mr. Cordon's innovations in the future.

INVITED GUESTS

• Cohasset High School Handbook (Principal Brian Scott) **

Updated CHS Department Staff, Senior information, Term progress. District-wide removed the staff directory and is now posted on the school website. District wide added AI language as it's unfolding rapidly with the students. Image alteration, students cannot intentionally alter any member of the CHS school community using any forms of image alteration programs, or voice overrides, a huge avenue they really have to become more aware of and learn how to handle those consequences responsibly. District wide, added the audio and video recording and how it is particularly prohibited where common people not being able to record each other without permission. Removal of suspension in certain areas of the handbook and replaced terminology with "progressive discipline" and "appropriate disciplinary actions" where needed. A scenario would be safety, weapons, guns, anything like that is a suspension, a different law. But with the new law from last year anything that is progressive with behavior such as being disrespectful to teachers, or students who are consistently on their cell phones when they're not supposed to be or being rude to other classmates causing classroom disruptions. The first conversation would be Tier 1 repairing the harm and provide some guidance work after that. If students are on cellphones, it's a cellphone policy and restorative justice practice would tie in with the student's behavior.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

• Cohasset High School Handbook (Principal Brian Scott) **

Chairman Dial asks Principal Scott is there a way to adopt in the handbook that reflects a policy that is not reflected in the school district policies? They might need new tools to add to their policy to affect these things. This AI language is new, and they want to make sure the handbook has a specific language about AI, that behavior should be prohibited.

Principal Scott reiterates that might fall under the policy, it's a question of interpretation.

Ms. Lesky points out page 13 Term 2 where it says 2023-2024, it should read 2024-2025 and same thing with Term 4. The behavior in high school that is difficult to manage like on field trips, would that factor be needed to be put into the handbook or not where behavior is covered under the behavioral policy.

A motion was made by Mr. MacLellan to approve changes to the Cohasset High School Handbook for 2024-2025 school year as presented, seconded by Ms. Lesky.

Aye-All

• Cohasset High School Improvement Plan (SIP) - (Principal Brian Scott) **

Principal Scott says there's really one goal that he likes to reference to is a movie when Rodney Dangerfield goes back to school with his 1 question to 37 parts, although it's one goal there's a lot to it. SMART Goal #1: Develop processes for formal collaboration and professional development to improve student learning and wellbeing. Processes should include curriculum, interaction, assessment, PD and student programming. This really involves developing data points, working with Mr. Roberts and Dr. Scollins to come up with the same points to measure how they're doing. This was a goal that CHS had this year and also had curriculum writing which really needs to be preceded because of the intense work they did around curriculum writing, and this didn't get fully addressed yet. They're at a point now where they need to do it and need to do it for NSCC. It's good practice and it doesn't make sense to add a ton of things knowing they're up against a new strategic plan. Even though it's limited to one goal and what it encompasses, they're talking about qualitative and quantitative data. Quantitative data includes test scores, AP scores, defined numerical averages where one can rate oneself on. Qualitative data is all SEL, it's culture competency that goes from the district to the school level to department levels to common courses and to individual classrooms. Thinking how that spiders out this can take a lot of different formats in a lot of different groups.

Principal Scott has done the NSCC Comprehensive School Climate Inventory, which is a cultural survey for the past 8 years at Cohasset High School. This is CHS third year iteration of the 14 dimensions of school climate measured by the CSCI. It measures school climate in terms of 14 domains, some of which is instruction, leadership, interpersonal relationships, teaching and learning. Cohasset High School latest iterations is they're comparing to themselves. Over the last few years, Principal Scott has seen very similar results, but this last one was surveys on students, parents, and staff which were given good results from all of them, and all the numbers were particularly positive. The best one was on physical security, teacher/student relationships, school connectedness which says to Principal Scott that they have a very good structure for kids being known by teachers, developing the relationships, feeling that kids can plug in. The respect for diversity has improved particularly looking at subgroups. They still have a little work to do especially around social inclusion from the student perspective which were rated as 11, where it actually improved in both the parent and staff versions around students with disabilities and feeling empowered and connected and CHS has done a lot of things parents and the staff have seen that are very positive. When looking at respect for diversity it's kind of the opposite, they've seen a great growth in students at CHS who identify as minorities where the schools recognize the school is where it needs to be, but they believe in their state admissions are working positively towards it.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

