

Good morning, everyone! It's hard to believe there is only one more CPC meeting after this one for this school year.

During Tuesday's BOE meeting, Christine Costa presented the proposed budget for the next school year. Ms. Costa is here today to discuss that, so I will not highlight it now. Also, during that meeting, board members gave committee updates, one of which was on the new AI committee headed by Joe Monastero. They discuss the ethical use of AI, transparency and accountability, and curriculum integration, among other things, including a possible policy. The policy committee also reported on early mail ballots and electronic device use. They are looking at the current policy and see how it applies to each building and how it can support the principles enforce the policy. It was mentioned that there have been 70 emails regarding this policy, so while the policy committee works on this and then brings it to the board for consideration if you would like the BOE to consider your opinion on the matter, reach out to them. And finally, Ms. Mona Hecht announced her retirement. Mona, while I wish you happiness and much-deserved rest during your retirement, I would like you to know what an absolute pleasure it has been to work with you, and I appreciate all you have done for our students. You will be missed.

As Ms. Costa is here to help prepare us for the upcoming budget vote, the CPC board has been working hard to prepare for the upcoming Meet the Candidate night, which will take place at 7 pm on May 6th. There will be a few new changes to the format of the night. The first half of the evening will still include a 4-minute presentation stating their qualifications and reasons for running. We ask them to include how they differ from the other candidates and their top three priorities as a Board Member. From there, we move to the pre-curated questions section. CPC looked at the questions that have been asked over the last three years to see if any questions were frequently asked. Beginning with the first two, which will be included in their candidate statements to address areas of concern regarding student achievement, these pre-curated questions will be provided to all the candidates beforehand. From there, we will move to community member questions, which should be sent to the CPC email account before noon on May 1st. Any questions sent in after that will not be included. The CPC board will review the questions and combine any duplicates into one as necessary. Also, cell phones, computers, smart watches, or any other device will not be permitted during the evening by the candidates, and we will have the evening recorded and posted for community members to watch if they cannot attend. Finally, after the summations, we will have each candidate stay for about 15 minutes, where community members can meet them and ask any follow-up questions individually.

The deadline for petitions is April 22nd at 5 PM. Three people have announced their candidacies on social media, and two seats are up this year, so it is important to learn as much as you can about each person to make an informed decision on May 21st.

And as a reminder, if you would like to serve on a SIT committee next year, please be sure to send in your forms, and we are still accepting self-nominations for the CPC board next year. Please let us know if you have any questions.