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[CE SBAC] Feedback on Options-- E is the only choice!

1 message

Emily Helliesen <emilyhelliesen@gmail.com>
To: cesbac@capeelizabethschools.org

Tue, May 7, 2024 at 11:20 AM

Hello SBAC,

Thank you for your time and efforts to better the schools here in Cape!!

My name is Emily Day, and I live in the Cottage Brook neighborhood, and have a daughter at Pond Cove.

As you meet this week to decide on which option to push forward, I write to strongly support Option E, the new middle school.

I have many reasons why, as listed below, but here is the newest:

I know someone personally who is a current middle school teacher at another leading school district in Maine. Given what I know about him personally, and his experience and passion for teaching, I know that he must be an excellent teacher. He just applied for a position at the middle school, and one of his primary comments **after viewing it as prospective teacher is "wow, they need a new school"**.

If we do not improve our facilities, we will LOSE teachers, and we will NOT attract the caliber of teachers/staff that our students and community deserve. Cape prides itself on its outstanding school district, but if we do not invest in our schools, this will not last.

- Option E is the most financially responsible choice – we will pay less as taxpayers in the long term. For Cape residents on fixed budget, this is imperative.
- Option E sets the town on the path of creating a master plan, something that will benefit residents today and far into the future.
- Option E has the least amount of student disruption.
- The cost difference between C and E is minimal, but with E we get a chance to 'restart the clock' through a new school.
- 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.

It is so important that Cape makes an investment in at least one new school. Option E is the only logical choice at this time.

Thank you for your consideration, and time.

Emily Day

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