• Cohasset High School Improvement Plan (SIP) – (Principal Brian Scott) **

This is one set of data points that will inform other sets of data points in terms of how to measure inclusivity, measure student's confidence, that type of thing. On the flip side of that, even though school connectedness and teacher/student relationships are pretty good, the student sense of social, emotional security as distinct from social and emotional learning is not as strong. CHS has good structures in place when it involves social emotional security, peer relationships online safety, data points are in place. Looking at CHS articulated mission where students can feel plugged in, but when it comes right down to people making friends, people feeling isolated, people being not so nice to each other online those are the things they need to work on. It's that individual building of confidence, building a sense of oneself.

Chairman Dial would like to pause a moment on the survey, he doesn't seem to recall seeing this before at the school committee level. Chairman Dial wanted to raise this as a point of order, so they don't feel they need to try and get all this out from a school committee perspective. Have Principal Scott come back, and the school committee can ask some questions and look at this in terms of what the CHS improvement plan is. As a school committee they should dig more into this and look at it.

Mr. Kearney says the CHS improvement plan itself is excellent. Loves the fact of family surveys, it's really engaging.

Mr. Carr notes the CHS improvement plan is excellent, he would like to spend more time on the pardon of things, but he gets it, and knows they're in a good place.

Ms. Lesky is really interested in that data and happy that Principal Scott is basing CHS SMART Goal #1 in real time on information from Cohasset High School.

Mr. MacLellan asks with specific regards to SMART Goal #1. Principal Scott has pointed out that goal listed here, and he hit on all the goals so that he could look at the curriculum instruction and programs that won't necessarily be implemented where it's going to implicate physical resources. The school committee is trying to develop a community directory of professional aptitude the families can have that will contribute to bring those educational experiences to the students.

Mr. Dial has no comments or questions, they're focusing on things especially in a year where they have no strategic plan, but Principal Scott hit on every level of ambition on this. Mr. Dial would like to see some of that data that may or may not be a decision to make, but as a school committee it's important stuff.

A motion was made by Vice Chair MacLellan to approve the 2024-2025 Cohasset High School Improvement Plan as presented by Principal Scott, seconded by Ms. Lesky.

Aye-All

• Cohasset Middle School Handbook (Principal John Mills) **

Both documents in Cohasset Middle School handbook worked collaboratively with the Cohasset Middle School Council to include for the record here as well for the tens of thousands, if not, hundreds of thousands of people on Facebook Live right now CMS did a lot of work this year. This is the product of CMS handbook similar to where they started a year ago to show an overview for the things that were updated. Updated district personnel, school year, and Town calendar. Removed CMS faculty table to provide accurate information to foster effective school community communication. The first change can be found on page 23 with some changes to the cafeteria section to update food and drink expectations throughout CMS.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

• Cohasset Middle School Handbook (Principal John Mills) **

Cohasset Middle School is asking students to bring reusable drinking containers that are not glass mason jars for safety in the classroom. The other edition is the Green Team collaborating with the school council asking for a statement while using the cafeteria to please consider reducing waste whenever possible, reduce, reuse, and recycle as well as composting. Cohasset Middle School has a great station set up for composting, recycling, and it's just a statement that will remind students to use that.

The next section is updates to the cellphone section and Principal Mills would like to thank the school council who earlier this past mid-Winter to late Winter did a parent survey. When looking at the data, they saw that a lot of parents had concern about their student's use of personal technology while in school. If they're being distracted with kids having it or not, there was lots of angst among parents on the survey received. Cohasset Middle School thought it would be a responsible thing to broaden what used to be a cellphone policy. CMS cellphone policy has always been put away during the school day. They broadened it to personal technology and that's put away for the school day unless it's expressly permitted by a teacher for instructional purposes. In other words, they are going to use their phone to snap pictures of this while in class, but beyond that personal technology is put away for the day. At the end of CMS personal technology section is that piece about inappropriately making audio or video recordings for others without their expressed consent. CMS had this previously where that AI language may lead to a suspension. They discussed this with their school council and the faculty weighed in on it too where they thought it tied to the hands of the administrator and at this point of consequences may be assigned which students have to do before they're suspended. CMS is really reflecting Massachusetts General Laws Ch 37 (¾) changing that line. CMS really encourages kids to not record each other, especially without their permission and devices should be put away for the day.

