



Chariho Parent Liaison Newsletter- School Committee Meeting May Recap

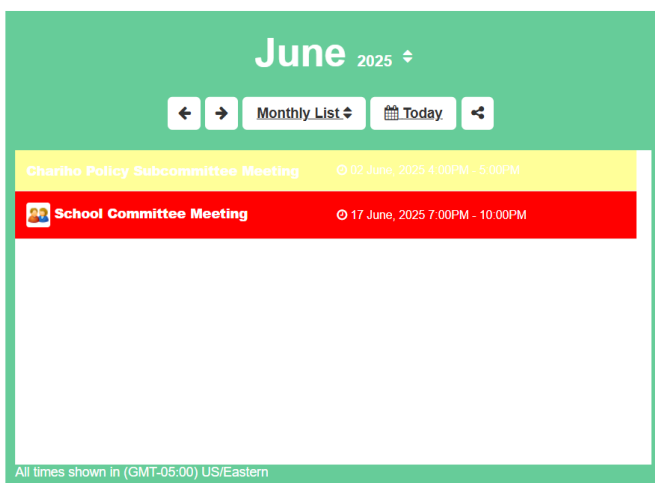
Chariho School Committee Information

[Principals & Ethics
Rules of Conduct](#)

[Members & Contact
Subcommittees](#)

Note: The public is welcome to any meeting of the School Committee or its subcommittees. If communication assistance (readers/ interpreters/captions) or any other accommodations are needed to ensure equal participation, please contact the Superintendent's office at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting. Any changes in this agenda will be posted on the school district's website (www.chariho.k12.ri.us) as well as in the Chariho Administration Building at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting. Individuals requesting special notice of the revised agenda must call (401) 364-7575 to make the arrangements for the same.

Recordings of past School Committee Meetings can be found on the Chariho YouTube page [here](#).

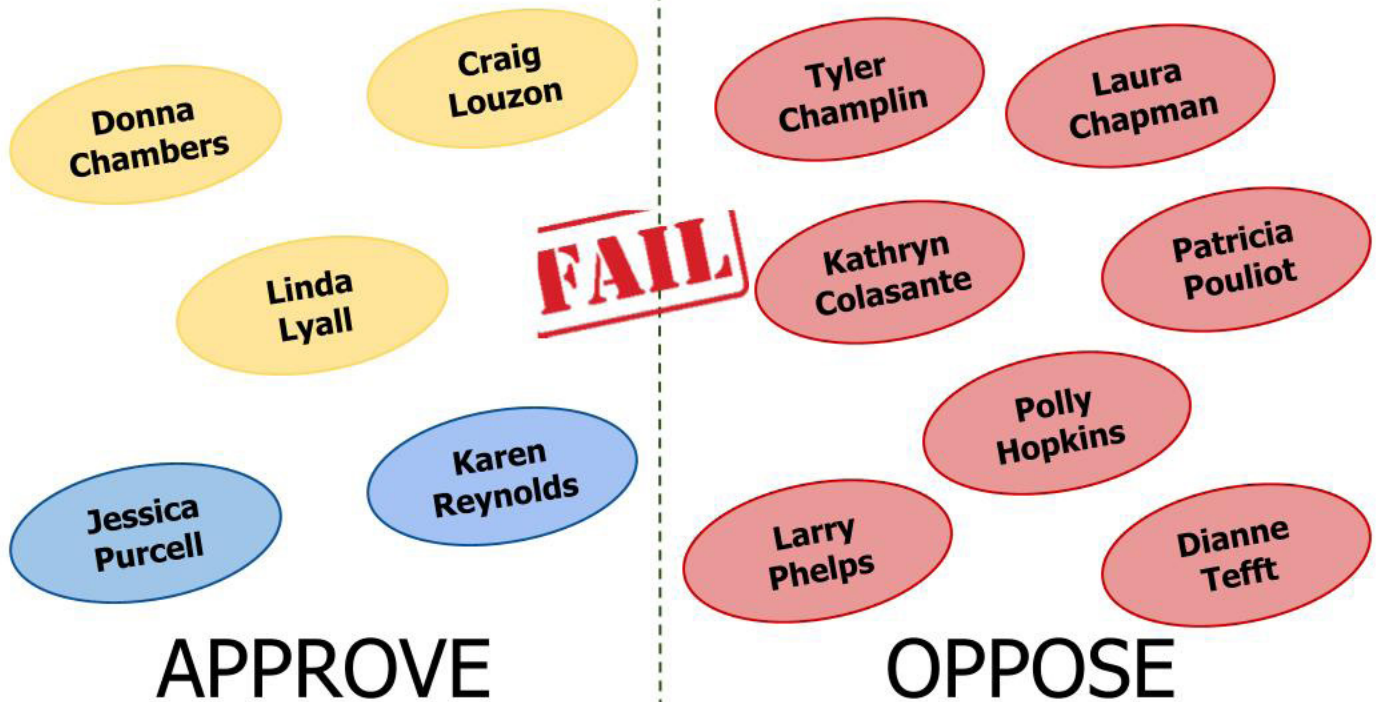


APRIL's QUICK TAKES

PUBLIC COMMENT WAS NOT PERMITTED FOR THIS AGENDA ITEM PER CHAIR DINSMORE.

