

**PROVINCETOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
PROVINCETOWN HIGH SCHOOL
ELMER I. SILVA LEARNING CENTER
12 WINSLOW STREET
PROVINCETOWN, MA 02657
TUESDAY, January 21st, 2013**

Members Present: Cass Benson, Kerry Adams, Shannon Patrick, Athony Brackett, Liz Lovati (5:35)

Members Absent:

Others: Dr. Beth Singer, Superintendent

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30

2. Roll Called: (See above)

3. Public Comments: None

4. Minutes of December 10th

Motion to accept minutes of December 10th as printed

Motion: Anthony Brackett Seconded: Cass Benson Vote: 3-0-2

5. Superintendent's Update

5.1 Exterior Restoration

The exterior restoration continues, we are substantially complete and working on the punch-list. We are over-time but under budget. Currently by around \$500,000. Work will be completely finished in the spring.

5.2 IB Visitation

The IBO is coming for a verification visit on February 10th and 11th. Three members from the IBO will come and meet with members of the school and community, tour the facilities and then write a report for us and the IBO. We will know by the end of the school year if we are verified for MYP, as we expect to be.

6. Unfinished Business

6.1 Community Education

Community education was not as successful as we had hoped it would be this winter – we offered around 15 classes, but only 2 had enough people to run – woodworking and yoga. We had planned on offering a spring session starting in March, but need to consider if we want to do this or not.

Cass Benson: Was there different advertising this year?

Beth Singer: Yes, there was more. So the question is, should we offer a second session?

CB: When would it be?

BS: After February Vacation, starting either the last week of February or first week of March.

Kerry Adams: Would hate to give it up – been a tough winter for people, that might have a bearing.

Anthony Brackett: Maybe we need a different approach, could we ask people what they would like to see us offer and then try to offer those classes?

CB: I think people just aren't here this winter – and as a parent I personally can't take another night off. It might be good to pare back how much we spend on advertising, but offer a second session.

KA: If we could direct people to our Facebook page, that might help.

AB: I could post on Facebook and at a couple of different places asking what people are interested in – and if we could all brainstorm some ideas and ask around what people in the community think. Maybe set up a table at Stop and Shop.

6.2 Budget Joint Meeting Preparation

Beth Singer presents and reviews Powerpoint for next week's presentation at the joint Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen meeting.

AB: If in FY 15 we offered grades 9 and 10 here, would we need to have that agreement with Nauset?

BS: No – in that case students who went elsewhere would leave via school choice – which costs the town a base fee of \$5,000.

AB: Not necessarily a discussion to have at the budget meeting, but it might be good to have a discussion at some point about what our numbers would need to look like to offer 9th grade.

Liz Lovati: How much are we paying for our students PK-8 that choice elsewhere?

BS: If they were all students who didn't have special needs, you would subtract $22 \times \$5,000 = \$110,000$ from the state aid that goes to the town

LL: Would be nice to mention how many other schools in the state have IB certification, especially since it's so few. It would also be nice to let people know historically how much we budget vs. what we spend (since we usually give money back to the town)

AB: And that money has gone into the free cash that has helped the town do other projects. Might be good to mention that those numbers we've projected are just those we have, but that we actually expect an increase in those numbers.

CB: I would say what the difference is in PPE if you divided by total number of students vs. total resident students – also would add in what cape tech tuition is.

LL: Would be good to emphasize that we haven't spent what the town has allocated. Might want to address how we want to target families who choice out to get them to come back if possible.

BS: We do regularly send them information about our school and what is going on here.

8. New Business

8.1 Trip to Costa Rica

The PSC needs to approve the trip

AB: How many kids will not be going and what will happen to those kids? Ratio of adults to kids?

BS: That will depend on how many kids will be going or not, which we can't be sure of yet but those that don't go will be here. There will be – somewhere around 10-14 students and 4 adults.

Motion to table to next meeting

Motion: Shannon Patrick Seconded: Anthony Brackett Vote 5-0-0

8. PSC Comments

AB: I was at the professional development workshop today – it was great to hear some heartfelt, sophisticated ideas about what teaching means from a number of people – We're lucky to have such great teachers.

CB: I attended housing summit, and discussed affordable housing.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Cass Benson Seconded: Shannon Patrick Vote: 5-0-0

Respectively submitted,

Ben Williams

Approved by the School Committee on February 11, 2014