Personal property where the text reads CMS strongly discourages students from bringing toys and personal property that is inappropriate for the school environment (examples include but are not limited to, any games, water guns, etc.) These can be disruptive to the learning environment and undermine the important sense of safety that CMS offers to all members of their school community, ~~exception for specific learning and social emotional objectives must similarly be documented between the appropriate staff member and the student's family.~~ Appropriate disciplinary consequences may be applied to a student for violating this expectation. The language with strikes through them should have been removed, this was something unforeseen they didn't see happening in this world, unfortunately it's happening in the schools.

Page 29 updated level 3 offenses, (example would be to anyone considering bringing a water gun on a hot day to school) is considered a level 3 offense where the student can get in a lot of trouble. The CMS handbook didn't have a lot of language around threatening intimidating language or actions directed toward faculty staff members because CMS doesn't have any issues, but this is one of those they're seeing in other districts and seeing what's going on in almost all schools nationally and it seems to be happening in a lot of places with unexpected behavior that came out of COVID. The CMS handbook tells students and families that this school district has a proactive way to approach that in case that ever happened. Also, the CMS handbook includes students and families who attend CMS are very respectful towards the teachers and vice versa was included to content in the CMS handbook.

Page 31 is a continuation of a level 3 offense, and a description of the infraction, same language as Cohasset High School handbook has, (inappropriate use of artificial intelligence that is done in a way to discredit harassment, bullying, or intimidate someone.) When they start looking at cyberbullying policy, the bullying policy, Principal Mills recommends NCSS come in to talk with the School Committee where they might be a good resource.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

• Cohasset Middle School Handbook (Principal John Mills) **

NCSS might be taking this on across the state and the school committee might as well see where people are with it. This allows the educator to have conversation without addressing and asking the school committee for approval with the policy to change.

Mr. Kearney says the handbook is fantastic, and one of the things Principal Mills mentioned was the NCSS coming in to talk with the school committee, which is a good resource. Mr. Kearney would just advise the district or have some leadership there because there was a lot of talking done earlier at this meeting from Officer Taylor and this will be good for Superintendent Shannon coming aboard

Mr. Carr comments this was very well thought out and well executed, CMS has great programs. Mr. Carr struggles with the language in the handbook around alcohol and vaping, but it's so important to have. This is very thoughtful and very well done.

Principal Mills hopes the research on vaping never becomes an issue at CMS, but they'll be ready for it, and it won't be the policies, it's going to be the work of their teachers and their programming that will be affected. There is that ability to have the building Principal incorporate an advantage to what is best for the student.

Ms. Lesky loved it, she read it again and noticed in the table of contents where it looks there was text that was cut and pasted towards the bottom on page 3. On page 9 in the table of coordinators for Title VI, Title IX, etc. Mr. McMillan is still listed there that was probably from the old version.

Mr. Dial noticed on page 23 with the new language where students cannot use reusable drinking containers made out of glass or glass lined for safety purposes. Mr. Dial was wondering if CMS is intending to do this a different way. Mr. Dial suggests putting the words "For Safety Purposes" in the beginning so students will use reasonable drinking whether the containers are made out of glass or glass lined containers. On page 26 Personal Property section why is the word "discouraging" stated instead of "prohibited." If the intent is to prohibit, CMS should use it, otherwise someone may ask them to prove it, if using the word "discouraging" may make someone who is still going to do it. Lastly, page 29 level 3 offenses, the replica of a weapon or possession of a toy seems pretty minor for a suspension and suggests replacing content with "toy weapon" instead of "replica of a weapon" just to be absolutely certain that is stated there. Given this being as a level 3 offense replace with replica of weapon or toy weapon. Mr. Dial says he didn't have the benefit of the actual language when looking at the high school but the question he had was they're adding a section for inappropriate use of artificial intelligence and level 3 offenses to why not use the inappropriate alteration, it almost doesn't matter if it's artificial intelligence or not, it's the bad conduct of altering someone's image in a way that is meant to bully and harass.