Consideration of Superintendent's Contract Extension

April 8, 2025



- *Ms Picard*, as allowed by her contract, requested consideration of a one year extension for personal planning as the sole breadwinner in her household.
- *Donna Chambers*, *Jessica Purcell*, *Karen Reynolds*, and *Linda Lyall* gave both positive and constructive feedback.
- *Dianne Tefft* was on the fence. She said feedback from the community was negative- when pressed stated academic progress, availability to general public & parents, (unspecified) "outcomes."
- *Laura Chapman* said she received "up to 100" emails that were mostly not favorable. Though she acknowledged Ms Picard is driven with an excellent work ethic, she would vote no due to issues that came up since the review.
- Other members had not received more than a dozen or so emails.
- *Pat Pouliot* was not satisfied that district is not 98% proficient in reading and math.

- In the past, Ms Picard has declined a salary increase due to level funding.
- A superintendent search is a costly undertaking.
- The public was denied the opportunity to address the committee on this matter. There was about 10 min of public outcry, asking for the right to speak.
- *Louise Dinsmore* became defensive and even disparaged residents attempting to be heard. She would not entertain public comment for fear of violations filed against herself and the committee, and that it would devolve into a performance review in open session.
- The topic went to vote and the public was not pleased. Catherine Giusti requested a roll call of the vote so that the public would know who voted how.
- Motion failed 7:5.

MAY'S OPEN MEETING

Chariho School Committee Meeting 05/13/25 | Chariho Middle School Auditorium

Open Session Convened 7:42 PM | Tyler Champlin Absent | 10:05 PM Polly Hopkins Exited Meeting

[CLICK HERE](#) for recording.

DISCLOSURE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION ([Timestamp: 6:02-7:55](#))

- ✓ **Superintendent decision on independent investigation** - Pass: Louzon, Pouliot, Chambers, Reynolds, Purcell, Lyall Opposed: Tefft, Dinsmore, Phelps, Hopkins, Chapman
- ✓ **Superintendent decision on independent investigation** - Oppose: Tefft, Chapman, Dinsmore, Phelps Pass: Louzon, Pouliot, Chambers, Reynolds, Purcell, Lyall, Hopkins
- ✓ **Second executive session-** Unanimous Pass (to finish executive session agenda)
- ✓ **Move to open session-** Unanimous Pass

CHARIHO PRIDE



RECOGNITIONS ([Timestamp: 8:03-12:23](#))

PUBLIC FORUM (Timestamp: 20:00)- Dinsmore entertained the idea of extended public forum time, allowing 22 speakers 2 minutes each. Louzon set the motion, Purcell seconded. **Discussion:** Pouliot wanted a set end time. Purcell didn't want to set a time. Dinsmore set a time of 2 minutes each for 22 speakers. **Vote:** Unanimous Pass

CHARIHO REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
PUBLIC FORUM RECORD

DATE: May 13, 2025

CNS
Auditorium

NAME	TOWN	SUBJECT
Donna Chambers	Charlestown	April 8th meeting location
Chris Kona	Richmond	Richmond
Justin Bently	Hopkinton	Strong Public Schools
Jeannine Harrington	Hopkinton	Gifted
Mary Mason	Charlestown	Gifted
Trisha Tyler	Richmond	Meeting
Tom Marron	Hopkinton	Charlestown
Derek McInnis	Hopkinton	Schools
Chris Kona	"	Gifted
Michelle McCrae	"	Gifted
Elizabeth Dalton	"	Gifted
Jordan Sereno Siniscalchi	"	Gifted
Dora Vasquez Helner	"	Gifted
Michelle McCrae	"	Gifted
Lucie May	Hopkinton	Gifted
William Cotton	Hopkinton	Gifted

CHARIHO REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
PUBLIC FORUM RECORD

DATE: _____

NAME	TOWN	SUBJECT
Virginia Keister	Hopkinton	Teacher Cuts
Patricia Nicolas	Hopkinton	Teacher Cuts
Tom Marron	Richmond	Superintendent
Dora Vasquez Helner	Ashaway	Scholarships
Derek McInnis	Richmond	Teacher Layoff Program

Committee members in the public forum will afford the widest latitude to the public in the presentation of their views on the agenda of the Committee. The Committee will not be responsible for the presentation of the public forum. The Committee will not be responsible for the presentation of the public forum. The Committee will not be responsible for the presentation of the public forum.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY (Timestamp: 24:45)

CHARLESTOWN

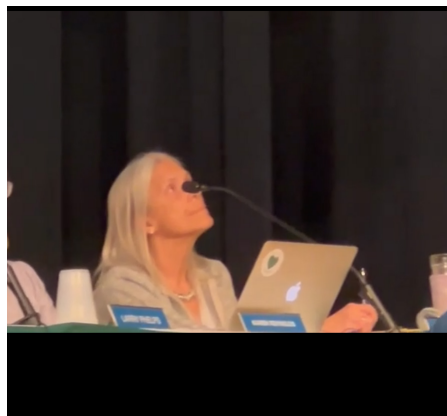
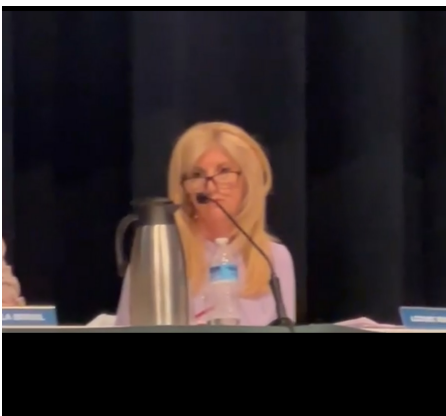
[Donna Chambers](#)
[Jeannine Harrington](#)
[Kathy Soloman](#)
[Anna Marie Louzon](#)

HOPKINTON

[Etta Zasloff](#)
[Justin Bently](#)
[Jean Arthur](#)
[Greg Avedisan](#)
[Elizabeth Dalton](#)
[Jordan Sereno Siniscalchi](#)
[Dora Vasquez Helner](#)
[Michelle McCrae](#)

RICHMOND

[Chris Kona](#)
[Mary Mason](#)
[Trisha Tyler](#)
[Tom Marron](#)
[Derek McInnis](#)



Clips of CSC Members Louise Dinsmore, Diane Tefft and Polly Hopkins during Public Comment

What the Public Said...

