

A Regular Business meeting of the School Board was held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in Cape Elizabeth Town Hall Council Chambers. An Executive Session immediately followed.

School Board members present:

Kimberly Carr  
Susana Measelle Hubbs, Vice-Chair  
Joanna Morrissey  
Barbara Powers  
Elizabeth Scifres, Chair - *arrived at approximately 7:35pm*  
John Voltz

Cathy A. Stankard, Director of Teaching and Learning

*Absent:*

Heather Altenburg  
Howard P. Colter, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Maggie Gleason, Student Representative  
Kinnon McGrath, Student Representative

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

1. **ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA** - *Item 6c addressed out of order/first; Item 6d re-phrased to remove option to 'adopt' and will instead return to the policy committee.*

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

- a) Executive Session, Tuesday, April 11, 2017
- b) Regular Business, Tuesday, April 11, 2017
- c) Workshop, Monday, April 24, 2017

- Ms. Morrissey made a motion to approve the slate of minutes as presented. Ms. Powers seconded. (Approved 5-0)

3. **COMMENTS BY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES** - *none*

4. **COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS** - Ms. Measelle Hubbs invited members of the public to speak to items on the agenda.

*Ruth Anne Haley (Brentwood Rd) - questioned the proposed school budget and CIP, and proposed \$5M school bond mentioned at last evening's Town Council meeting.*

*Catherine Miller (Old Ocean House Rd) - spoke to CE schools' decline in recent national rankings.*

*Paul Sidon - questioned that this was the time to address items ON the agenda.*

*Jim Sparks (Woodcrest Rd) - member of group proposing 'save haven' resolution.*

Lillian Frame (Dermot Dr) - spoke in support of CE school's proposed resolution.

Raina Sparks (Woodcrest Rd) - spoke in support of CE school's proposed resolution.

Haleema Shir (Ocean House Rd) - read her spoken word (poem) written following an incident in which she was targeted

Jill Frame (Dermot Dr) - spoke in support of CE school's proposed resolution.

Gregg Frame (Dermot Dr) - speaking in support of CE school's proposed resolution

M.Nasir Shir (Ocean House Rd) - former refugee from Afghanistan, attended Portland Public Schools and Waynflete, chose to live in Cape Elizabeth; hoped that CE will support proposed resolution.

Jeff Shedd (Woodland St) - spoke in support of CE school's proposed resolution.

## 5. COMMUNICATIONS -

- a) **U.S. News & World Report's Best High Schools** – Jeff Shedd spoke briefly about rankings which were based on 2014-2015 testing. Very early, parents began opting their students out of the Smarter Balanced test used for this publication's ranking. District wide, less than 50% of students took the test. Before the testing closed, the state announced the Smarter Balance testing would be discontinued after that year. This is not how the majority of Cape students prepare for standardize testing.
- b) **Budget presentation to Town Council update** - Elizabeth Scifres said that on April 25 the Board presented its budget to the Town Council. Following a lengthy discussion, the Council took a straw poll with a majority in favor of moving the proposed school budget as presented to the next stage in the process. On May 15, the Town Council will vote to send the school budget to a public referendum on June 13.
- c) **Cape Diversity Coalition's resolution** - Following public comments portion of the meeting, Ms. Measelle Hubbs made a motion to move this item to a new business (action) item for adoption this evening. Ms. Morrissey seconded. (Approved 6-0)
- d) **C.E. Graduation Standards** - Cathy Stankard said a draft is being presented. High School diplomas will be awarded on a set of eight standards aligned to the Maine Learning Results. These standards were drafted by high school teachers and vetted by middle school teachers. All curriculum will become aligned to these standards.
- e) **Superintendent's Report** – Ms. Stankard briefly updated the Board on items of interest within the district on behalf of Interim Superintendent Howard Colter. Anthony Ghidoni, high school teacher; Faith Barnes, elementary school counselor; and Greg Marles, district facilities and transportation director have resigned. Emergency response plan work is on-going. In order to address some rumors that have been floating about, there are no plans for the school department to out-source custodial services.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **MOTION: To affirm and support the Cape Diversity Group's proposed Resolution Establishing Cape Elizabeth Schools as a Safe Haven for Students and Families of Every Race, Religion, Nationality, Gender, Ethnicity or Sexual**

**Orientation.** - Ms. Measelle Hubbs made a motion. Ms. Morrissey seconded.  
(Approved 6-0)

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CAPE ELIZABETH SCHOOLS AS A SAFE HAVEN FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF EVERY RACE, RELIGION, NATIONALITY, GENDER, ETHNICITY OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

*WHEREAS, we are alarmed by the recent escalation of hateful rhetoric against Muslims, those perceived to be Muslims, immigrants, people of color and other religious minorities; and*

*WHEREAS, hate speech and discriminatory acts of any kind are unacceptable in our school community as they significantly impact students' psychological well-being and ability to thrive in the classroom; and*

