

Town of Provincetown
School Committee
Veterans Memorial Elementary School
Library Media Center – Room #73
2 Mayflower Lane
Minutes of February 27, 2007

Members Present: Terese Nelson (Chair), Peter Grosso (Vice Chair), Burton Wolfman (Secretary), Shannon Patrick

Excused: Debra Trovato, and Student Representatives: Pele Berg and Jasmine Hadley

Others Present: Jessica Waugh, Supt. of Schools, Dr. Floriano Pavão, School District Principal, Elizabeth Francis, Assist. To Principal and Others

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 P.M.

Public Comments:

None

Minutes:

Peter Grosso made a motion to approve the January 9, 2007 Minutes. Seconded by Burt Wolfman. So voted in favor 3-0-1

Abstained by Shannon Patrick

Chair, Terese Nelson made a few opening remarks noting that since the FY-08 School Budget appears to have the support of the Finance Committee, the School Committee needs to renew its efforts, before Town Meeting, to define the organizational and curricular changes being initiated. Ms. Nelson also stressed the need to increase efforts to improve and expand the Provincetown pre-school.

Burt Wolfman made a motion to change the order of the Agenda and move-up New Business and 6.3 Crisis Protocol Collaboration Provincetown Schools and Provincetown Police Department to take the place of the Superintendent's Update and move the Superintendent's Update to the New Business space. Peter Grosso seconded the motion. It was so voted 4-0.

New Business:

6.3 Crisis Protocol Collaboration Provincetown Schools and Provincetown Police Dept.

Dr. Pavão and Acting Police Chief Tobias described the on-going planning between the school department and the police department to develop a Crisis Protocol Collaboration. This planning would continue to include parents, students, and teachers for input. The planning will also be followed by a series of exercise drills. Currently, this discussion is for informational purposes only, however, the Crisis Protocol Plan will come before the School Committee again once the plan is completed.

6.2 Discussion of Distribution of Potassium Iodide (KI)

Valerie Carrano, Provincetown Public Health Nurse as well as Director of COA was in attendance representing Brian Carlson the health agent who was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Carrano described the new health program, required by the Commonwealth of Mass. explaining the distribution of Potassium Iodide pills in the event of a nuclear accident. The distribution of these pills is to all students who reside within ten miles of a nuclear facility. If a nuclear accident were to occur, the pills are for the purpose of preventing thyroid cancer. These pills would be stockpiled in our schools. The protocol of distribution is currently under

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discussion with the school nurse and consulting pediatrician. Once the protocol is determined, it would require parental approval.

6.1 Manor/Deaconess Motta Field Review

Dennis Anderson representing the Cape End Manor and Deaconess Hospital described the impact of the new construction on Motta Field. Specifically he noted that the existing fence needs to be moved in order to conform with the surveyed lot lines. Mr. Anderson further stated that efforts were being made to preserve the concession stand and the dugout. After considerable discussion and reflection on the part of the School Committee that the solution proposed was satisfactory, it was agreed by all parties to revisit the issue within the next week.

6.5 Sick Leave Bank Request

A letter from an employee requesting days from the sick leave bank was discussed. In order to make-up the sick leave bank committee which reviews such requests, two school committee members must be appointed to serve along with the school principal and two members of the PAE. It was so noted that Mr. Grosso and Ms. Patrick had, earlier in the year, been appointed as the two school committee members to serve on this particular Sub-Committee to review sick leave requests.

Superintendent's Update:

- Ms. Waugh noted her appreciation for the VMES Chinese New Year performance. The Committee indicated a letter of appreciation to the students and staff be sent.
- Ms. Waugh also noted that a teacher task force met on a weekend recently to continue defining curricular issues for the coming year. The task force will report to the faculty at the professional development day scheduled for March 19th.
- Ms. Waugh informed the Committee that twenty-nine students participated in the Lion's Club Peace Poster competition.
- Other items:
 - The retirement, at the close of the current school year, of 6th grade teacher Helen Motto was announced. Mrs. Motto has served the VMES for 32 years.
 - Ms. Waugh informed the Committee that the Department of Education has approved the district's Teacher Quality Improvement Plan noting that it has met each of the required components.
 - Ms. Waugh also indicated there is a new custodial/maintenance log now being kept.

Unfinished Business

5.1 PSC Sub-Committee List

The Committee again agreed to table the update of the sub-committee list at a later meeting.

After a committee discussion Burt Wolfman made a motion to ask the administration to draft a Resolution for the Town Meeting warrant declaring that the Provincetown Public Schools remain open. Shannon Patrick seconded the motion. It was stated the rationale for such a resolution is to convey to surrounding communities there is no risk of our school closing, and school choice and tuitioned-in students are welcome. It was so voted 4-0

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The Committee had an informal discussion regarding the pre-school program.

The committee also discussed the need for a committee workshop on curricular and program changes.

The Committee adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Respectively Submitted

School Committee Signature

Date

These Minutes were approved at a meeting held on: _____