We should be celebrating Chariho, not tearing it down from the inside. Taxpayers will be stuck paying for the damage.
Michelle McCrae, Charlestown

Every decision, vote, every policy should be grounded in one question- Does this help all kids?
Elizabeth Dalton, Hopkinton

The latest actions of the committee are a reminder that we must continue to show up.
Jordan Sereno Siniscalchi, Hopkinton

Words of the public cannot violate the OMA, only those of public officials unable to restrain themselves.
Trisha Tyler, Richmond

The school committee should be a constant flexible intelligence.
Jean Arthur, Hopkinton

The best solutions come from open and honest discussion.
Greg Avedesian, Hopkinton

Just after a student presentation the committee, without saying it out right, showed none of that mattered and their leadership wasn't worth keeping.
~Ann Marie Louzon, Charlestown

Re: Chair Dinsmore:
* Lacks leadership skills
* Lacks concern for district's students
* Doesn't use Robert's Rules
Donna Chambers, Charlestown

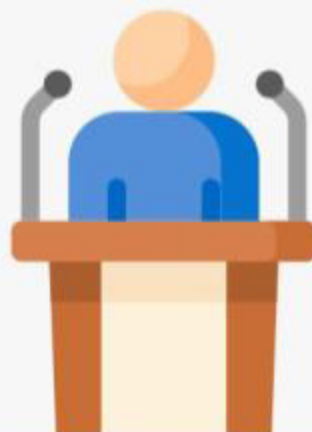
The chair was discredited by hypocritical actions and made it clear she is happy to take our money, but not interested in hearing our voices.
~Kathy Solomon, Charlestown

Broken trust will lead to job insecurity among faculty and staff.
Chris Kona, Richmond

Seek data-driven decisions.
Justin Bentley, Hopkinton

This committee is anything but transparent.
Mary Mason, Richmond

Replacing a superintendent is disruptive and expensive. Put the district ahead of any personal or political agenda.
Jeannine Harrington, Charlestown



Re: Strong schools:
* bring businesses
* attract new families
* keep property values high
* build a community that people want to spend a lifetime in
Etta Zasloff, Hopkinton

QUICK VOTES

BUSINESS CURRICULUM

Jessica Purcell requested "financial accounting" be removed from the document.

Unanimous Approval

GRANT

RI Health and Education Building Corporation
\$25,000.00 for Richmond playground

Unanimous Approval

GRANT

CSIP Grant for CALA
\$129,949.41

Unanimous Approval

GRANT

21st Century Technology & Equipment Fund \$300,00
HS Science Labs

Unanimous Approval

RFQ- STAGE 2 ARCHITECT- ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAPITAL PLANNING

Karen Reynolds asked about time line for submission.

Unanimous Approval

RI ENERGY FIXTURE REPLACEMENT AGREEMENT

Unanimous Approval

RI ENERGY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AGREEMENT

Mr Zenion explained high cost, being outdated, and the district being at increased risk of a cyber attack.

Unanimous Approval

FBLA NATIONALS FIELD TRIP TO ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

Unanimous Approval

TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND FEES ACCOUNT and BUDGET UPDATE AND BUDGET TRANSFERS

Unanimous Approval

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- * Bill Review
- * Permission to Issue Bids/ Request Quote
- * Permission to Award Contracts
- * Home Instruction
- * Grants
- * Donations

Unanimous Approval

Items that engaged in in-depth discussion:

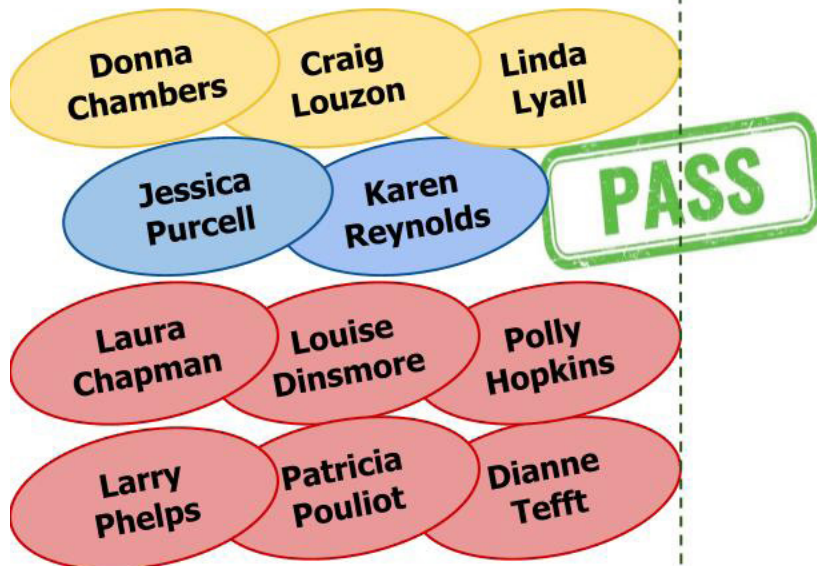
- * VOLUNTARY CHANGE OF ELEMENTARY DISTRICT
- * FUNDRAISING POLICY CHANGE/WAIVER FOR RES PLAYGROUND
- * SCHOOL COUNSELING CURRICULUM

Items that engaged in in-depth discussion (con't):

- * PRE-DEPRIVATION HEARING: NON-RENEWAL OF TEACHER CONTRACT
- * INCREASE OF STUDENT MEAL PRICE

VOLUNTARY CHANGE of ELEMENTARY DISTRICT

May 13, 2025



APPROVE

OPPOSE

Jessica Purcell felt more families need this policy with redistricting elementary school lines and consolidation. It allows students school of choice based on the specialty of their interest. The goal is to address the concerns with the consolidation of schools, transition of enrollment to towns of residence to district enrollment based on transportation lines.

