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Susana Measelle Hubbs &lt;susana.hubbs@capeelizabeth.org&gt;

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**[CE SBAC] Re a recommendation**

1 message

**'melanie tennyson' via SBAC (CE School Building Advisory Cmte)**

Mon, May 6, 2024 at 10:16 AM

&lt;cesbac@capeelizabethschools.org&gt;

Reply-To: melanie tennyson &lt;tennysonmelanie75@yahoo.com&gt;

To: "cesbac@capeelizabethschools.org" &lt;cesbac@capeelizabethschools.org&gt;, "cetowncouncil@capeelizabeth.org" &lt;cetowncouncil@capeelizabeth.org&gt;

Dear SBAC members and town councilors

I will keep this short - as I'm sure you - especially the SBAC has been receiving a large number of emails. I am happy to understand that the most recent survey indicates that people's opinions are shifting - that they are understanding that option E is the best choice for our town. I won't give you the multiple reasons that I know others have listed. I trust that better writers than I have conveyed that information. I will however focus on the fact that NO ONE would build a school today with the layout we have. We are unfortunately well into the era where school shootings necessitate a safer design. The fact that a new building would include lower operating costs that have still not been identified is frustrating though.

It is clear to me - though the tax impact was not clearly communicated prior to the survey - people can and should be convinced that E is the best option - and that is what should be recommended to the school board. It then will be necessary to convince more voters.

The second purpose to my email - is to remind both the SBAC and the Town Council - that it is within the town council's ability to create policies that could provide more tax assistance programs but these policies take time and should be worked on now. Workshop them now please.

Community Services recently held an event at Fort Williams where residents could climb the light house for free. It is such an amazing experience. I was lucky enough to climb it twice in the 40+ years I have lived in Cape. Why don't we allow people to climb it more often - and put the money aside toward tax payer relief? I know someone who nearly 20 years ago paid to do that same thing - on a specific day and proposed to their wife at the top. It was not part of an open house but something they prearranged.

Additionally - that tax assistance should not in my opinion just be limited to low income Seniors. It should apply to ~ perhaps residents who have lived in Cape for 10+ years? There should certainly be significant outreach prior to the November referendum outlining ways people can access some tax assistance- and it could include a requirement to pay some portion of it back upon sale of property...

Thank you for your time. And your service to our town.

Sincerely  
Melanie Tennyson  
6 Carriage hill rd.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

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classified as public records and may be subject to disclosure.

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