

Approved Minutes
Caledonia Central Supervisory Union
CABOT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Monday, November 27, 2023 – 6:00pm

Call to Order by Ellen Cairns

Present: Ellen Cairns, Chris Tormey, Jason Monaco, Frank Kampf, Erica Fucello, Superintendent Mark Tucker, Director of Finance Michael Concessi, Principal Rebecca Tatistcheff, Community Coordinator Sonia Scherr

Additions/Changes to Agenda: none

Consent Agenda:

A **motion** to approve the agenda by Chris Tormey and seconded by Jason Monaco. Motion approved.

Minutes from October 23, 2023

A **motion** to approve minutes of October 23, 2023, with amendments by Ellen Cairns and seconded by Jason Monaco. Motion approved.

Public Comment: No public

Principal Report -

Becca wanted to ask the board to look at a long-term/multi year strategy for the campus, not just short-term fixes. The board requested to have this discussion at the next meeting so that they can review the information Becca provided.

A few other items Becca highlighted -

All playground equipment has been delivered.

2nd Annual Harvest meal was this past week.

Exhibitions of learning will be taking place. Exact dates will be placed on the calendar as they are set.

Superintendent Report – Mark Tucker highlighted a few items

Still waiting for suggestions from the State on how to handle the PCB in the gym. Moving at a slow pace. Still testing the air quality quarterly.

Discussion on remediation costs and how they are being covered.

Student Services Report – Act 173 Extraordinary Reimbursement. Mark Tucker explained what extraordinary cost and reimbursement means. SLP & Psychologist – these are being hired as remote services.

Board Discussion

Preliminary FY25 Budget – Michael Concessi was present to go over the draft budget. Some of the points highlighted -

Increase of 3.4 FTE (full-time equivalent) increase from FY24 to FY25. Becca explained the FTE increase between FY24 to FY25. A few employees that were grant funded will need to be locally funded in FY25, a few partial FTEs will be moved to a full FTE, then an addition of a Spec Ed teacher.

FY25 budget is up \$946,000 from FY24.

Drivers to the increase are the following:

- Additional FTEs
- Assessments are up primarily driven by Spec Ed (2/3rd of increase)
- Total Compensation is up (excluding the new FTEs) due to CBA
- Health costs are up 16.4%
- FY23 & possible FY24 Deficit
- Afterschool Program – Mark Tucker did note that Cabot is hoping to receive the 21C Grant to cover this. Sonia Scherr was able to speak on the 21C grant and the funding it provides.

Losing revenue received from the small school grant. Some of the revenue will possibly be made up in the student weighting system put in place by the State.

Mike went over the SU Assessment changes by category.

Superintendent's office – addition of Asst Superintendent position and base salary increase.

Transportation – leasing costs are up.

Michael discussed the Block Grant and how it has been re-designed by the State.

Mark Tucker discussed improving Tier 1 & Tier 2 instruction so that students aren't in Special Education.

Districts are working on initiatives to improve them.

Michael noted that extraordinary cost reimbursement has been improved.

Question on food service line increase – prior year deficit and cost of goods & supplies.

Equalized pupil count, yield rate and CLA have not been released by the State to determine tax rates yet.

The board will set a December date after the State data comes in.

Frank asked if the State could change the CLA rate after the budget is set? Yes, it can happen.

Community Use of School – Discussion on the Cabot Community Dinner being cooked at the school due to insurance language. An Administrator needs to be onsite during a sponsored event at the school.

If Cabot is looking to expand who needs to be onsite for events it needs to be discussed and decided.

Mark Tucker feels it needs to remain being an Administrator that is present. The schools are not allowed to include an outside agency to be a rider on their coverage.

Outside agencies need to have their own liability coverage.

Is it possible to include an acting administrator in the current language? Administrators would not be comfortable with that.

Most events that take place at the school have their own insurance coverage.

This year the school will have a school board member at the Community Dinner but next year they will need to have their own insurance coverage.

Review of Policies: (Discussion) - Tabled

- D8- Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace
- F7- Student Alcohol and Drugs
- C18-Student Self-Expression Flags
- G13- Animal Dissection
- B3 - Board Conflict of Interest
- CB001- Community Service

December Meeting Date - will wait to pick a date.

VSBA Resolutions – Ellen did attend the annual coverage and gave the board's resolution recommendations to the voting member. The VSBA website has the list of the resolutions that passed.

A **motion** to adjourn by Chris Tormey and seconded by Jason Monaco. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nicky Cole