Louise Dinsmore felt this was a conversation for the subcommittee. Due to materials being shared late, she couldn't vote on this.

Ms Picard said this policy doesn't affect how teachers do instruction, the committee can discuss changes because it's a management decision. The policy subcommittee could help get a consensus as long as there is no more than six, creating a quorum. She recommended it to go before the school improvement teams.

Polly Hopkins made a motion to transfer to policy subcommittee.

Laura Chapman seconded the motion.

Jessica Purcell preferred to table until next month's agenda.

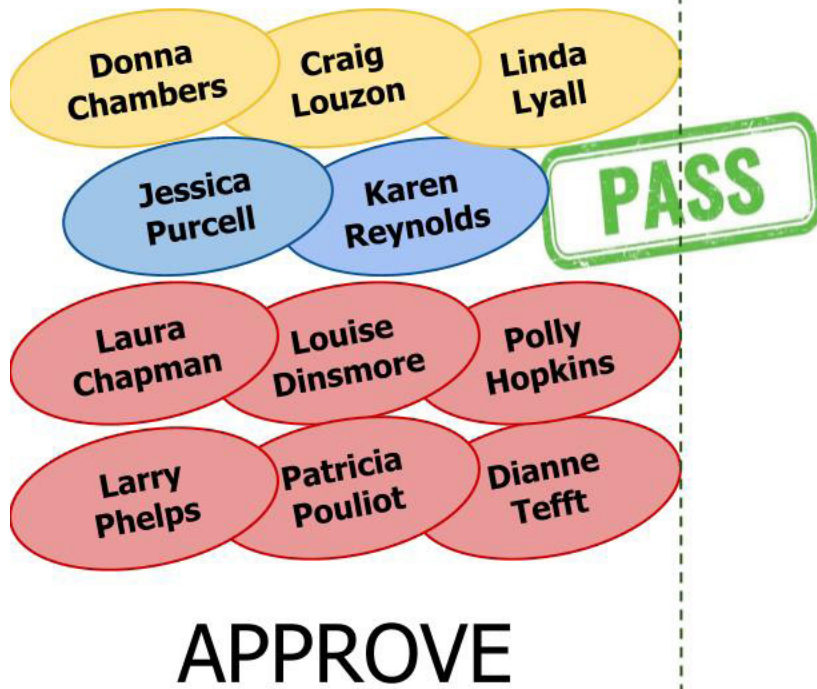
Louise Dinsmore asked if the subcommittee could meet before the next committee meeting.

Karen Reynolds suggested an amendment that if the subcommittee cannot meet in a timely manner before the school committee meeting in June, then it should be moved to the committee's regular agenda.

Amended motion: Approved Unanimously

FUNDRAISING POLICY – CHANGE/WAIVER FOR RES PLAYGROUND

May 13, 2025



Linda Lyall made the motion for the following language to be waived: "Fundraising activities should not be used for the purpose of funding items that should be included in the school budget." Seconded by Craig Louzon.

Mr Zenion advised that it should include Ashaway.

Ms Picard worked with RIDE, the school building authority and district project manager. A solution to incorporate RES playground work for this summer and Ashaway playground for next summer into work with the main campus' capital plan, using capital dollars, allocated from state reimbursements. Both will be addressed with the finalization of Stage II with RIDE for the campus- **Not as the bond, but as the district plan.**

Linda Lyall rescinded her motion. A new motion was made to waive the policy for fundraising by PTO for Ashaway and RES. Craig Louzon seconded.

Public comment: **Thea Brennan** asked for clarification of including school personnel.

Ms Picard answered that it's a Parent Teacher Organization.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

IX. BUSINESS (Timestamp: 1:33:00)

- ✓ A. DISTRICT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING PRESENTATION
- ✓ B. CALA SCHOOL PRESENTATION

These improvements show the power of hard work by our students, the dedication of our teachers, and the strong support from families like yours.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF SUCCESS IN CHARHO

Partially Meeting: A student who receives a partially meeting test score indicates *they have demonstrated some, but not all, of the expected academic skills* for their grade level.

Grades 3-8 Partially Meeting - ELA

Meeting or Exceeding: A scaled score of at least 500

32 students scored a 499
23 students scored a 498
20 students scored a 497

These students missed earning the category of "meeting" by 1-3 questions.
This means **87.6%** would meet proficiency



Grades 3-8 Partially Meeting - Math

Meeting or Exceeding: A scaled score of at least 500

51 students scored a 499
20 students scored a 498
23 students scored a 497

These students missed earning the category of "meeting" by 1-3 questions.
This means **92.2%** would meet proficiency

