# TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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### Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2001

### Meeting Held in the School Annex Building, Room #3

**Members Present:** Frank Wills (Vice-Chair), Terese Nelson (Secretary), William Rogers, Debra Trovato, Dana Berry

**Members Absent:** Representative from the PHS Student Advisory Council

**Others Present:** Dr. Fleming (Superintendent), Mr. Rokicki (VMES Principal), Mr. Marino (PHS Principal), Katie Slivka (Director of Student Services), Rachel Crosby (Recording Secretary)

**Call to Order:** Vice-Chair Frank Wills called the Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

***Terese Nelson moved to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy relative to Non-Union contracts, William Rogers seconded and it was so voted in a roll call vote as follows: Dana Berry – no, Debra Trovato – yes, Frank Wills – yes, William Rogers – yes, Terese Nelson - yes.***

## REGULAR SESSION

Vice-Chair Frank Wills called the Regular Session to order at 8:06 P.M

**VISITORS' STATEMENTS** –

None

**MINUTES**

**January 9, 2001, Regular Session –** ***Terese Nelson moved to approve, William Rogers seconded and it was so voted, 3-0, 2 abstain (Dana Berry, Debra Trovato)***

**March 13, 2001, Regular Session –** ***William Rogers moved to approve with minor corrections, Debra Trovato seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 abstain (Dana Berry).***

**May 13, 2000, Joint Meeting with Truro School Committee –** ***postponed until the next joint meeting of the School Committees.***

**COMMUNICATIONS**

1. **Enhanced School Health Services Grant**
   Dr. Fleming reported on progress toward establishing the programs funded by this grant.
2. **Town Meeting Budget Handouts** – Dr. Fleming distributed and discussed draft newsletter to be made available to voters at Town Meeting. School Committee members should provide their comments and suggestions by Thursday, March 29.
3. **VMES Newsletter, March 15**
4. **PHS Boiler –** Dr. Fleming reported that she had gotten several estimates, both for repair and for replacement. The insurance company will provide some reimbursement for either repair or replacement. Reimbursement under $20,000 will go directly to the District, while amounts greater than $20,000 will go to the Town and will require a Town Meeting article to release the funds to the District.
5. **D.A.R.E. Culmination Invitations -** Sixth Grade Graduation Program is scheduled for Thursday evening, March 29, at 6:00 PM. Mr. Rokicki explained some details about the DARE Program.
6. **Mr. Marino's Resignation** – Dr. Fleming reported that she had received his letter and had replied to it, acknowledging Mr. Marino's contribution and dedication to the District during his years as High School

Principal.

7. **New England School Development Council** – Frank Wills reported on a conference in Sturbridge in early May for School Committee members and school superintendents.

## EDUCATIONAL UPDATE

1. **Crisis Protocol Update/ Feedback from School Committee** – by consensus, the School Committee agreed to approve the Protocol.
2. **Building Project** – Dr. Fleming reported that the Building Committee was interviewing for a Project Manager and that there were several viable candidates. Bids had been opened today and there were no bids on most of the major systems, such as HVAC, electrical, etc.
3. **Spring Coaching Assignments** – Dr. Fleming referred to and briefly discussed a handout entitled "*Spring Coaching Roster*". Dr. Fleming praised Jon Ingram for putting together the roster.
4. **PHS Partnership with Provincetown Police: Drug Prevention** – Mr. Marino reported that he had met with Police Chief Robert Anthony to discuss a possible teenager smoking ordinance similar to the one in force in Eastham. Mr. Marino said he had not yet decided whether to bring drug-sniffing dogs into the High School.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Parent Public Forum on MCAS/Policy –** Dana Berry explained his concepts for such a forum. The School Committee discussed the possibility of requiring students who fail the MCAS to take remedial classes during the summer. If the students did not take the remedial classes, they would not be promoted to the next grade. Mr. Rokicki said that he would appreciate the School Committee's assistance in encouraging such students to take advantage of the support services available. However, he did not want the School Committee to dictate punitive measures, such as holding back a student who did not pass the MCAS. Dr. Fleming suggested offering those students who showed significant progress on the MCAS a reward, such as a computer. William Rogers said he felt that rewards should be in the form of self-satisfaction, not in material items. By consensus, the Committee agreed to discuss this issue again at a future meeting.
2. **Line Item Transfer: Special Needs**– from Elementary Teacher Salary Professional Home/Hospital Tutor, from Elementary Teacher Salary Non Professional Home/Hospital and from Supervisor Salary Professional to Psychological Consultation/Services in the total amount of $9,000. – ***Terese Nelson moved to approve the line item transfer from Elementary Teacher Salary Professional Home/Hospital Tutor, from Elementary Teacher Salary Non Professional Home/Hospital and from Supervisor Salary Professional to Psychological Consultation/Services in the total amount of $9,000, William Rogers seconded.*** Dana Berry asked about a change in the State standards for special education and Ms Slivka said new standards would not dramatically affect the services the District was providing. Each SPED student will be placed in a very specific diagnosis category in order to receive services. Dr. Fleming commented that some parents may resist having their children so specifically labeled and will remove them from the SPED program. Ms Slivka said that all current SPED students should be placed in an appropriate diagnosis category by June 2001, well before the January 1, 2002 deadline. In response to a question from Dana Berry, Dr. Fleming said that the anticipated increase in evaluations will probably mean a budget change in the amount for psychological services, either an increase or decrease depending on whether the District can find a staff psychologist. ***The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.***
3. **Police Generator Discussion** – Dr. Fleming reported that the generator is not in great shape and the Police are not sure it could be repaired for use by the Schools.
4. **Other**
   - Dr. Fleming distributed a handout on the recent In-Service Day, at which the teachers met to review student work, especially relative to the State Learning Standards. Mr. Marino, Ms Slivka and Mr. Rokicki provided positive comments about the In-Service.
   - Debra Trovato asked about the previously discussed possibility of having a School Committee Workshop and Frank Wills replied that he had some pertinent material he would distribute at a later date. Frank Wills said that the Chatham School Committee routinely scheduled "policy sessions" and work sessions. The School Committee discussed having a workshop prior to one of their regular meetings. Dr. Fleming said that June 12th's meeting had been set aside to present what has been happening in both schools in the 2000-2001 school year. By consensus, the School Committee members agreed to prepare a list of topics they wanted discussed in a workshop. The School Committee discussed the possibility of visiting the Chatham School District and Debra Trovato said she would appreciate having a pre-prepared profile sheet.

## NEW BUSINESS –

1. **FY 2002 Calendar Draft for Review/Discussion** – Dr. Fleming suggested postponing a discussion on the calendar until the timing of the Building Project was clearer.
2. **Massachusetts Student Advisory Council 2001** – Mr. Marino referred to and discussed his memo, dated March 22, 2001, concerning the election of Kira Irving and Suzanne DeSousa to the Council.
3. **Line Item Transfer** - for the High School from Principal Office Assn. and Principal Professional Development to Professional Development Conferences in the total amount of $1,500. ***Frank Wills moved to approve the line item transfer for the High School from Principal Office Assn. and Principal Professional Development to Professional Development Conferences in the total amount of $1,500, Dana Berry seconded and it was so voted, 3-1 (William Rogers) 1 abstain (Terese Nelson).***

**4.Other**

- None

## CLOSING STATEMENTS

- None

## ADJOURNMENT

***Debra Trovato moved to adjourn at 9:43 PM and it was so voted unanimously.***

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These minutes were approved by a vote of the Provincetown School Committee at their meeting on _____, 200__

Respectfully Submitted:

_____ _____

School Committee Signature Title

*Rachel T. Crosby*, On-call secretary