

A regular business meeting of the School Board was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cape Elizabeth Town Hall Council Chambers.

School Board members present:

Mary Townsend, Chair
John Christie, Vice-Chair
David Hillman
Michael Moore
Joanna Morrissey
Elizabeth Scifres
M. Kate Williams-Hewitt

Student School Board Representatives present:

Abby Donnelly
Sasha Lennon

Meredith S. Nadeau, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Townsend called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. **ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA** - DELETE Item 6a (legislative update).

2. **APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES** –

a) **Workshop, Friday, December 9, 2011** – Ms. Morrissey made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Williams-Hewitt seconded. (Approved 7-0)

b) **Business Meeting, Tuesday, December 13, 2011** - Mr. Hillman made a motion to approve the minutes as attached to the Board packets. Ms. Scifres seconded. (Approved 7-0)

3. **COMMENTS BY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES** – Middle School representatives, Eva Miele and Gabby Raymond and High School representatives Abby Donnelly and Sasha Lennon spoke briefly on items of interest from the students' perspective.

4. **COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS** – *None*. [Per policy BEDH, requests for public comment on non-agenda items must be made in writing to the Superintendent one-week in advance of a school board meeting.]

5. **RECOGNITION**

a) **Christina Kouros** - Mr. Thoreck introduced Cape student and U.S. Cross Country National Champion, Kristina Kouros. Kristina received a silver medal in the sprint and 7K competition, and a gold medal in the 5K. As a result of her performance, she was asked to join Team USA at the Paralympic World Cup to be held in Minnesota and Wisconsin at the end of January.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS**

a) **Legislative Update** – *remove from agenda*

b) **High School Math Dept Professional Learning Community (PLC) Work** - Principal Shedd briefly described the work of PLCs and introduced Charlotte Hanna, co-chair of math department at the high school. Ms. Hanna explained that the math department comes to the PLC model with some well established traits - a specific, sequential curriculum

- consistently taught by teachers with priority learning goals identified and teachers who know what students should learn and when they should learn it. The staff share ideas and materials, discuss scope and pace, administer assessments, discuss student progress and results of assessments. The department is piloting the model PLC program in Algebra and Geometry classes where students will have to demonstrate proficiency in identified essential skills.
- c) **Middle School staff Literacy Intervention** - Principal Connolly explained that literacy PLCs have been working in a similar way as the high school math department described earlier. Staff has been using data readily available to find out which students need extra assistance in areas like fluency/comprehension, reluctant readers, or writing components, etc. Teacher representatives from grades 5-8 - Sally Connolly, Elizabeth Johnston, Paul Casey, Jamie Michaud and Amanda Kozaka - spoke about current initiatives.
 - d) **Proposed Budget Meetings calendar** - Ms. Townsend asked members of the board to review the proposed meeting schedule and to let her know if they had any conflicts. Superintendent Nadeau asked for guidance around whether the budget meetings should continue to be video taped.
 - e) **Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent Nadeau said that two draft school calendars for 2012-13 would come out shortly for feedback. One is similar to the current and the other proposes a mid-March break in lieu of the traditional February and April breaks; The Maine Data Warehouse will be coming online shortly and will provide useful comparison data about all Maine schools; the next 'coffee chat' will be on January 21 from 9-10am in Community Service; The Mission/Vision work continues. Before December break K-12 teachers provided input, and later this month there will be meetings with high school and middle school students. Community meetings will be offered on Jan 26 at 7pm and Jan 28 at 10am in the Pond Cove Cafetorium; School administrators have begun 2012-13 budget planning work.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Consideration to approve High School World Affairs Council Trip to Boston University Model United Nations, February 24-26, 2012** - Ms. Morrissey motioned for approval as presented. Mr. Moore seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- b) **Consideration to approve High School Escalante Canyoneering trip to the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, Utah, April 14-21, 2012** - Jason BreMiller briefly described the proposed week-long trip, as well as his background as a NOLS instructor and outdoor programs director at the Taft School and the Hotchkiss School (CT) leading both national and international excursions. Mr. Hillman expressed concern with the unusualness of the trip and the possible risks. Superintendent Nadeau said that a standard release for insurance purposes, not the example provided, would be used. Principal Shedd explained that the evening's presentation was so that they might advertise to see if there is even enough interest. Ms. Morrissey suggested that information around anticipated elevations and/or miles to be gained per day might be helpful for parents to make a more informed decision about whether their child could handle the scope of the trip. Mr. Moore requested more information about the school board policy for approving field trip requests (IHOA), so the board could understand what their considerations should be. - Mr. Moore motioned for approval as presented. Ms. Williams-Hewitt seconded. (Approved 6-1; Hillman)

- c) **Consideration to explore viability of iPad use by School Board** - Mr. Hillman motioned to table consideration to discuss whether to explore iPad use by school board. (Approved 7-0)

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** –

Policy: Mr. Christie reported the computer use policy as it relates to updates for iPad use is being revised with the goal of getting the policy to the board for approval by the next business meeting.

9. **SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA REQUESTS** – *none*

- 10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING MEETINGS** - Policy Committee meetings will be held on the Monday preceding the school board business meeting for the remainder of the school year, at 7:30 a.m. in the Jordan Conference Room. The Negotiations Committee will meet Thursday at 3pm. Legislators will meet with school and town representatives on Friday at 9 am in the Jordan Conference Room. The Board Workshop will be held at 6:30 pm on January 24 in the HS Library. The agenda will be district demographics, staffing methodology, instructional support and any program changes. The Finance meeting will immediately follow the Workshop. *All meeting information can always be found on the district web site.*

- 11. **ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Christie made a motion for adjournment. Ms. Morrissey seconded. (Approved 7-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Meredith Nadeau
Superintendent of Schools