

The Cape Elizabeth School Board held a Budget Workshop meeting on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 in the Cape Elizabeth High School Library & Learning Commons. The meeting began at 6:30 pm. and was videotaped to be posted online.

John Christie David Hillman Susana Measelle Hubbs Michael Moore* Joanna Morrissey** Elizabeth Scifres M. Kate Williams-Hewitt

WORKSHOP MINUTES

Superintendent's 2014-2015 Budget discussion -

Kindergarten; Athletics; Technology; staff and student support, contingency, revenue, undesignated fund balance, three-year planning, budget adoption

~ Opportunity for public comment ~

Finance chair, Michael Moore, opened the meeting with some brief updates: district health insurance premiums are still not known, a revised state subsidy estimate amount has come in \$87,000 lower than superintendent's budget presented and that new figure has now been reflected, and there is a proposal in the legislature to return some state general purpose aid to education to communities, and negotiations continue with the teachers' union.

Members of the public wishing to speak to items on the evening's agenda were:

Lisa Melanson (Rock Wall Ln, HS teacher) – the High School English Dept. staff would like summer professional development time to work on providing input on strategic plan measurements. Concerned with using the SAT as one of those measurements.

Ann Leonardi (Fowler Rd) – full day kindergarten supporter. Would like district to move forward with either full or half day, not both.

Diana Tighe (Peppergrass Rd) – speaking to enrollment. In her Cross Hill neighborhood there are 8 homes for sale, with only one family moving out of state the other 7 families plan to remain within Cape Elizabeth. There are also 6 house lots available. There are 62 homes (not including lots) currently for sale in Cape Elizabeth. Concerned with class sizes.

Roxanne deVries (Stonybrook Rd) – class size concerns, interested in November survey results, full day kindergarten should be equal for everyone

Bill Gross (Sea View Ave) – capital improvements and bonding increases and debt service. Agrees with CIP but proposes going to 12 years so don't have to borrow to save interest.

[parent] - concerned with class size guidelines, having enough teachers in the classroom and student improvement

Kindergarten program, athletics, technology, staff and student support (curriculum), contingency, revenue, undesignated fund balance, and three-year planning were reviewed.

Kelly Hasson provided an updated kindergarten start up expense document. She said that through utilization of Facilities Office vendor resources the original estimated expenses for full day kindergarten implementation were reduced by \$5,900.

Following Board discussion, a school expenditure line increase of \$111,000 (to \$23,314,924) and a reduction to undesignated fund revenues of \$100,000 (to \$400,000) was proposed. The Superintendent will make the proposed updates for further review at a future meeting. The board unanimously expressed their support for proceeding with the full day kindergarten program.

Adjourned 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Meredith Nadeau
Superintendent of Schools