RUNNING A SCHOOL DISTRICT ≠ RUNNING A

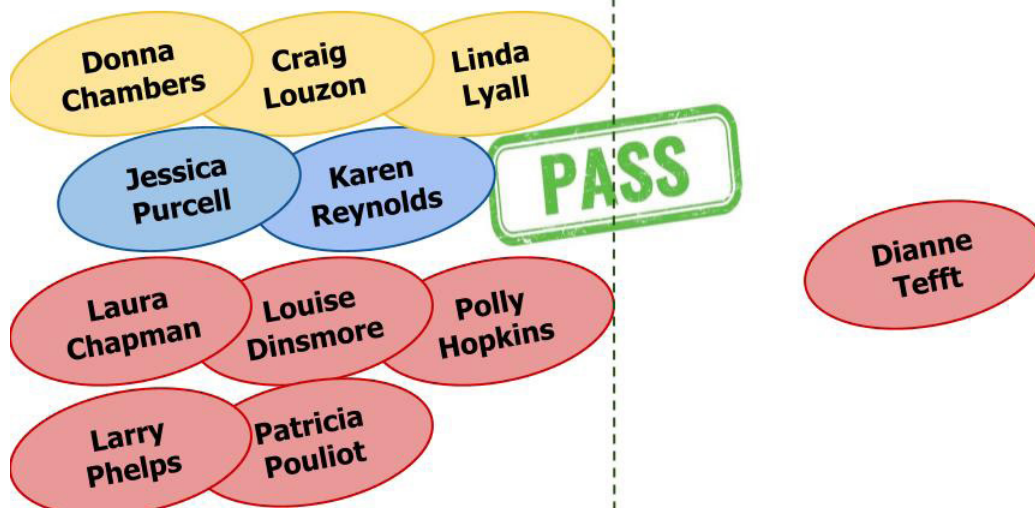
Mission/Purpose	Focused on educating every child -Must serve all students, including those with disabilities, language barriers, or trauma. No "choosing customers." All students are welcome, every child, every day no exceptions	Making a profit -Customers can be targeted or excluded based on market strategy.
Funding	Publicly Funded -Funded by taxpayers. Must follow strict rules about how money is spent (state laws, federal laws, grants, local oversight). Every dollar is publicly accounted for.	Profit Revenue -Companies: Use private investments. Can spend money however they see fit, as long as it's legal and aligns with business goals
Outcomes	Success = academic growth + social-emotional development	Success = revenue and profit growth
Accountability	State/Federal mandates, families, community-Must use evidence based research	Board of directors, investors-Can be Market or trend-driven
Leadership	Superintendent -Every decision must consider the well-being, growth, and equity of all students.	CEO - Can choose their market; targeting who they serve based on what's profitable.

D. SCHOOL COUNSELING CURRICULUM FOR APPROVAL

(Timestamp: 2:12:23)

SCHOOL COUNSELING CURRICULUM FOR APPROVAL

May 13, 2025



Ms Picard recommended approval.

Karen Reynolds moved the motion. Craig Louzon seconded.

Dianne Tefft expressed concerned with the “Mindset and Behavior Standards,” specifically identifying social skills as something that should be taught at home. “Not the school’s job.” She felt it’s like religion and didn’t think that type of education belongs in the school.

Karen Reynolds assured that the district encourages and supports the parental role. The school’s role is to teach kids to handle their emotions in an appropriate manner while at school. That is beneficial to themselves and the classroom.

Linda Lyall supported Karen Reynolds’ comment with an example of a learning environment that teaches kids to be cooperative, good friends at different developmental points in a student’s life.

Jessica Purcell pointed out that kids are learning all the time and in this framework, there are changes with each school stage. Formal counselors are introduced in middle school, whereas at the elementary level, it’s worked into the morning meeting. There are guidelines with boundaries and leaders. Expressed concerns with lack of elementary staff and would like to bridge student engagement.

Dr. Comella clarified that morning meeting at elementary level does embed some of the standards. The district curriculum planning council does include student representation and is reviewed by school improvement teams, which has student representation well.

Ms Picard shared that for the middle school a poll is taken of the students for advisory.

Laura Chapman asked Dr. Comella when it was sent to the SIT teams. (Early to mid-March) She wondered if there were summaries of changes that were made.

Dr. Comella answered that the presentation they received thoroughly explained the changes. The ASA standards haven’t really changed. They aim to reform it.

Dianne Tefft felt that social and emotional learning doesn’t always work.

Laura Chapman commented that during the last health and wellness subcommittee, someone had alluded to absenteeism being a result of taking mental health days. She understood why it may happen, specifically with girls, more frequently than with the boys.

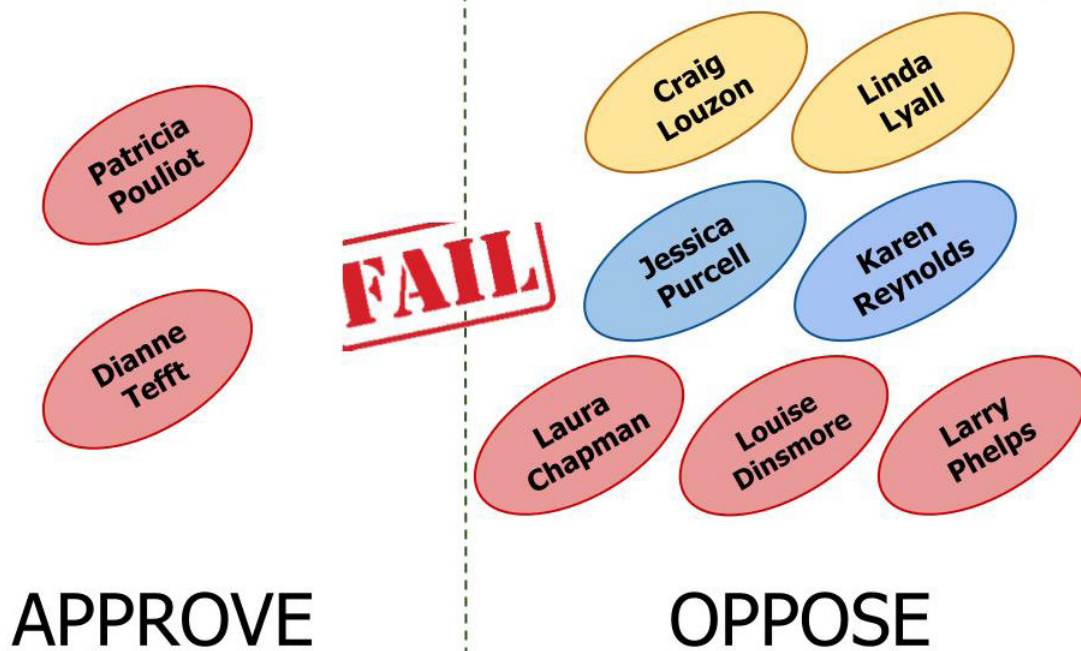
Vote: Motion carried. Opposed: Dianne Tefft

