

Magnet Committee

Minutes

September 8, 2025

7:30

Present: Jennifer Selendy Chair, Sky Purdy, Member

Others: Cornelia Brown, Superintendent of Schools, Kate Legere, Principal

1. Review of Magnet Tuition Revenue: Budgeted versus Received: Dr. Brown reported that there is a \$(40,763) difference between what was budgeted for Magnet tuition revenue and what Islesboro can expect to receive. She noted that this is a large amount to try and make up in other area(s) of the budget and told the Committee that one (1) of the three (3) vacant positions may need to be frozen in order to make up the deficit.
2. Current Magnet Student Count by Grade: Mrs. Legere shared with the Committee a count of Magnet students by grade. This table will be shared with the full School Committee at its September 15 meeting.
3. Magnet Coordinator Job Description: The Committee moved this item to the end of the agenda and instead, moved to the next item(s).
4. Promotion of Magnet Coordinator Position: Mrs. Legere shared with the Committee that flyers were created and distributed at several libraries around the island. Functions were held but attendance was sparse. Some advertising was done in a local paper. The Magnet Committee then discussed myriad factors they believe are impacting enrollment, and sustainability, at Islesboro Central School. Among the items considered, the committee included the lack of affordable housing, coordination with other islands who are experiencing similar issues, a sustainable labor force, and potential tax incentives that may be provided to families relocating to Islesboro. Mr. Purdy noted that other businesses on the island including the Island Market, Boardman Cottage, etc., are also experiencing staff shortages. The Committee is concerned that there is very little rental property available on Islesboro. The Committee also heard concern(s) that islanders who are not year-round are buying property on the island for their staff. The Committee wishes to coordinate with the Town of Islesboro on these challenge(s) and asked Dr. Brown if either Mike Nelson or Tom Tudor would be able to attend in the future, possibly in October. Mrs. Legere shared with the Committee that Magnet students that left during the summer were interviewed to ascertain why they no longer wished to attend Islesboro Central School. The reasons given varied, including a larger social population, more/varied classes, friends, and the commute back/forth to Islesboro.
5. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40