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**[CE SBAC] SBAC input**

1 message

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**Ben Hagopian** <benjamin.hagopian@gmail.com>

Sun, May 5, 2024 at 7:57 PM

To: cesbac@capeelizabethschools.org

Hi SBAC –

My name is Ben Hagopian and I live in the Cranbrook neighborhood.

Thank you for the countless hours you've put into this school project.

As you meet this week to decide on which proposal to push forward, I strongly encourage you to pick Option E.

- Option E is the most financially responsible choice – while marginally more expensive now, we avoid a far higher bill in a few years when our outdated schools need further upgrades or repairs or we are forced to build a new school at a time when prices will certainly be far higher.
- Option E has the least amount of student disruption. Students will not learn as well when forced to sit in trailers without proper learning amenities.
- The cost difference between C and E is minimal, but with E we get a chance to 'restart the clock' through a new school. We need a new middle school at some point... I strongly believe it's now but if folks decide to not build a new school now, we will be needing to build a new school in the coming few years. If we choose B or C, I believe we are lighting that money on fire... essentially, we are paying for a \$5000 car repair on a car worth only \$1000.
- Option E creates a safe, long-term solution for the issues that have plagued our town for more than 3 decades.
- The survey data clearly shows that there is wide-range support for Option E – and movement from those who voted 'no' at the last referendum to vote 'yes' in November. In short, Option E can and will pass a public vote.

In my opinion, Options B and C are bad investments and I will not vote for them if they are on the ballot.

I will also commit, despite my wife being laid off and being a small business owner, to pay the difference for 10 people in our town who plead they can't afford the difference between B and E.

Thank you for your time.

Ben Hagopian

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