Principal Mills was trying to explain drinking containers shouldn't be brought to school as one sought completely made out of glass, or something that is glass lined, but maybe plastic or metal on the outside for safety purposes and always in classrooms. That language on Personal Property came out of the Deer Hill School but CMS could adopt the word "prohibit" there. CMS doesn't have any issue with photoshop or with clipping and pasting images together. At this point, CMS is looking at the use of artificial intelligence being deep space and being fake.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

• Cohasset Middle School Handbook - (Principal John Mills) **

Mr. Dial says it doesn't matter if students use photoshop or use AI to make it more realistic. Mr. Dial is willing to have that debate and maybe this is the time to have that debate, but that comment should also be subject to "prohibition" where it states the alteration software as opposed to including program powered by artificial intelligence such as photoshop, deep space and other AI programs. Students shouldn't use any software to alter images to do this and change alteration and need to focus on AI right now.

Motion to approve the Cohasset Middle School handbook as presented by Principal Mills and discussed changes to the Cohasset Middle School handbook for 2024-2025 was made by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. MacLellan.

Aye – All

• Cohasset Middle School Improvement Plan (SIP) - (Principal John Mills) **

Principal Mills would like to take this moment to thank the school council, parents, and teachers who were fabulous as well as the number of parents who filled out the surveys really enabled CMS to see all the work that occurred at CMS over the year.

SMART Goal #1. During the 2024-2025 school year, CMS will line the MTSS process to implement academic supports and interventions that provides all students, particularly high needs students (as defined by DESE), equitable access to deeper learning. CMS will focus on meeting Math and ELA, MCAS achievements and target improvement goals as defined by DESE. The last couple of years, they've had goals where they've built the MTSS process and got a really solid structure they've worked with on training, using the process that affects student learning. Looking at the accountability CMS does quite well with 95 percentiles of all 3-8 buildings that serve those grades. CMS is doing really well but lost points in improvement for high needs students. CMS wanted to point out some changes to MTSS in practice and really see if they can help those students achieve their improvement, goals, and targeted improvement goals.

The CMS action plan includes continue to enhance and implement Tier 1 and Tier 2 intervention programs. Investigate interactive Tier 3 Math Intervention Programs. Provide professional development for MTSS team and faculty as needed. Continue to develop data teams and data dialogue protocols in the Multi-Tiered Systems of support (MTSS) to analyze i-Ready and MCAS data. To form partnerships with families at MS with collaborative events where there's some discussion about it, even district wide around being responsible with the use of technology because parents of middle school age students need a lot of help around that. The last part of the CMS action plan is to continue to do parent surveys to help CMS faculty understand where parents are in their child's learning experience at CMS.

SMART Goal #2. During the 2024-2025 school year, CMS will continue to promote a positive school culture and strong sense of belonging as a means to improve academic and social-emotional outcomes for all students. The most important part of CMS action plan is implementing restorative justice practices to create a safer, more inclusive learning environment for students and really promote SEL skills development.

SMART Goal #3. During the 2024-2025 school year, CMS will expand opportunities for families to be more engaged in school practices in the areas of volunteering, after school student activities, and responsible use of technology. There were a lot of parents who filled out the survey and said they want to volunteer and keep kids engaged and busy after school. The action plan for CMS is to set up meetings with parents who want to come in to brainstorm some ways they can offer that.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

• Cohasset Middle School Improvement Plan (SIP) – (Principal John Mills) **

Chairman Dial has two suggestions, on the restorative justice practices is an area from what Mr. Dial perceived from the community's concerned comments. Another area also perceived where families can get more engagement with the school community of what it means to be at Cohasset Middle School, how it works, and the thinking behind it.