E. PRE-DEPRIVATION HEARING: NON-RENEWAL OF TEACHER CONTRACT-

Claire Leatham- requested-in open session ([Timestamp: 2:25:45](#))

PRE-DEPRIVATION HEARING: NON-RENEWAL OF TEACHER CONTRACT

May 13, 2025



Polly Hopkins requested to exit the meeting to get her son home because he had school in the morning. She'd only "planned until 10." Louise Dinsmore responded, "You've gotta do what you've gotta do."

Attorney Anderson: Stated that this item concerns a non-renewal of a teacher's contract. In 30 years of representing Chariho this is usually handled in executive session, but a teacher has the right to hold it in public session. Explained the procedure-

1. The superintendent has to explain why she is making the recommendation of non renewal or in this case to reduce the hours of the teacher.
2. The teacher is entitled to make a short statement with why she disagrees.
3. The committee then can entertain the motion to support Ms Picard's decision or not.

Ms Picard shared that Ms Leatham is a World Language teacher, teaching French. Based on enrollment and the course requests from students, her position would go from a 5 day/week position to a 3 day/week position.

Ms Leathham spoke to reducing her position. She expressed concern that the French program would be cut entirely after next year. Cutting the French and the Mandarin programs is occurring just as RIDE is making WL more of a priority. She agreed that there has been a decrease in enrollment, not due to interest, but because of a decrease in opportunities. She indicated if Chariho could commit to giving the French program a full chance, not only will enrollment improve, but also a rise in SAT score average would occur, given the documented English vocabulary gains from learning French. Lastly she noted, "The vibrancy from the WL department at Chariho derives partly from offering a variety of languages at all levels. To continue to rank in the top 10 high schools in the state Chariho needs to have a rich WL program."

Public comment: 3 present and former Chariho students spoke in support of the program and "Madame L." cultural diversity- baking program included anyone in the HS that was interested in French culture students need to have choices provides an advantage while applying for college students look forward to this while moving up to HS It builds relationships and gives opportunities for learning experiences. Losing educators of this caliber and WL programs would be an immense detriment. Budgeting is hard, but "What is left when we cut programs that are specifically designed to create leaders in our competitive world." WL programs are an "investment in fostering intellectual, creative and cultural growth." learning a language is an opportunity to excel in other subjects. "Paint WL as a part of being a citizen to the world...it's a part of being human in this generation where communication is more important than ever."

Linda Lyall was impressed with Lucy, Virginia and Penelope for being articulate, and to Ms Leathham... "your kids love you and that says a lot." She felt that a comment a member made during the budget meeting was shortsighted, and being bilingual is important.

Louise Dinsmore stated that the comment was an observation, but "in the end, this committee did not move forward to cut WL."

Laura Chapman clarified she was the one who made the comment when she became aware of class sizes, because her child attends Chariho. Nothing was cut from WL in the budget. She's confused and felt the recommendation to cut the program was coming from the Superintendent, not the committee.

Ms Picard corrected the program is not being cut. Class sizes were discussed and her advice was to not call out specific positions during budget season, because the committee's role is budget dollars and allocation of funds. It is up to her and the principals to take appropriate measures when applying funds, and make staffing decisions. The committee seemed concerned about maintaining classes having low enrollment, and she and her team tried to address that. This year, that resulted in changing a position from 1.0 to .6. Only 20 8th graders were interested in French. She fears the committee is looking to reduce enrollment "in many ways, French is just one example." In the past, giving students opportunities was prioritized. The committee needs to determine what their expectation is for class sizes.

Louise Dinsmore responded that they made an investment in the WL programs and were asking questions to make informed decisions.

Ms Picard noted that decisions are being made based on the budget passed.

Laura Chapman "I'm a new committee member..." She based her comments on her daughter's class.

Point of order to get back on track was made.

Linda Lyall remarked that enrollment is low now. She's concerned about losing WL teachers. With it being a graduation requirement, it may bring enrollment back up, but good teachers will already have been lost.

Ms Picard was concerned that committee members making comments in public causes teachers to sense job insecurity and seek employment elsewhere. Currently, every student can be offered a language, but there is less of an interest in Mandarin and French.

Jessica Purcell thought small class sizes were beneficial for learning and she supported Lyall's concerns about losing qualified teachers.

Ms Picard explained budgetary decisions happen in March and Enrollment is in June. The budget meeting is not the time to highlight enrollment. Smaller class sizes means more opportunities for students (by extension higher class sizes decrease opportunities). The committee is sending mixed messages. To keep the position at 1.0, there won't be enough French classes to give her.

