

Meeting Minutes

-- [Regular Meeting May 11, 2004](#)

MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2004

Cape Elizabeth, Maine

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Tuesday, May 11, 2004, at 7:30p.m. in the Council Chambers.

School Board members present were:

Marie Prager, Chair

Anne Belden

Jennifer DeSena

Elaine Moloney

Kathy Ray

Kevin Sweeney

Dr. Thomas Forcella, Superintendent of Schools

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chair Marie Prager.

Others present included: Nancy Hutton, Tom Eismeier, Jeff Shedd, Claire LaBrie, Pauline Aportria, Sue Weatherbie, Rebecca Taylor, Michael Irace, Kevin Johnson, Nora Daly

1. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Marie Prager
2. Adjustments to agenda
 - a. An Item 11c. "Consideration of recommendations from the Communication Committee" was added.
 - b. Item 12a was revised to read, "Consideration of Principal's recommendation to athletic fee position for winter 2004-05."

3. Approval of School Board Minutes

Kevin Sweeney made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 13, 2004 as presented. Anne Belden seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

4. Comments by Student Representatives

Rebecca Taylor and Michael Irace, the High School

representatives to the School Board, reported on items of interest from the students' perspective at the High School.

Nora Daly updated the Board on student activities at the Middle School.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

5a. Marie Prager read a letter inviting the School Board to march in the Memorial Day parade on May 31 beginning at Fowler Rd & Rt. 77 at 8:15.

5b. Marie Prager announced that at the recent election, Rebecca Millett and Patricia Brigham were elected to the School Board replacing Marie Prager and Jennifer DeSena. They will be sworn in at the Town Council meeting on Monday, June 14, 2004.

6. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Gail Atkins spoke in support of the Latin Program at the High School urging the School Board to retain it in the curriculum.

RECOGNITION

Richard Romeo was recognized for his volunteer work at Pond Cove School in training students in the Peer Mediation Program.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

8a. Dr. Forcella gave a brief update on the Future Direction Plan.

8b. The Superintendent reported that the Education Foundation has awarded a grant of \$27,000 in support of continuing the laptop initiative to the ninth grade. He explained that this did not take the place of the mini-grants awarded to teachers and did not tap into the endowment.

8c. The Superintendent reported that High School Math teacher David Greely has submitted his resignation effective at the end of the current school year.

8d. Dr. Forcella announced that a letter has been received from Grade 5 teacher Jill Bell with notification of her intent to retire at the end of the current school year.

8e. Dr. Forcella notified the School Board that notification has been received from the State Department of Education that the Learning Results graduation requirements have been postponed for a year.

8f. The Superintendent talked about the fact that a group of about 65 individuals had formed to discuss the impact of the Palesky Referendum if it passes in November. The Superintendent was invited to a meeting to discuss what it would do to the schools. Kevin Sweeney urged the public to get out for the local election

on June 8 and support the Referendum Question #1.

9. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

The three building principals reported to the School Board on items of importance in their respective schools.

10. SCHOOL BOARD SUBCOMMITTEES AND REPORTS

10a. Finance Subcommittee

Finance Subcommittee Chairman Elaine Moloney reported that the subcommittee met prior to the school board meeting where they signed warrants, reviewed appropriations reports, and discussed items including an update on state subsidy and a report that the state has awarded funds for the Pond Cove Building Project for the Revolving Renovation Fund in the amount of a \$200,000 grant and an \$800,000 interest free loan (meaning a savings of \$175,000 in interest). She reported that more time was needed for the budget workshop, so a special workshop has been scheduled in the Jordan Conference Room at 7:00 on Wednesday, May 19, 2004.

10b. Policy Subcommittee

Policy Subcommittee Chairperson Anne Belden reported that the committee met on May 4 when they decided to form a working subcommittee made up of Anne and the three building principals. They will review the suggestions for revisions to the policy manual presented by Drummond, Woodsum & MacMahon and develop a work plan for the 2004-05 school year. They will meet on June 1 from 12:30-2:00 and on June 10 from 8:00-noon.

10c. Building Committee

Building Committee Chairperson Elaine Moloney reported that the committee will be meeting on May 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Jordan Conference Room.

10d. Communication Committee

Communication Committee Chairperson Anne Belden reported that the committee presented its recommendations to the District Leadership Team. A list of recommendations will be presented under Unfinished Business for the Board's consideration tonight.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11a. Consideration of the 2004-05 School Calendar

The Superintendent explained that no changes have been made to the calendar since it was presented last month. Elaine Moloney made a motion to accept the 2004-05 school calendar as presented. Anne Belden seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

11b. Consideration of the Revised FY 2005 School Budget

It was made clear that the vote would be on the total amount of the budget, not on the cuts of \$267,000 from the amount previously approved. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, May 17 to determine those final cuts. Elaine Moloney made a motion the total amount of the 2004-05 budget will be \$16,555,861. Kevin Sweeney seconded. Jennifer DeSena made a statement "My job as a School Board member is to advocate for the schools and the children of the town who attend them. Students K-12 and their parents comprise almost 50% of the population of this town. Voters of this town showed support of the schools with overwhelming support of the referenda last fall. Unfortunately, the Town Council has given the School Board not only an arbitrary budget cap, but an unrealistic one at that. This budget cap, after all contractual and fixed cost increases such as negotiated salaries and utility costs, as well as the new bond approved by the voters of this town, has left us with a whopping \$15,000 to use to try to move these schools forward. With this budget our schools will not move forward, but are in real jeopardy of moving backward. Given the fact that the Town Council has the right to arbitrarily set a limit on the school budget, I will vote to approve it. I will only vote to approve this totally inadequate budget because without School Board approval our schools cannot continue the business of educating our students."

