



**PROVINCETOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MEETING
PROVINCETOWN HIGH SCHOOL
ELMER I. SILVA LEARNING CENTER
12 Winslow Street
PROVINCETOWN, MA 02657**

**TUESDAY, March 12, 2013
5:30 P.M.**

Members Present: Kerry Adams, Cass Benson,
Jamie Kryszkiewicz (arr 5:38), Shannon Patrick,
and Lory Stewart

Staff: Dr. Beth Singer, Superintendent
Kim Pike, District Principal

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.

AGENDA

Public Comments

Tony Brackett had comments for the PSC. He offered congratulations on having the FinCom approve the budget. He said it was a great job and a 16% budget cut was huge.

Minutes: January 22, 2013, February 5, 2013

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the January 22nd meeting as amended.

Motion: Lory Stewart Seconded: Kerry Adams
Vote: 3 in favor 2 abstentions: CB & JK

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the February 5th minutes as amended.

Motion: Lory Stewart Seconded: Jamie Kryszkiewicz
Vote: 3 in favor 2 abstentions: KA & SP

Superintendent's Update:

▪ **Retirement-Personnel Change**

It was sadly announced that Head Custodian, Larry Brownell, is retiring . He has been with the School Department for the last 38 years. There will be interviews conducted for his replacement at the end of March. In the interim, Michael Smith will be filling in.

▪ **Progress Report on PHS Restoration**

Mr. Almeda said the weather has been in the way and he needs two decent days to bring in the lift. Bottom line: we are quite a bit behind schedule.

There had been legal obstacles which came from the competitor that we didn't select. Town Council, Mr. Georgio, handled that beautifully and the problem is no longer an issue.

Beth had hoped to submit a Green Communities Grant for the heating system at PHS but we are not allowed to apply this year because the town currently has an existing grant. Maybe a year from now we'll be able to submit one.

The Massachusetts School Building group called today with a few questions. The first opportunity that any school will have will be June 5th which is the date of their next board meeting. It is unlikely that we'd be able to access their funding this summer - so depending on the timing - any money that we expend prior to their involvement is not likely to be reimbursed. (They don't even want us to have a plan until they are involved.)

Mr. Almeda is not sure where in the process the roof will fit but he will study the possible opportunities.

Jamie K. asked - where are they in the completion of the VMCC heating system?
Ans: They won't be done in time to meet the deadline of March 21st which includes all the paperwork. We will continue trying to find ways to relieve the free cash that has been allocated to us.

Lory S. asked - how did it go with the CPC? Ans: We were successful – to a degree - and received half of what we asked for, \$200,000.

▪ **PYP IB Visitation**

The school will be visited by 2 IB educators for PYP verification on June 13th and 14th. We're putting together an agenda and – also - they give us a template to fill in. The visits will include visits in the classroom and to anyone who has been involved with the implementation. We'll be inviting people in to meet with the visiting team. Within 30 days, they will make a decision on our application.

Beth explained that it's similar to an accreditation process. They are looking to make sure we are doing what we say we are doing, as well as the involvement of the community.

Should we pass muster – the verification will take place by the fall.

▪ **MYP Trainings**

A list of participating teachers was given. If people are wondering how we can afford all this travel, it's all paid for by grants.

Beth said that many of our teachers have gone and are scheduled to go out on IB trainings. They are great trips for the trainees and each will be in their own specific field.

▪ **Administrative Assistant Office Move**

As an experiment with administrative restructuring, Laura Grandel is housed in the new library of the VMCC. Her presence adds administrative support to the early learning center, as well as increased security.

▪ '31-13' Upcoming Events

On April 12th there will be Alumni Basketball games and shooting contests in the PHS gym beginning at 6:00 p.m. On April 27th the PHS Class of '13 will be hosting an Historical Exhibition for public viewing at PHS – time is 2:00 p.m. Also, Alumni hockey games on April 13th at 6:00 p.m. and on April 14th starting at noon is the Portuguese Pot Luck at the VFW.

