

Provincetown School Committee Meeting  
Thursday, February 16, 2016  
Provincetown High School  
Elmer I. Silva Learning Center  
23 Winslow Street, Provincetown, MA 02657

4:30pm Meeting called to order  
Members present: Liz Lovati, Kerry Adams, Cass Benson, Tony Brackett,  
Superintendent Dr. Beth Singer

Member excuses: Ngina Lythgott, Principal Kim Y. Pike

Public Comments: None

Presentation by Rik Ahlberg: Provincetown 365 "Complete Streets" Policy: NO  
SHOW

Superintendent's Update

- MSBA Building Project – discussion of bids coming in and that the School Building Committee will take a vote at a meeting later in the week to select various contractors. Discussion about staging for construction workers including where to park their cars while work is being done on the school.
- Auditorium Project – Dr. Singer received an estimate from Cape Associates, Inc. for estimated costs of interior painting and repairs to the auditorium. CPA funds approved by CPC in the amount of \$40,000.00 for auditorium project. Will go to Town Meeting for final approval. Mr. Brackett asked if the school would be fundraising for this project. Dr. Singer replied that fundraising would be done for the restoration and repair of the auditorium seats as this would be a very expensive part of the project.
- School Evacuation/Relocation Plan – Dr. Singer presented the school evacuation/relocation plan drawn up by Principal Pike. This plan would be used in case of an emergency where the grades K-8 would move to VMCC, utilizing the school spaces plus Rec and the Gym, AND that wee Care and Pre School would relocate to the High School Building Library.
- Community Education – Discussions about enrollment numbers (very low) and whether this program was useful or not. Discussion about partnering with COA, Recreation, Library, PAAM, Center for Coastal Studies, Seashore Point to pool resources and perhaps join forces to present more options for the next Community Education Program.

Request by Ms Benson to move to New Business and then come back to Old Business. All agreed.

- Lunch Money Revolving Account – Recommended Transfer of Funds – Dr. Singer explained that we have too much money in this revolving account and that we should move it elsewhere. Questions about legality of such a move were discussed. Dr. Singer suggested 50% of the \$18,000.00 be moved to the Auditorium project and the other 50% to International Travel. Motion made by Kerry Adams to move the money as suggested, Seconded by Cass Benson. During discussion Ms Lovati and Mr Brackett disagreed with moving such a large sum to International travel. Dr. Singer explained that having some “seed” money to start the fundraising for the next group was crucial. After more discussion Kerry changed his motion to \$15,000.00 to Auditorium Project and \$3,000.00 to International Travel. Seconded by Ms Benson. Approved 4-0.

- Narcan discussion – Discussion about the opioid problems on Cape Cod and the west of the East Coast. Dr. Singer shared a document that showed many MA School Districts have a policy in place for the distribution of Narcan. School Committee instructed Dr. Singer to draw up a policy whereby the School Nurse would be allowed to administer Narcan to anyone on school property. Mr Brackett also asked that Dr Singer look into any legal issues the school could possibly face by creating such a policy. Policy to be distributed for PSC approval at the March meeting.

- 2016-2017 School calendars – Proposed School calendars for Pre-K through 8 and Wee Care were distributed and discussed. Motion by Mr Brackett and Seconded by Ms Benson to approve both calendars. Approved 4-0.

- Surplus materials – School has a condenser worth @\$700 that it will no longer need. School Committee instructed Dr Singer to advertise that the piece is for sale. Mr Adams wants to check and see if the pier can use it.

#### Back to Unfinished Business

- Regionalization Discussion – Mr Brackett offered that he wants this topic to remain in Unfinished Business until the PSC has thoroughly discussed all options of regionalization with Truro. Dr Singer offered that a benefit could be sharing certain part time positions such as Superintendent, SPED Director, Speech Pathologist. Mr Brackett added that any position less than 1.0 FTE might be considered a shared position. Dr Singer will speak with the Superintendent of Truro and see if that School District is interested in having conversations about sharing resources. It was suggested that we use a different word other than Regionalization. Sharing seems to be the word that everyone liked best.

- High School Discussion – Mr Brackett led the discussion by urging PSC members to have a thorough discussion about the possibilities of offering high school, an IB high school in Provincetown. Ms Lovati asked how many children would make a high school viable. Dr Singer suggested a minimum of 20 students per grade. Ms Lovati and Ms Benson both felt 25 was a better number. Dr Singer was instructed to gather as much information as possible about what is involved in bringing and IB high

school to Provincetown one grade at a time. Dr Singer added that it would take a couple of years to fully understand what would be involved.

- School-wide enrichment events – Mr Brackett again suggested that Provincetown School sponsor a school wide Science Fair, Spelling Bee or Math Olympiad. That there was merit in having students prepare for these types of events and that it would be a way of inviting the community into the school to see what is going on with our students. Ms Lovati and Ms Benson both felt that it would be too difficult to get families involved with enrichment programs like these after school. They felt there would be a need of support and didn't think there would be enough support to warrant events like these. Dr Singer added that there was no time during the school day to help students with these types of projects as it would take time away from the Common Core.

#### PSC Comments

- Ms Lovati share that she hosted a fundraiser with The Pampered Chef and received \$900 in free items that will go to equipping our school Home Economics kitchen. She thanked the generous citizens of Provincetown who contributed to the fundraiser.

- Mr Adams shared a story about a friend who wanted his daughter to attend Provincetown Schools. He felt that if we had a splashy Open House for kids in other communities to attend that we may attract other students.

- Ms Benson congratulated the Provincetown Schools Faculty for having the highest percentage of exemplary performances by teachers on Cape Cod.

- Mr Brackett thanked the DPW for quickly plowing and clearing paths at the school. He also thanked the School custodians for their assistance in the snow removal.

5:55pm Mr Brackett made a motion to adjourn from Open Meeting and reconvene into Executive Session to hear and discuss a personnel issue related to negotiations and to not reconvene into Open Session. Seconded by Kerry Adams.

PSC took a ten-minute break before returning into Executive Session

Faithfully submitted by Tony Brackett, chair Provincetown School Committee