

Superintendent's Report for December 1997

Superintendent's Report for December 1997

December 9, 1997
Cape Elizabeth, Maine

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Tuesday, December 9, 1997, at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers..

School Board members present were:

Charles Greer, Chairman
Beth Currier
George Entwistle
Marie Prager
John Ridge
Kevin Sweeney
Keith Witherell

Dr. Cynthia Mowles, Superintendent of Schools

Others present included: Peter Dawson, Nancy Hutton, Tom Eismeier, Dwight Ely, Phil Jewett, Nancy St. John, Pauline Aportria, Claire LaBrie, Sue Weatherbie, Ryan Moore, Matt Martin, Sarah Nelson, Chelsea Greer, Gary Lanoie

1. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Charles Greer
2. Adjustments to agenda
Items "8c. Athletic Committee Report" and "10e. A proposal concerning teacher planning at Pond Cove" were added. Dr. Mowles clarified that in Item 11 there were two separate items with a possible call for reconvening the public session for a formal vote on the first item before returning to executive session for the second item.
3. Approval of School Board Minutes
The minutes of the regular meeting held on November 12, 1997 were approved as submitted.
4. Comments by High School and Middle School representatives
The high school representatives, Ryan Moore and Matt Martin, and Middle School representative, Sarah Nelson, reported on the various activities in their schools.
5. COMMUNICATIONS
Keith Witherell congratulated the Middle School music programs for the recent concert. Kevin Sweeney commented on the opening Varsity Ice Hockey game.
6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Gary Lanoie, Technology Coordinator, presented the annual report to the School Board. He highlighted important aspects of his written report in a brief oral presentation. This was followed by a period of questions and comments from individual Board members.
7. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS
The building principals reported on important events in their respective schools.
8. SCHOOL BOARD SUBCOMMITTEES AND REPORTS
 - 8a. Finance Subcommittee
Finance Subcommittee chairman Keith Witherell reported that the subcommittee met prior to the school board meeting where they signed warrants, reviewed stage curtain requests, approved a request from the Parents' Associations to waive the fee for bulk mailing for the school newsletters, reviewed costs of the proposed contract with the teachers, reviewed the cost of a staffing request at Pond Cove, and discussed the Capital Improvement Plan budget.
 - 8b. Policy Subcommittee
George Entwistle reported that the Policy Subcommittee met on November 13 and December 8 at 7:45 a.m. They discussed "time on task" which has been referred to a subcommittee for review. The subcommittee will hold its initial meeting on January 15 at 4:00 p.m.

The review of the policy governing eligibility of high school students for athletic and co-curricular activities continues. Representatives of the high school students met with the committee at the November meeting and presented a proposal for a revision to the current policy. The Policy Subcommittee is awaiting input from the teachers. At its next meeting on January 14, there will be an extended discussion. Any proposal for change to the current policy will become effective

in the next academic year.

Transportation policies were reviewed and policy EEAC - School Bus Safety Program will be presented for first reading tonight.

Policy IHB - Class Size was reviewed and it was decided to make no changes. The next meeting of the subcommittee will be held on January 14 at 7:45 a.m. in the Council Chambers Conference Room.

- 8c. Athletic Steering Committee
Keith Witherell reported that the Athletic Steering Committee met on December 8. After a discussion of gender equity, it is the recommendation of the committee to continue with the current sports offerings. There is a proposal to add Girls Lacrosse at the Middle School in the spring of 1999 at the cost of \$2,200. There was a discussion of the proposal to survey all student athletes at the end of each sports season to rate their experience.
9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
There was no unfinished business for Board consideration.
10. NEW BUSINESS
- 10a. Consideration of teacher request for retirement
Dr. Mowles presented the request to the Board from Richard Mullen, a High School English and drama teacher. Mr. Mullen is notifying the Board of his intention to retire from his current position effective December 31, 1997, but to continue in employment on a part time basis as a .4 drama teacher. George Entwistle made a motion to accept Mr. Mullen's retirement with regret and to appoint Mr. Mullen to the .4 position. John Ridge seconded the motion. Members of the Board commented on Mr. Mullen's many years of dedicated service to the students at Cape Elizabeth High School. The motion was approved 7 - 0.
- 10b. Consideration of the superintendent's nominations to athletic fee positions
The superintendent made the following nominations to athletic fee positions for the 1997-98 winter season:
Chris Turner - Varsity Boys' Basketball Assistant
Sarah Randall - 8th Grade Girls Basketball
Aaron Balistreri - Middle School Indoor Track

Beth Currier made a motion seconded by Keith Witherell to accept the superintendent's nominations. The motion was approved 7-0.
- 10c. Consideration of the superintendent's nominations to co-curricular fee positions
Dr. Mowles nominated:
Norm Richardson - Jazz Band I Director
Anthony Marro - Jazz Band II Director
Richard Marsters - Jazz Combo I Director
Richard Marsters - Jazz Combo II Director
Betsy Nielsen - Technology Department Head

Beth Currier made a motion seconded by Keith Witherell to accept the superintendent's nominations. The motion was approved 7-0.
- 10d. Policy - First Reading
George Entwistle presented Policy EEAC - School Bus Safety Program for first reading for revision. He explained that the revisions are being proposed to clarify the policy. There was a brief question and answer period regarding the proposed changes.
- 10f. Consideration of the superintendent's proposal for teacher planning time at Pond Cove School
The superintendent recommended to the Board that an Ed Tech II be added to the staff of Pond Cove School for the remainder of the school year for the purpose of providing additional common planning time for teachers with the stipulation that the cost is not to exceed \$12,000. There was a period of questions and answers regarding the proposal. Beth Currier made a motion seconded by George Entwistle to accept the superintendent's proposal to add the Ed Tech II position to the Pond Cove staff for the period beginning January 5, 1998 and ending June 12, 1998. The motion was approved 7-0.
- 0.
11. Consideration of the superintendent's recommendation to enter executive session
Beth Currier made a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing teacher negotiations. George Entwistle seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Chairman Greer announced the dates of upcoming meetings.

The Board entered executive session at 9:05 p.m.
12. At 9:25 John Ridge made a motion seconded by Kevin Sweeney to enter public session. The motion was approved 7-0.
13. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Greer at 9:31 p.m.

14. A motion was made by George Entwistle and seconded by Beth Currier to approve the proposed contract between the Cape Elizabeth School Board and the Cape Elizabeth Education Association (Teacher Bargaining Unit) covering the period from September 1, 1977 to August 31, 2000 contingent upon clarification of the membership of the Athletic Steering Committee referred to in Article VII of the proposed agreement. The motion was approved 7-0.
15. Kevin Sweeney made a motion seconded by Keith Witherell to enter executive session for the purpose of meeting with the Director of Special Education, Claire LaBrie, to discuss personnel issues. The motion was approved 7-0.
16. At 10:35 p.m. Kevin Sweeney made a motion seconded by John Ridge to enter public session. The motion was approved 7-0. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.