

# **Minutes of the Provincetown International Baccalaureate World (IBW) Wednesday September 15, 2021 School Committee Meeting**

1. Eva Enos called the meeting to order at 4:32 PM

2. Rollcall

Eva Enos, Adrianna Stefani, Liz Lovati, Ngina Lythcott(4:35), Penny Sutter (4:35).  
Also attending; Dr. Suzanne Scallion (Superintendent), Gerry Goyette (Principal). Jeff Slater (Asst  
Principal/Special Education Director)

3. Public comments: none

4. Review of Minutes

4.1 August 25, Regular meeting

4.2 September 8, Collaborative Committee Meeting

Hearing no objections, Eva Enos approved the meeting minutes listed above.

5. Leadership Updates

5.1 Superintendent Suzanne Scallion gave an update. Pool testing has begun. Students are experiencing the “Restlessness of Covid” as they get back to being together in the classroom. Focus of recovery efforts are social, emotional and academic.

5.2 Principal Gerry Goyette

- Introduced our four new staff members, and each shared their path to Provincetown.
- Some classes are coming to the cafeteria for lunch. Some classes are using the rec. center space for recess.
- Back to school night is slated for Sept 23, 6:30-7:15, masks required.
- National Jr. Honor Society is having a car wash in the supermarket parking lot on Sept 25.
- Mr. Goyette has been able to participate on some of the field trips and has been meeting with all teachers regarding goals.
- Mr. Goyette spoke with the IB representative about the upcoming IB virtual visit on November 1,2,3.
- Student work will be displayed in the Library.
- The newsletter will be posted on Sept 30th and will be online and in print, sent home with the students.

Nancy Flasher - Dune Shack Trip was presented. It will be focused on only Grade 5 over 5 days. A number of curriculum topics will be covered, farming, foods and medicinal plants and surviving in the dunes, National Seashore ranger presentation: cultural and natural history, ocean conservation, math and marine debris, artists and writers and the dune

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shacks, mapping the dunes. There will be pool testing for Covid. There will be groups of 3-4 overnight at the most (with 2-3 chaperones), daytime up to 11 students.

Pre Covid the dune classes included other grades.

The students in grade 6 have missed the dune shack experience due to Covid. A discussion about how this class might have that opportunity was discussed. The committee shared their commitment to find a way to have the 6th grade experience the dune shacks.

- Liz made a motion to approve the overnight Dune Shack Trip, Ngina seconded. Approved 5-0-0.

Questions:

A question was asked of Mr Goyette about the IB Attributes posters. He said they will be posted again.

Will the newsletter be monthly?- Yes, it will include information from the teachers. It will be available in both paper and electronic form.

Will the newsletter be similar to “Fishtales” and available in a variety of places? Yes, something like that will be published quarterly. Mr. Goyette will work with Tracey on that.

5.3 Special Needs Director/Vice Principal Jeff Slater continues focus on Socio-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum. A survey was sent to families, teachers and kids. He is checking that the SEL program miss meeting needs and what needs to be added or changed.

Student Leadership group is meeting, they are called ‘Our Voices Matter’ and met in the library. They are encouraging the students to become a spokesperson for the school and be more responsible in the process and take leadership roles.

Marketing: Mr. Slater is posting information about what’s happening in classrooms on the Facebook page.

Questions:

A question about the number of Facebook followers was asked. Mr. Slater does not know the number of followers. A comment was made about the limited exposure since the page is a closed group. A suggestion to reach out to other Facebook pages/groups was offered as well as a suggestion that there be an invitation on Community Space to “like” the school page. Mr. Slater said he will explore that.

A question about the possibility of a presentation to the Committee by Our Voices Matter group for 3 minutes or so was voiced. Mr. Slater will present mention this to the OVM

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group. A committee member shared that she has heard feedback from parents and students. They are very pleased with Our Voices Matter, “nothing but positive feedback”.

### **6. Unfinished Business**

6.1 Dorothy Perry Scholarship - Final decisions from our previous meeting were discussed. It was discussed that the PSC does not need to be involved in the scholarship, but support the Scholarship Committee in their choices. The requirements for the scholarship are 1. The applicant is a Provincetown school graduate and 2. They are pursuing a teaching degree. (these were 2 suggestions from the Scholarship Committee) The PSC does not need to know the amount of monies or the number of people and would like to leave that to the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

Ngina asked to clarify the recommendations of the committee regarding education.