*WHEREAS, members of the Cape Elizabeth school community embrace our responsibility to directly address incidents of discrimination, intolerance, violence or hate; and*

*WHEREAS, we wish to honor the rich contributions made by students and parents of every race, religion, ethnicity, gender, nationality or sexual orientation; and*

*WHEREAS, we commit to creating an atmosphere of respectful listening and dialogue across social and political divides, and reject actions that stifle even unpopular points of view; and*

*WHEREAS, all students have the right to be educated in an environment that is free from fear, and fears may be particularly acute for students and families impacted by federal immigration enforcement activities such as arrest, detention, surveillance and demands for information; and*

*WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court established in Plyer v. Doe (1982) that children have a right to access a free public education regardless of immigration status;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the School Board of Cape Elizabeth:*

- 1. Welcomes students and families of all cultures and faiths, celebrates the benefits of a pluralistic society, and defends the right of every person to live and practice their identity, culture and faith without fear.*
- 2. Will take action to address incidents of hate, violence or discrimination directed toward students or families targeted for their religion, ethnicity, race, nationality, gender, immigration status or sexual orientation.*

3. *Affirms that any student or family member targeted for their nationality, religion, race, ethnicity, gender, immigration status or sexual orientation should be able to turn to school officials for protection without fear of retribution.*

4. *Commits to creating a school environment that values respect for all religions and cultures and actively addresses all forms of bullying and discrimination.*

5. *Embraces the responsibility of schools to educate students about the social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity of the United States, and to teach students to think critically about their own biases.*

6. *Commits to setting an educational curriculum that reflects the values of tolerance, diversity and inclusion.*

7. *Stipulates that Cape Elizabeth school employees, contractors, volunteers and representatives will not disclose information to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers about parents' or students' immigration status unless compelled to do so by a valid court order.*

8. *Declares Cape Elizabeth Schools a safe haven, thus barring the use of school resources for the detection or apprehension of students or families whose only violation of law may be their status as an undocumented resident of the United States.*

b) **Consideration to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Heather Bubier to a first continuing contract in the 2017-2018 school year.** - Ms. Morrissey motioned for approval as presented. Ms. Measelle Hubbs seconded. (Approved 6-0)

c) **Consideration to approve the Superintendent's nominations of new personnel for the 2017-2018 school year**

Kacie Burregi - Behavior Specialist (BCBA) 1.0FTE

Sarah McKeown - HS mathematics teacher

- Ms. Morrissey motioned for approval as presented. Ms. Measelle Hubbs seconded. (Approved 6-0)

d) **Consideration to approve the following job description:**

- Behavior Specialist (BCBA)

- Ms. Powers motioned for approval as presented. Ms. Carr seconded. (Approved 5-0; Scifres absent)

- e) **Consideration of ~~to review~~ the following policy for second reading only and adoption: (No vote)**

- IJOC – Volunteers

- Policy committee chair Ms. Powers requested additional time for the committee to review new changes following community feedback. A new draft was shared.

- f) **MOTION: Pursuant to 20-A MRSA sections 1486(2) and 2307, the form of Notice of Amounts Adopted at Town Council Meeting be approved, and that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized and directed to complete said Notice in accordance with the meeting at which the school budget is approved, and to cause said notice, as completed, to be delivered to the Town Clerk for display at all polling places for the school budget validation referendum to be held following the meeting at which the Town Council approves the school budget.** - Ms. Morrissey motioned for approval as presented. Ms. Measelle Hubbs seconded. (Approved 6-0)
- g) **Consideration to approve the following 2016-17 athletic personnel nominations** - Ms. Measelle Hubbs motioned for approval of the slate as presented. Ms. Morrissey seconded. (Approved 6-0)

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Will Russell	Lacrosse, boys' gr 7
Aaron Agrodnia	Lacrosse, girls' gr 8
Jayne Rudberg	Lacrosse, girls' gr 7

- h) **Consideration to accept the following CEEF-awarded grant with a value over \$10,000.** (Pursuant to board policy KCD-Gift Acceptance)
- Creation of a student-based television station for CEHS ~value \$14,837
- Ms. Measelle Hubbs motioned to approve the acceptance of a grant with a value estimated to be more than \$10,000. Ms. Morrissey seconded. (Approved 6-0)

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Susana Measelle Hubbs briefly updated the board on the town comprehensive plan committee. Ms. Powers said the **policy committee** will revisit volunteer, curriculum development, graduation and promotion policies, and look at a revised wellness policy draft.

8. **BOARD AGENDA REQUESTS** – none

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING MEETINGS - Policy Committee** is scheduled to meet next on Tuesday, June 6 at 5:30pm.
10. **ADJOURNMENT** – Ms. Carr made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Measelle Hubbs seconded.  
(Approved 7-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine A. Stankard  
Director of Teaching & Learning  
*Maine Superintendent certification (010)*