

Chebeague Island School Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by School Committee Chair Elizabeth Doughty. School Committee members in attendance were Courtney Doughty, Nancy Earnest, Jeff Putnam and Geoff Summa. Others in attendance were Superintendent; Ann Kirkpatrick, teachers Mary Train and Heidi Donnelly and community member Beverly Johnson (6:34)

Approval of Agenda for September 5, 2023- A motion was made by Nancy Earnest to approve the agenda for September 5, 2023. Seconded by Courtney Doughty. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Minutes from August 22, 2023- A motion was made by Jeff Putnam to approve the minutes for August 22, 2023. Seconded by Geoff Summa. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Public Comment- none

Correspondence- The Superintendent received information about a new company to ask for a mowing bid for the spring.

Report from the School Committee Chair- none

Report from the Superintendent/Principal- The bus was worked on over the weekend. Kevin noticed a light on when he went to test run the bus routes. Cressey sent a technician to the island instead of having to barge the bus. Last week the staff were together for the start of the school year. We all completed the mandatory training. We shared traditions of the school with the new staff

Report from Lead Teacher- Mary Train and Heidi reported that the first day went well. The new groups are going to allow for more socialization and opportunities for teaching strategies in group settings.

Old Business

Internet Upgrade- After communicating with VoDaVi Technologies about doing the work needed the business office was difficult to communicate with. We made contact with Network Maine to discuss options. We will be contacting other school districts for assistance on finding help with our issues.

Beverly Johnson suggested that we hardwired into our system to see if that helps. She will check back in to help resolve the issue.

Handbook update- Please remember with all handbooks they are a work in progress. A huge thank you to Courtney Doughty and Nancy Earnest for doing the lion share of the editing, formatting and linking information to the handbook.

Motion: Geoff Summa made a motion to approve the current handbook for 2023/24 school year. Seconded by Nancy Earnest. Motion passed 5-0-0.

We will need to post a PDF of the Handbook on the website and send it electronically to all the parents

Back-to-School- The Meet/Greet with the students, parents and teachers was a success. The students got a chance to see their classrooms and meet their teacher. We had 13 of the 16 students or their family attend! Teachers had activities for the students to complete in the classroom and watermelon and blueberries were served!

Water Update- Last week we had a level 2 evaluation of the water and the system it travels checked. The water in the well still has low levels of PFAS but no other contaminants. The issue is when the water enters the building and goes through the different filtration systems. The filter systems were bleached and then flushed. After this process there was another water sample taken. We are waiting for those results. At the current time, we have 2 buckets of water suitable for cooking in the refrigerator. We are using paper plates and bowls and plastic utensils for eating. The students' water bottles are sent home each day to be washed and sent back to school. The school has bottled water to drink.

New Business

Review FY24 Budget Spending for July through current. - The town manager is currently out of the office sick. This report is not available for the meeting this evening.

FY23 budget finalized- The town manager is currently out of the office sick. This report is not available for the meeting this evening.

Policies for Review- Chebeague Island School Toilet Training Policy- the school committee was given a toilet training policy for review before the meeting. The purpose of the policy is to assure that all students are given the same opportunity for success at school.

Motion: Courtney Doughty moved to approve the toilet training policy in its first reading.

Seconded by Jeff Putnam. Motion passed 5-0-0. It was recommended to send the policy as a draft to the PreK parents so they are aware before the policy is accepted at the next meeting.

Other policies for the school committee to review before the meeting; ACAD Hazing, ADAA School System Commitment to Stands for Ethical and Responsible Behavior, DJH Purchasing and Contracting: Procurement Staff Code of Conduct, DN School Properties Disposition. The Superintendent will put these policies on the google document for SC and teachers to work on. We will have a work session next Tuesday, September 12, 2023 from 4:00 - 6:00.

Staffing Update - Our 2 open positions right now are Spanish and Special Education. We will continue to post and update regularly.

For Special Education, we have Mary Holt filling in. We had a meeting last week with Mary Holt, Ann Kirkpatrick, Judy Gove and Anja Haubs to share information and discuss programming.

Warrant- There was not a warrant to sign as the Town Office printer broke this afternoon.

Next meeting is Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

The School Committee adjourned at 7:22PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann C. Kirkpatrick; Superintendent