Adrianna shared her experience with Dorothy Perry a former 6th grade teacher in Provincetown who had a love of marine biology.

6.2 Face Coverings - Policy EBCFA - This is the third reading of this policy. A question was discussed about making sure that certain face coverings were appropriate. It was pointed out that we are covered with the DESE advisory.

Ngina made a motion to adopt the face covering policy EBCFA as presented at today's meeting, Liz seconded. With no objections the motion passed. 5-0-0.

6.3 Goals for the Superintendent Plan - Dr. Scallion outlined the Goals: 1. Student Learning Goal - Literacy in Pre-K through 5th grade. 2. Professional Growth Goal - IB Implementation. 3. District Goal - Math. And the sustainability of the Provincetown School IB school program. The timeline for all goals is Fall 2021 through the Spring of 2023.

The PreK (age 3) through 8th grade (14 years) enrollment is about the same pre-Covid. But compared to last year, student enrollment is down in the toddler room. A discussion of housing as a serious problem for young families with children ensued.

There was a question to clarify enrollment numbers. Dr Scallion shared that student enrollment in the Infant/Toddler (under 3) program are down, above that age are not. Some families shared they are concerned with the virus with the little ones.

Goal Questions: A discussion about how these goals will be measured continued. The committee would like to know what data will be used to measure if the programs and methods implemented are making progress especially in the district goal of math. Dr. Scallion said she will report the professional development and steps she has taken to improve student math scores. She then referred to her goal document stating the reports she and other staff (principal, coach, interventionist) will be presenting to the School

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Committee mid-year and the end-of-year. Dr. Scallion also shared that student progress is evaluated every 6 weeks, and that we all need to be patient to get relevant data post COVID.

Student Learning Goal Question:

A question was raised about why that goal is only K through the 5th grade and does not continue through to 8th grade. Dr. Scallion shared that she saw this as the area of greatest need. Test data and observation are the basis for her goal choice.

## **7. New Business**

7.1 Advisory Board for the purpose of exploring a formalized program of studies in the areas of Performing and Visual Arts (VAPA) and Marine Studies - Dr. Scallion discussed her vision for the board. The committee would include people who are experts in their fields.

Questions: Is there a financial aspect to this board? Not at this time, although there is some money included in the School Choice grant.

Adriana made a motion to approve the request to start an Advisory Board, to exploring a formalized program of studies in the areas of Visual and Performing Arts and Marine Studies. Ngina seconded. Approved 5-0-0.

7.2 Facility Use Policy Review KF and KF-R Community Use of School Facilities - A discussion of the policy ensued.

Liz suggested that the policy point number 7 on KF was covered by both 6 and 8. Adriana made a motion to remove item number 7 of policy KF Community Use of School Facilities, Liz seconded. Approved, 4-1-0. Additional changes will be discussed at a future meeting.

A discussion about the other parts of the policy were discussed. It was suggested to table a vote for another wording for number 4. Ngina made a motion to table the continuation of the policy decisions. Adriana seconded. Approved 5-0-0.

7.3 Homeschooling Update - There are 2 families who will be homeschooling. Families will provide midyear reports.

## **8. PSC Comments**

Liz Lovati shared her continued appreciation of being able to participate in person and feels more productive. She is grateful for this diverse board. She appreciates what the town has given her and she is happy to perform her civic service and give a little something back.

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Adriana - feels that we are heading in the right direction and getting better as a board and a district.

Ngina - is glad that the Advisory Board is going to be formed. She is also thankful for the 3 paintings she received as thank yous from the girls she mentored. She feels that volunteering gives you the opportunity to become a deeper member of the community. She encourages others to be part of influencing the leaders of tomorrow, and she is honored.

Penny - agreed with what everyone said.

Eva - thanked Penny for taking the minutes. And for Richard taping this 'show'.

9. Adjourn Meeting - Hearing no objections, Eva Enos adjourned the meeting at 6:10

Submitted by Penny Sutter