Karen Reynolds confirmed the current freshman class will need 2 full years of WL for graduation, and was curious to know how many are currently interested in French.

Ms Picard answered there were 20, but schedules aren't yet finalized.

Craig Louzon asked about an overall significant decrease, and if they were "cutting off our nose to spite our face."

Ms Picard pointed out that most are interested in Spanish and Italian. Chariho is one of a few schools offering more than 1 language. In the end, she cannot anchor teachers to the district.

Pat Pouliot felt similar to Louzon and wanted to know if the WL program, as a requirement, can fulfill the needs of every student.

Ms Picard responded that there is enough space in all of the world languages for every student to take a WL even with this reduction.

this reduction.

The chair asked for a motion, and no one called one. She attempted to move on to the next item, but Ms Picard reminded her that a vote needed to be taken. The law requires them to make a decision.

Public Comment: Nina Rook-Cast: Expressed confusion about the item listed on the agenda, was it about eliminating the French and Mandarin programs.

Ms Picard said she cannot determine if a program could be cut during budget season, but that virtual high school could be an option. A French teacher was not budgeted. A WL teacher was budgeted.

Public Comment: William Cotton stated that most colleges expect students to have studied the same foreign language for at least 3 consecutive years. What about students already on the French track? When Picard said that virtual high school was an option, Cotton asked what happens if the particular course isn't offered via VHS. He wants an avenue for students currently enrolled in French 1 or 2 to complete French 3.

Laura Chapman seemed confused about the separation between the budget and enrollment. Ms Picard explained again.

Jessica Purcell stated perception was that by reducing this contract, it's eliminating the French program.

Ms Picard clarified that a 0.6 is what's needed to cover French, and that a 1.0 is needed for enrollment in classes. Since Ms Leatham only teaches French, she cannot be used in another subject area.

Karen Reynolds asked if there was a plan to run French I next year and the answer was no.

Ms Picard noted there are 20 8th graders who may be interested in French.

Vote: Louzon, Chambers, Phelps, Reynolds, Chapman, Dinsmore, Purcell, Lyall Opposed reduction Pouliot and Tefft Approved reduction

Donna Chambers suggested the student advocates make a video promoting the course.

G. RFQ- STAGE 2 ARCHITECT- ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAPITAL PLANNING FOR APPROVAL- approved unanimously ([Timestamp: 3:07:35](#))

Begin to plan stage II for elementary plans which will encompass a review of renovation costs and the opportunities for new schools with as many possibilities to discuss the difference between new schools and renovations. Discussion-Reynolds: Questioned the timeline for submission. Picard: Stated if it is not submitted by Feb 15th, the district must pay for Stage I again, this being our 5th round. Dinsmore: Questioned whether the RFQ costs anything (no). Asked who reviews the bids when they come in. Picard: Responded "The Necessity for School Construction" subcommittee; who will then provide it as a recommendation to the committee. Reynolds called the motion. Pouliot Seconded.

J. INCREASE OF STUDENT MEAL PRICE FOR APPROVAL ([Timestamp: 3:15:45](#))

Discussion-Lyall: Asked how much the increase was. Zenion: Responded approximately less than a dollar. Louzon: The subcommittee hasn't been utilized. (Because he was the only member) Purcell: Asked if it could be negotiated down more, though doesn't want to see participation decrease. Zenion: Stated if an increase didn't occur, there would be a \$40,000 deficit in the budget next year. With a lunch cost increase, there will be a projected profit of \$34,000. Purcell: Wanted the cost to be reduced by even 5 cents. **Vote: approved 9:1, Purcell opposed**

G. Grants

H. Donations

Member Louzon read aloud and acknowledged donors, seen [HERE!](#)

Purcell: Requested a subcommittee for the capital plan.

Motion to return to Executive Session occurred at 11:05. Tefft Opposed



Show your Chariho pride! We invite everyone to display a Green Heart to symbolize a strong and united community. Add a Green Heart to your social media, car window, classroom, front door, anywhere you can think of! The sky is the limit! Let's spread the word about our wonderful community and show that we are stronger together and that We are Chariho!

Download this Heart for Chariho Pride!

JUNE...

The Policy Subcommittee Meeting is this Monday, June 2nd at 4PM in the HS \ Library Conference Room. Materials and agenda [HERE](#).

CHARIHO POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

High School Library and/or Conference Room
453 Switch Rd, Wood River Jct, RI

Monday, June 2nd, 2025

4:00 PM

A vote may be taken on any item on this agenda.

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AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approve Minutes from November 2024
- III. Review and Discussion of School Committee Policy Requests and Recommendations
 - Review and Recommendations for the Voluntary Change of Elementary District – requested by Member Jessica Purcell
 - Transportation Policy – requested by Member Jessica Purcell
 - Review and Recommendations to Homework Policy- requested by Member Laura Chapman
 - AI-Generated Products be integrated into the Plagiarism/disciplinary policy – requested by Member Polly Hopkins
 - Automated Call-Out Policy requested by Member Polly Hopkins
 - Videography Policy requested by Member Polly Hopkins
 - Policy for Masks/Masking requested by Member Polly Hopkins
- IV. Previous policy review requests- Updates
- V. Future policies for discussion
- VI. Next meeting date
- VII. Adjournment

Posted May 29, 2025
Office of the Secretary of State Website
Chariho Website
Chariho Administration Building
Chariho High School

