

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 11, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bueno, Ms. Kuechler, Mr. Andersen, Ms. McKenna, Mr. Monroe, Mr. Veitch

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Mrs. Kohler, Mrs. Potter, Mr. Balestracci, Ms. Bouchard

STAFF ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Members of the community and staff

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Kuechler at 6:33pm.

Ms. Kuechler read the recording policies for the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Committee Members: Mr. Andersen, Mr. Bueno, Mr. Monroe, Ms. McKenna, Ms. Kuechler, Mr. Veitch

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from December 14, 2022 was made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Ms. McKenna, approved unanimously, 5-0-1, Mr. Veitch abstained.

Report of the Student Advisory Committee

Mr. Monroe spoke of athletics and other happening at the school.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Receive FY24 Preliminary Budget presentation.

Mrs. Kohler presented. She reviewed the budget process. She stated they first go to the teachers and have them put in their requests to their principals. The principals make sure it makes sense and then come sit with our team. We feel this is very equitable and speaks to the priorities of the District. There are priorities throughout the document. It breaks it down by budget code, staffing, and class sizes. The BCBA is probably the biggest change. We are taking an opportunity to restructure to add a BCBA instead of an adjustment counselor. If this works for this year, we will hopefully negotiate it into the union. We are asking for 4.29% increase. We also built in Middle School Athletics and the Unified program.

Receive draft job description for BCBA.

Mrs. Kulak presented. We would like to post as soon as possible for this. This position would allow us to help children more holistically.

Receive update on storage shed.

Mr. Balestracci presented. We started with the preliminary rendering. The building should be able to support the maintenance and athletics departments. The Committee reviewed the rendering and Mrs. Kohler and Mr. Balestracci stated that we are keeping the historic esthetic and are mindful of that.

Receive update on Afterschool Programs.

Mr. Balestracci presented. We have completed 2 sessions. To date, since we started the programs last year, we have had over 1200 students participated. We hope to continue the success. The Committee enjoyed a video highlight reel of the programs.

Receive update regarding Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School changes.

Mr. Balestracci presented. We started the thirteenth-year program in partnership with Upper Cape Tech. There are some changes to the program due to their funding sources and other things. It has been narrowed to 3 shops. Journeyman Licensure will no longer be covered by the grant and families will be responsible for the cost. We are looking to establish an after-hours program with New Bedford Voc Tech.

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 11, 2023

PAGE 2

Upcoming Events:

Next meeting: January 25, 2023 at EHMS

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Mr. Monroe would like a report regarding vacancies and staffing.

There will be Executive Session without a return to regular session. Motion made to adjourn regular session to go to Executive Session without return to regular session made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Ms. McKenna, approved, 5-0, unanimously. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Andersen, Mr. Bueno, Mr. Monroe, Ms. McKenna, Mr. Veitch, Ms. Kuechler.

Adjourned at 7:17p.m.



Tara M. Kohler
Secretary to the School Committee
Fairhaven Public Schools