Unfinished Business:

NRSD meetings

Beth announced that part of the tuition agreement with Nauset was that the PSC can sit in on Nauset Board meetings. Beth asked – How do you want to handle this? Would you like to designate someone to represent PSC or what.

Lory suggested - if we get a copy of the agenda for Nauset – how do we respond? The agenda will be sent directly to Beth – who, in turn - will send it to everyone. Beth will then wait to see if anyone volunteers to go to the meeting.

There will probably be nothing on their agenda relating directly to tuition.

New Business:

Policy Manual-Sections J, K & L-1st reading

The packet handed out contained the first reading of the last sections of our policy manual. When you have completed these sections we will have accepted all the sections “in form.”

Lory said there were many changes because we have eliminated the high school. It is hoped that the entire manual will be adopted for September 2013.

Senior Class Trip

The last senior class trip will begin on May 31st and conclude on June 3rd. They will be staying at the Hyatt Regency Newport on Goat Island and will be making use of the spa as well as touring some of Newport, Rhode Island.

Motion: Move to accept the senior trip as detailed in their request form.

Motion: Jamie K.

Seconded: Kerry A.

Vote: 5-0-0.

Superintendent Annual Search

It is that time of year again. The Superintendent’s position was advertised and we received two responses. One person had all the proper licensures but no experience and the other didn’t have the proper credentials.

Beth said the decision to interview the candidates – or not – was the PSC’s to make.

Motion: Move to send a letter to the applicants saying thank you but the position has been filled.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Cass Benson Vote: 5-0-0.

The chair will send out a letter to each of the two candidates informing them of the PSC’s decision.

Lory then asked about the mid-year evaluation of the Superintendent. It should have happened today but Beth has been out sick – thus the delay. It will be in April.

Adoption of New Article XVI

We have become aware of an issue of contractual inequities related to temporary absences. The packets given out to members of the PSC have the existing language for sick leave and personal leave and the negotiated changes. This language has to be accepted by the PSC as well as accepted by the union members (PAE).

The effect of these changes on sick leave buy back was discussed.

Motion: Move to accept the proposed language changes in Article XVI.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Lory Stewart Vote: 5-0-0..

PSC Comments

Cass Benson said that at the January 28th meeting the PSC voted to file a complaint with the Attorney General’s office regarding a violation of the open meeting law. Unfortunately there is a 30 day rule and the complaint wasn’t filed within that framework.....thus, there will not be a complaint filed.

Cass also said that she was sorry that she wasn't around for the budget meeting but gave her thanks to all who attended. \$900K was the entire budget cut and yet we've had a 25% growth rate. She sincerely thanked all the members and Beth for their hard work on the budget and additionally thanked Beth for developing and spearheading the IB program.

Beth wasn't at the Monday FinCom meeting but noted that our difficulties with the FinCom may not be over.

Tony Brackett attended Monday nights meeting of the Finance Committee and said that Michael Canizales, Vice President of the FinCom, was responsible for Article 30 for the Annual Town Meeting which deals with the new police building. Everyone knows that the Building Committee was created to look into this. The BoS decided to hold off on placing this on the ATM agenda because the Building Committee needed to do more investigating. A bit more drama about this was revealed by Tony and the tempest in the proverbial teapot continues.

The meeting, Tony continued, was opened by the reading of a letter by Candace Nagel. Then the Town Moderator – Mary Jo Avellar – blasted Candace at the meeting on a personal basis.

Cass said that she had seen an example of this behavior. The particular FinCom member under discussion presented himself as an expert in the building trade and – as a consequence – recommended the repairs to the high school – until now we've run into a whole lot of disagreeable weather and unfortunate delays, waiting until ATM would have been a disaster.

Tony, talking about the relationship between the school and the town, suggested giving free tickets to Board members as well as members of the community to school events.

Motion: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. due to exhaustion of subjects.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Lory Stewart Vote: 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Gaudiano

E. Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by: Provincetown School Committee on April 9, 2013.