IX. Business

- A. FY 26 Budget Adoption - (Louise will lead this discussion)
- B. Referral of the following policies to the Policy Subcommittee and the School Improvement Teams for review within thirty (30) days - requested by P. Hopkins.
 1. Transportation Policy - Member Hopkins is requesting opening discussion on how they can best represent their constituency in this regard.
 2. Policy for Face Masks and Face Coverings-Covid 19 - Member Hopkins is requesting deletion of this policy, citing the following: RIDOH cannot produce evidence to support masking as beneficial; Harms associated with masking (especially children): Learning loss, distraction, unsanitary, safety (being able to identify a person); With an additional request that Chariho High School remove signs that read "Practice Social Distancing"; due to the falsity of this statement.
 3. Automated Call Out System (re: Bond Referendums) - Member Hopkins is requesting a limit of two (2) automated calls from the district, or have this become the burden of the towns, individually, to notify their voters based on current registered voter rolls.
 4. Videography, Photography, and Audio Recording Policy - Member Hopkins is suggesting that "Opt out" provisions need to be re-worked to accommodate families that want their children to participate in all school photos, videos and audio IN HOUSE, without being published on the internet. There is no middle ground with this Opt-out provision. - Requesting referral to SIT and/or Policy Subcommittee as appropriate.
 5. Library Media Policy - Member Hopkins is requesting that this Committee REMOVE and DEFUND the American Library Association from this policy and budget. Citing that the ALA has participated in Political and Ideological initiatives that do not support ALL kids.
 - "Criteria for Selection of Materials" section - #9, would like to add at the end... "...and curated to meet age appropriateness of each student population."
 - "Procedure for selection" section lists RECOMMENDED resources. These recommended resources should be reviewed regularly.
 - "Collection Evaluation" section allows for "trained volunteers" to review the collection. I would like for a library subcommittee to review books that have caused concern with the public over the past few years, pull them out and discuss them PUBLICLY (because if you cannot publicly discuss library books supplied to children, then they shouldn't be supplied to children. It is our duty to guide the curriculum. Doing this exercise will allow us to work with the public, in the most transparent way, to create a booklist for review by the administration.
 - Review the library curriculum (many would like to know how sexually explicit books are "beneficial" to our children).
6. Title IX Non-Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedure - Member Hopkins would like to make sure the most current Title IX document is posted and supplied to all residents, students and staff. (Gina has assured me it is in compliance with the current E.O. by President Trump)
7. Gender non-conforming and Transgender students - Per Member Hopkins -DELETE this singular policy as ALL STUDENTS and staff are covered by the current Title IX policy. I want to send a message that ALL students are individually important, unique in their own right and are free to be who they want to be and can express themselves as such...without SPECIAL policies to "protect" to students who identify as a "special protected class".
- C. Reconsideration of the RFQ for legal services: (Copied from his email: I would like to submit the following agenda item for March 11 school committee meeting - the agenda item is the reconsideration of the RFQ for legal services. I would like the RFQ put forward to be the simple two page RFQ, exactly how Exeter-West Greenwich school district utilized recently, and specify that any interested attorneys and firms' proposal responses to the RFQ should be comparable to the fee structure that we currently have in place. - requested by L. Phelps and supplemented by L. Dinsmore.

Posted Meeting Agenda and Member Hopkins Annotated Agenda from March

Next regular school committee meeting is June 17th, 7PM at Chariho High School Library.

Find meeting agenda and materials [HERE](#).

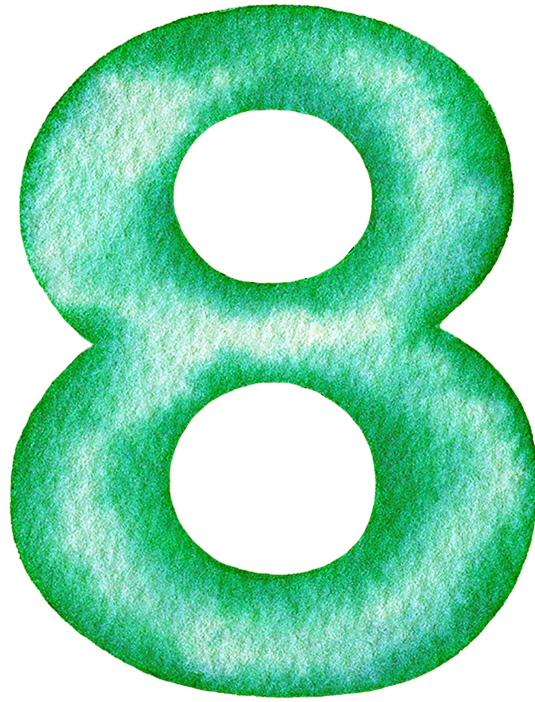


TOWN BUDGET VOTING IN CHARIHO

CHARLESTOWN: MONDAY, JUNE 2
Vote at Charlestown Town Hall 8am – 8pm

RICHMOND: TUESDAY, JUNE 3
Vote at Richmond Town Hall 8am – 8pm

HOPKINTON: TUESDAY, JUNE 10
Vote at Hopkinton Town Hall 8am – 8pm



Eight

Seats Are Up In 2026

CHARLESTOWN	HOPKINTON	RICHMOND
Laura Chapman, R	** Tyler Champlain, R	** Louise Dinsmore, R
** Donna Chambers, I	** Polly Hopkins, R	** Patricia Pouliot, R
** Craig Louzon, I	** Larry Phelps, R	Jess Purcell, D
** Linda Lyall, I	Dianne Tefft, R	Karen Reynolds, D
**Seat up for election in 2026		

RUN FOR SOMETHING if you want better for our community!