The Chair would like to share that holistically there are some skeptics as to how effective the restorative justice programs could be opposed to old school discipline and it's not fully digested through the community that this is not disciplining anyone, that this still exists, rather look at this one as a fulsome way to address core issues. Chairman Dial notes that sort of framing is what the community has and is closer to that original view than it is to what the school committee is doing here. Also, the acknowledgement of SMART Goal #3, where Principal Mills hit on a community concern where kids are using digital devices is very real, it's been a real focus of this school committee. Lastly, the Chair likes how CMS is bringing parents into the classrooms for real discussions is really critical. Some of the feedback Mr. Dial receives is exactly what people are doing about keeping students on tasks and devices in the schools that lock out different websites, something along that would be a great opportunity for some community educational engagement. Those are the school committee's future items here.

A motion was made by Mr. MacLellan to approve the Cohasset Middle School Improvement Plan for the 2024-2025 school year as presented by Principal Mills, seconded by Mr. Kearney.

Aye – All

SCHOOL UPDATES

• School News (Dr. Patrick Sullivan)

Cohasset High School, class of "2024" graduation ceremony was awesome! Dr. Sullivan would like to thank Principal Scott and Assistant Principal Noyes for all their great work in the district and as a whole team. What a great community celebration for their amazing CHS seniors. Dr. Sullivan loves the tradition of the staff being there from the past to the present. The school committee was completely present in the regalia and sent the seniors a great message, thank you. Nothing speaks volumes to the work that this school district is doing just seeing all the smiles on their faces.

Today was "Ride Your Bike to School Day" with over 100 students and a lot of their staff participated. Everyone was awesome and had a great time. Dr. Sullivan would like to thank the Cohasset Police Department for their assistance in this, they made it very safe for the students and families.

The 2nd grade class had a Science Fair with a fabulous display of student work and great teachers, a lot of smiling kids were there. They just finished their obstacle course second to none at the Joseph Osgood School. They also had "Snappy Sneaker Day," end of the year school celebration for all students and their families.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

• Academic Initiatives (Dr. Leslie Scollins)

Just recently, Dr. Scollins, Mr. Rock Roberts and Principal Farrell did a learning walk at the Osgood School with a consultant from TLA, Jen Yeager, looking at the Reader's Workshop. One of the things they do in the Reader's Workshop is called "Playdate." Students go into the classroom paired together and read to each other and do certain things in the classroom while paired together. It was a great way to end the day and the school year to see there was not one child who was not reading or participating in that reading class.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

TEACHING AND LEARNING

• Academic Initiatives (Dr. Leslie Scollins)

Dr. Scollins notes all assessment windows are almost complete for the end of the school year. The High School had their MCAS yesterday and today. The iReady Assessments are finishing up at the Elementary Schools and the Middle School this week. Everything is wrapping up nicely, students are finishing up their work. They held their Professional Development Day today for grade 5 History, a wonderful experience for students.

• Director of Student Services Report - Year End Report (Mrs. Barbara Cerwonka)

This is Mrs. Cerwonka's last report to the school committee in front of Student Services. Mrs. Cerwonka would like to thank her wonderful staff and it's been nothing less than pure joy to be here in Cohasset and working with the leadership team and the school committee and above all the Special Education school staff. Anything that the Student Services Department has done, all of the credit really goes to Mrs. Cerwonka's staff. They are just fantastic and a talented group of people who brought it every single day and brought in new initiatives to rise to new levels.

One of the things Student Services focused on over the years has been the IEP Team Meeting surveys which was an effort to continue to be transparent and engage in family communication to really make changes and improvements for the student. When Mrs. Cerwonka started sending IEP surveys out, she received 76% of them back with strongly agree checked off in all the categories for rating. As of now, the Student Services Department is at a full 90% in terms of all the answers being solid in the strongly agree range. About 5% were neutral, things are going fine, they're down to 5% in disagree or strongly disagree categories. It's been very nice progress, and Student Services is pleased this is being shared to families here in Cohasset.

