

The Cape Elizabeth School Board held a Workshop meeting on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 in the Cape Elizabeth High School Library and Learning Commons. The meeting began at approximately 6:30 pm.

A video recording of this meeting will be available online as part of the workshop meeting materials. <https://goo.gl/Nbzyjk> All budget information can be found online at - <https://sites.google.com/a/capeelizabethschools.org/budget>

Heather Altenburg Kimberly Carr Susana Measelle Hubbs Elizabeth Scifres M. Nasir Shir Hope Straw John Voltz

Ms. Carr was unavailable to attend.

Recordings of all budget meetings, in addition to copies of all documents discussed, are available on the district website - <https://www.cape.k12.me.us> > **School Board > Budget Information**

BUDGET WORKSHOP - MINUTES

School Resource Officer discussion -

Board chair Susana Measelle Hubbs introduced Karl Francis, Principal of York High School, and Falmouth School Department School Resource Officer (SRO) Rob Susi.

Officer Susi began in 1993 as a part-time patrol officer and D.A.R.E./Officer Friendly teacher. The program expanded over the next approximately 6 years and his position became a full-time (teaching) D.A.R.E. officer. In 2000, he transitioned into Falmouth High School to become their full-time SRO, with infrequent teaching responsibilities. Falmouth has just hired a second officer to cover teaching duties ["stranger-danger, good/bad touch, etc."] at the K-8 level. Officer Susi's position is funded by the police department, including salary, equipment/supplies, and professional development. In the summer, he serves as a spare for the police department. Relationship building is a key component of his work. SROs are a resource to parents and students, an extension of the building administrator, and someone who may also be found working with school social workers.

York High School Principal Karl Francis spoke to the importance of having and hiring the right individual to become a school resource officer. An SRO has been in place in York for almost 20 years. Principal Francis considers the SRO an 'extension of administration'. The SRO is the point of contact, along with the assistant principal, for school safety (including drills)/security. The SRO is a welcome presence at school social events like sports competitions and dances. If a student has made a poor choice,

the SRO is highly-trained in proper search/investigation procedures and is available as an immediate resource. There are approximately 555 students at York High School.

Continued 2018-2019 Budget review -

There was further discussion on the proposed second social worker position for Cape Elizabeth Middle School.

A document was handed out from the Facilities Department comparing services provided to the town and school department under the 'one town' concept. It would be discussed, after reviewing, at a future meeting.

Briefly discussed use of unassigned funds/fund balance. Auditors strongly recommend retaining between one and three percent of the budget.

Tuition for students attending PATHS had historically been included within the high school budget. The state will now be paying those fees directly, saving the district just over \$77,000 this coming year.

Superintendent Colter said that school administrators met again recently to discuss any/all options to further reduce the budget tax increase. To come close to 5% equates to an approximate reduction of \$1.25 million. Continuing the proposed study to renovate the school would likely not be an option.

Ms. Measelle Hubbs announced there would be public forums, in order to provide more information and answer questions for interested community members, on Wednesday, April 11 (9am and 6pm in Town Hall). The Board will tentatively meet with the Town Council to provide information on the challenges involved in developing the proposed budget on April 12 (7pm in Town Hall).

The School Budget will be presented for Town Council review on April 24 at 7pm in Town Hall.

Town Charter, Article 4 Section 5, states the School Board shall furnish copies of the proposed budget to the Town Manager at least 75 days before the beginning of the budget year (April 16th).

Superintendent Colter requested clarification on the Board's budget priorities.

The Board in a straw poll concluded they could only have an SRO position if supported financially by the Town.

The Middle School social worker position could likely be funded for a limited time through a special education grant.

The next School Board Budget Workshop will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday, March 29, 2018 in the High School Library.

Adjourned 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Howard P. Colter
Interim Superintendent of Schools