A vote on the motion was called and it was approved 6-0.

11c. Consideration of the recommendations from the Communication Committee

Anne Belden presented 7 recommendations from the Communication Committee and reported that they have the support of the DLT. They are:

Have School Board representatives at 2-3 parent association meetings throughout the year to get updates and answers to questions.

Place the School Board on the High School and Middle School email lists.

Encourage staff communication to the School Board of special activities and items of interest going on in classrooms.

Extend an open invitation to teachers to make presentations at School Board meetings to share classroom projects, endeavors, or aspects of classrooms.

Develop a series of informational flyers on a range of issues as part of communication.

Post subcommittee minutes on the school web site.

Post subcommittee meeting agenda on the school web site.

Kevin Sweeney made a motion to adopt the recommendations of

the Communication Committee. Jennifer DeSena seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

Anne Belden publicly thanked the members of the committee: Shari Robinson, Kelly Hasson, Julie Tselikis, and Dwight Ely for their dedicated work.

12. NEW BUSINESS

12a. Consideration of the High School Principals' recommendations to athletic fee position

Marie Prager presented the High School Principals' recommendation that Jim Ray be the High School varsity Boys Basketball Coach for the 2004-05 season. She reviewed the process that had been followed. Kevin Sweeney made a motion that the principals' recommendation be accepted. Kathy Ray recused herself. Jennifer DeSena seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

12b Consideration of a request for CEHS Speech and Debate Team regarding out of state field trips

Elaine Moloney made a motion to approve the requests for the field trips as presented. Jennifer DeSena seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

12c. Consideration of the proposed negotiated agreement between the Cape Elizabeth School Board and the Cape Elizabeth Education Association (Food Services)

Jennifer DeSena made a motion to approve the negotiated agreement with the Food Services Workers Bargaining Unit as presented. Elaine Moloney seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

12d. Consideration of the proposed negotiated agreement between the Cape Elizabeth School Board and the Cape Elizabeth Education Association (Bus Drivers and Custodians)

Jennifer DeSena made a motion to approve the negotiated agreement with the Bus Drivers and Custodians Bargaining Unit. Anne Belden seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

12e. Consideration of the proposed negotiated agreement between the Cape Elizabeth School Board and the Cape Elizabeth Educational Administrators Association

Jennifer DeSena made a motion to approve the negotiated agreement with the C.E. Educational Administrators Association. Kathy Ray seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

12f. Consideration of a recommendation to the Building Committee to consider employing an Owner's Representative for the High School Renovation Project

Elaine Moloney explained the role of an Owner's Representative and suggested that in light of the fact that we will have a new superintendent, it might be a good idea to investigate the feasibility of hiring one. It was estimated that the cost would be between \$50,000 and \$100,000 over the year and a half period. After a discussion, Kevin Sweeney made a motion that the School Board recommend to the Building Committee that they investigate the feasibility of retaining an Owner's Representative for the High School Renovation Project. Anne Belden seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

12h. Consideration of Superintendent's nomination to teaching positions for the 2004-05 school year

The Superintendent nominated:

i Mark Ashe, Social Studies Teacher at the High School; Kevin Sweeney made a motion to accept the Superintendent's nomination. Jennifer DeSena seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

Evan Thayer, Math Teacher at the High School; Elaine Moloney made a motion to accept the Superintendent's nomination. Kevin Sweeney seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

Sara Frost, Grade 1; Kevin Sweeney made a motion to accept the Superintendent's nomination. Kathy Ray seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

Lynn Spadinger, Grade 2; Kevin Sweeney made a motion to accept the Superintendent's nomination. Elaine Moloney seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

12i. Consideration of the Superintendent's nomination of continuing contract teachers

The Superintendent nominate the following to continuing contract status. Pond Cove: Karen Dow, Grade 1; Erik Nielsen, Grade 3; Linda Siegmund, Grade 1. Middle School: Maegan Crabtree, Grade 5; Ann-Marie Dionne, World Language; Cheryl Joys, Special Education; Evan Solender, Grade 5; Sally Tamaro, Computer (1 class). High School: Alison Coulter, Spanish; Courtney Ferrell, Science & Math; Thomas Lizotte, Instrumental Music; Dawn Pons, Science.

12i. continued

Anne Belden made a motion to accept the Superintendent's nominations of continuing contract teachers as listed. Elaine Moloney seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

12j. Consideration of the Superintendent's nomination of second year probationary teachers

The Superintendent nominated the following individuals for

second year probationary contracts. Pond Cove: Julie Nickerson, Grade 1; Jacqueline Petrillo, Special Education; Deborah Sampson, Kindergarten (.5). Middle School: Rebecca Bean, Choral Music; Kathy Walsh, Grade 5. High School: Carrie Apanovitch, Social Studies; Elaine Brassard, Special Education; Karen Dyer, Ceramics (.2); Rachel Guthrie, Computer (.6),; Erica Kent, English; Karen Lamb, English; Mary Poker-Page, Social Studies (.4); Kristen Thomas, Choral Music (.6); Jonathan Whitehead, Physics. System-wide: Kristen Frieve and Maureen Messer, Occupational Therapists.

Kevin Sweeney made a motion to accept the Superintendent's nominations. Elaine Moloney seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

Chairperson Prager announced dates of upcoming meetings involving the Board and its subcommittees.

13. Consideration of a request to enter executive session to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation and the Superintendent Search.

Kevin Sweeney made a motion to enter executive session to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation and the Superintendent Search. He stated that the Board will not reenter public session following the executive session. Jennifer DeSena seconded. The motion was approved 6-0.

The public session was adjourned to an executive session at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Forcella, Ed. D.

Superintendent of Schools

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