Mrs. Cerwonka's next slide has always been a strong point of interest to the school committee, which is where do referrals come from and what does eligibility look like. The referral sources for Fall of 2023 whether it was from MTSS, or a parent were 50% from each as were the eligibility rates. Moving into the Winter of 2024, the MTSS referral rates jumped up to 60% with eligibility rates at 80% there. Whereas the parent referral rates were down 30% and eligibility was 43%. For Spring, 2024 MTSS and parent referral rates were again at the 50% range. However, the eligibility rates for those that came from MTSS were 100%, and the eligibility rates from those who came from a parent were 20%. The MTSS process is really solid and significantly working. For any kind of eligibility, it does not come from any kind of referral. Student Services always talks in the meetings about what's already in place for the students, what's going to stay in place to continue supporting the student.

When Mrs. Cerwonka came on board to the Office of Student Services, she heard there were areas that were clearly bad in addition to all the work the Office of Student Services does. People really wanted some focus on program development on transparency communication with parents and on SEL work. In the area of program development, the Office of Student Services had successes with Social Emotional Learning (SEL), Reading, PreK, and Co-Teaching. The Office of Student Services updated all the process guides and practices both in special education and 504 and just this year they've updated English Language (EL). Other successes were through the policy and practices in MTSS in IEP's and that open door communication with families. They've been trying to work on good Professional Development for ESP's who integral to the successes of students is really an area to continue targeted focus on. In terms of opportunities what started and should continue is curriculum development in PreK, Co-Teaching Models, and continue to work on EL Process Guide and Practices.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

TEACHING AND LEARNING

• Director of Student Services Report - Year End Report (Mrs. Barbara Cerwonka)

Mrs. Cerwonka recommends continuing targets, next year is the roll out of the new IEP. The Office of Student Services was very fortunate to have acting Commissioner Russell Johnston come in on May 24, 2024 to provide some Professional Development to staff on the new IEP on targeted and cohesive specific ways. Continue data in MTSS to see how it's going to continue in the MTSS progress. As things are determined in the Office of Student Services strategic plan for next year and in the future, more target areas will come out of that.

Mr. Kearney thanks Mrs. Cerwonka for her service, it's been bittersweet to work with her.

Mr. Carr congratulates Mrs. Cerwonka on her parole from here. For the past 2 years, Mr. Carr has had the pleasure to sit next to Mrs. Cerwonka, it's been wonderful.

Ms. Lesky shares the same sentiment as Mr. Kearney. Thank you, Mrs. Cerwonka, for all she's done for the district to strengthen their program and for the families here.

Mr. MacLellan says he's come to know Mrs. Cerwonka fairly well. Mrs. Cerwonka has been an absolute pleasure to work with. She has a very difficult job where she's always having to fashion creative learning solutions for the most vulnerable learners with a lot of emotions wrapped up in those learning solutions and in those family dynamics that are necessarily implicated in the work she does. There's a lot of data analysis and the common denominator of concerns from stakeholders and the district. The Office of Student Services is probably the most vulnerable sublet of the student population from a teaching and learning perspective. Thank you, Mrs. Cerwonka, for serving the district, Mr. MacLellan certainly wishes her the best in all she does and congratulations her on the improved commute.

Chairman Dial would like to add in his thanks and wanted to recognize the growth the Office of Student Services has done. Mrs. Cerwonka has been very helpful through the years with Mr. Dial on the school committee and has taught him things and tolerated his questions. From Mrs. Cerwonka's presentation one of the issues that was focused on 3 years ago as a school committee is the MTSS program working. The last slide Mrs. Cerwonka just showed they're getting the MTSS program, and the program is becoming stronger and that's a credit to Mrs. Cerwonka's work and everything she's done for the schools. Mrs. Cerwonka is leaving this school district for a better place and Mr. Dial very much appreciates what she's done for the school district.

