

“Approved”
CABOT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ BOARD MEETING
Monday, November 28, 2022
Cabot School – In person & Zoom
6:00 p.m.

Call to order at 6 PM by Rory Thibault

In attendance: Rory Thibault, Ellen Cairns, Frank Kampf, Jason Monaco, Chris Tormey, Superintendent Mark Tucker, Principal Rebecca Tatistcheff, Director of Finance Michael Concessi

Member of Public: One public member present

Consent Agenda:

Meeting Minutes from October 24, 2022 - A **motion** to accept the minutes by Ellen Cairns and seconded by Frank Kampf. Motion passed.

Addition to Agenda: Discuss doing something for staff appreciation.

Student Report

Principal Report – some points noted

- 3rd/4th Graders working on playground design. Fundraising campaign happening. Planning to go on a few field trips to explore other playgrounds.
- Ended first trimester for HS students.
- Started a new tradition of a Harvest meal in buddy groups. They all played a part in creating and serving the meal.
- Absence rate is pretty high currently due to illness.
- 3 open positions currently. 2 long term sub positions and a para opening.

Discussion on recruitment/retention for the school. Currently a few students are shadowing at the high school.

Superintendent Report – Mark Tucker was present. Some points highlighted -

- Pcb testing is in a lull right now. Gym has been reopened since levels were low enough. At this point it looks like the pcb might be in the gym ceiling paint. Any work done; the State will pay 80%.
- Air ventilation grant – Shawn McNamara is getting proposals for the work.
- Grant seeking assistance to replace the wood chip plant. At this point without any grant funds, it is not feasible.

Student Service Report – Behavior Analyst as started – this position will cycle around the schools.

Board Discussion

FY24 Budget – Michael Concessi was present to go over what the FY24 figures are looking like. Some increases noted are health insurance costs, salaries, retaining grant funded employees and technology. Increase is about \$129k.

Question on IT changes – Server work was needed, computer costs have increased, addition to the tech staff.

Board discussion on increasing Plant Operations budget.

Still waiting on 3 key figures from the State before the budget can be fully built and understand the tax impact.

FY22 – looking to end with a surplus after the final audit.

School Playground – Becca shared with the board the design for the new natural playground. Students worked to plan the design with the playground designer. Students are currently fundraising. There also is a Go Fund Me account. The playground does not need to be built all at once. There are 3 play areas in the design. Becca went over what each area has in it for the students to utilize. The cost of the playground comes in around \$100k. Becca is still waiting to see what the breakdown looks like between the labor and materials. Then it can be taken to the community to see if there are any items that can be donated whether it be labor or material.

This will be a town resource that can be used. Discussion on if there are any grants that can be used for this project.

Students can share/present information to the town select board.

School Climate and Discipline Survey – Survey is to get feedback from families on how things are working, or if they feel like certain things need to be changed. The board worked together to review the survey that was created and make changes as noted.

Board discussion on how to get the survey out to parents.

Staff Appreciation – Letter of appreciation from the board would be nice. Possibly do an appreciation note with a small token that they can take home with them.

A **motion** to adjourn by Frank Kampf and seconded by Chris Tormey. Motion passed.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Nicky Cole