Dr. Sullivan reads the name Barbara aloud and says **B** is for balance. The balance that Mrs. Cerwonka brings to everything here in the district, not only does she bring the temperature down for them collaboratively, but she really balances a lot of desperate needs in the district and has done it expertly. **A** is for advocate. Dr. Sullivan has seen Mrs. Cerwonka being a strong advocate for students, families, and staff. **R** is for responsive. Dr. Sullivan has never known Mrs. Cerwonka not to be responsive to anyone, whether it be a staff member, student, or a family member getting back to them. **B** is for brave, there's a lot of passion that Mrs. Cerwonka deals with and to bring that passion to a logical point making some tough decisions takes a lot of courage. **A** is for advisor. Mrs. Cerwonka has been an adviser to the entire staff, students and a lot of families too. **R** is for Mrs. Cerwonka's reflective nature. She's received a lot of input from the school committee, leadership team, and families and she's always accepted that in a reflective way and really looked at how it could improve their practices. In those moments when they could, she did and when she thought maybe that wasn't the right move, she did her best to explain it and Dr. Sullivan really appreciates that. **A** is for appreciative. They're appreciative to have had Mrs. Cerwonka as a leader here in the district.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

TEACHING AND LEARNING

• Update on Director of Student Services Search (Dr. Leslie Scollins)

Dr. Scollins says it's going to be hard for her when Mrs. Cerwonka leaves. They've had a nice partnership, and they'll miss each other too and hope to meet somewhere in the middle. It's been amazing, it's rare when you happen to get into a partnership when two people need to work closely together, but it's been wonderful working with Mrs. Cerwonka.

Next week, they'll be interviewing four (4) candidates out of seven (7). The Office of Student Services Search Committee met on June 3rd and withdrew those people. They'll be interviewing the four (4) candidates July 11th, and the hope is to move at least 2 people forward to meet Superintendent Shannon. They had a big discussion on what the expectations of the job responsibilities are and what are the qualities they want to see in that person and in the person's office itself. Dr. Scollins and her leadership team looked at surveys they got from parents. It's been a very inclusive process. The one thing they discussed was they will not settle which is scary to say especially in June.

Chairman Dial asks Dr. Scollins if she has been involving elect Superintendent Shannon with interviews? Also, will the school committee need to approve the new hire.

Dr. Sullivan reiterates that Superintendent Shannon will be in the audience while interviews are being conducted. Yes, the school committee will need to approve the new hire of the Director of Student Services. There are additional steps in the hiring process where the school committee has to appoint that position. The acting Superintendent will bring the new hire forward to meet with the school committee.

The Office of Student Services Search Committee includes Principal Farrell, Principal Mills, Alyssa Gittens-Carle, Caitlin Stromberg, Megan Greeny, Anne Bloomberg, and Cathy Green who is the Chair for the Office of Student Services Search Committee. Teresa Miller, and two (2) parents, Beth Frazier and Susan Roberts.

BUDGET, RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE

• Gift from Cohasset Education Foundation (CEF) (Mrs. Susan Owen) **

The Cohasset Education Foundation has graciously presented a gift in the amount of \$87,792.99 for items listed on the screen. Mrs. Owen won't be posting every one of them as this time. Thank you to the CEF this is a tremendous amount of money, and they are so appreciative that they'll be able to use these funds for educational purposes to take care financially.

A motion was made by Mr. Carr to accept a generous gift from the Cohasset Education Foundation as presented by Mrs. Owen, seconded by Mr. MacLellan.

Aye – All

➤ Discussion on FY25 User Fees (Mrs. Susan Owen)

The Chair would like to table this line item on the agenda where it's late in the evening and knows the FY25 user fee is a topic of interest for the school committee and the community at large.

A motion was made by Ms. Lesky to table the discussion on FY25 User Fees until the next school committee meeting, seconded by Mr. MacLellan.

Aye – All

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

Chairman Dial would like to note for the record this is the last item on the school committee's meeting agenda.

INVITED GUESTS

• Gift from The Carell Family Trust (Mr. Steve Rotondi) **

Mr. Rotondi, the athletic Director for Cohasset Public Schools is here tonight to present to the School Committee a gift in the amount of \$96,037 from the Carell Family Trust. Mr. Rotondi was asked by the Carell Family to put this money towards a new score board at the Alumni Field. When the Track and Turf was being renovated, Mr. Rotondi noticed one of the pieces they wanted to replace was a new scoreboard. The current stage of their scoreboard still has light bulbs that screw into it and it's one out of only a handful from the state from what Mr. Rotondi was told by Scoreboard Enterprises that represents all of New England.

Mr. Rotondi spoke with Nancy Walls-Carell who asked what kind of projects were being worked on through the Athletic Department. Ms. Walls-Carell's father and family were lifelong residents here in Cohasset. Nancy's dad who is Bob Walls started the Gridiron Club which still exists today for CHS football program, and the Walls family do so much for CPS Athletics programs and in general to support Cohasset student athletes in the schools. Over time, Bob Walls became well known when he inherited the nickname of the voice of the Skippers. For over 20 years, Bob Walls announced the football games, play by play that could be heard at the time on Saturday's when the football team played at Millikin Field. The Walls Family had 6 children that attended Cohasset Public Schools and they're very proud of Cohasset. The new scoreboard will be digital, so it will be multipurposed, with multi-sports such as football, soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse. The C logo that stands for Cohasset will be on the bottom under the scoreboard that is actually a sound system that will replace the sound system they already had.

Mr. Kearney congratulates Mr. Rotondi. This is something Mr. Kearney knows that Mr. Rotondi has a lot of passion for, it just echoes how obligated Mr. Rotondi, and the School Administration are. The fact that Cohasset is going to have something that's the latest and greatest and has the newest technological equipment is fantastic.

The motion was made by Mr. MacLellan to approve a gift from the Carell Family Trust for a new scoreboard at the Alumni Field, seconded by Mr. Kearney.

Aye - All

➤ Discussion of Milliken Field (Baseball) and School Responsibilities

Dr. Sullivan says Milliken Field is used by Cohasset student athletes and they want to support this, but this isn't the school's property, this is a field that the Town owns and the Recreation Department and the DPW support this field. This falls outside of the fields that are controlled by Cohasset Public Schools.

Mr. MacLellan would like to introduce Sarah McSweeney, who is in the audience, who is very knowledgeable, and involved in baseball organizations.

Sarah McSweeney from 214 Summer Street is here to talk to the school committee about the fields the student athletes of Cohasset use. Milliken Field is a Town use, but every year for the past 5 years, they've marched up to Milliken Field in the Fall and Winter to talk about maintenance. Safety is what needs to be done because there are sprinkler heads that pop up from the ground, bullpens where people are tripping over equipment that's been left behind. Generally, Sarah works with the Town with Michelle Leary, who has been great.

Cohasset Public Schools

Empower Students to Improve Communities

INVITED GUESTS

➤ Discussion of Milliken Field (Baseball) and School Responsibilities

Beechwood Field is used by Ted Carroll who holds the Special Olympics there for the summer program and there's a role for the Town with this. First, they should be thinking of student athletes because it represents the school, and the athletes are on that field every day and they just can't kick the can down to the Town. Secondly, there should be a plan where the Town and the Schools come together and allocate X amount of dollars for maintenance every year for those fields. Michelle Leary supports all the sports games and she'll share with the school committee to get some type of annual plan. They'll need real cadence and predictability planning around it. Ms. McSweeney will gather more data on what the cost from 5 years ago to current costs.

Chairman Dial would like to see the schools support these fields, whether it's just encouraging the Town to invest the money to student athletes there or if necessary, allocate the school the additional money then the school can allocate to the Town so they can do whatever they need to do. The school committee has recognized that this is a need and they're going to focus on doing exactly what Ms. Sarah McSweeney is going to do. Mr. Dial suggests the sidebar of this is tasks for the School Facilities Committee which is a joint constituted committee with the school committee and the Town.

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 are no minutes to approve.

• Future Agenda Items

FY25 User Fees – Mrs. Susan Owen

• Executive Session¹ **

The Chair states there is no reason for the school committee to go into Executive Session¹.

ADJOURN **

A motion was made by Mr. MacLellan to adjourn the regular meeting for Wednesday, June 5, 2024 of the Cohasset School Committee at 9:50 PM, seconded by Mr. Kearney.

Aye - All

**** Requires Committee Vote / Action**

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

*Respectfully Submitted By
Kathleen Bock
June 17, 2024*