

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2000

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Meeting Held in the High School Annex

Members Present: Lois Borgesi (Chair), Frank Wills (Vice-Chair), Terese Nelson (Secretary), William Rogers

Members Absent: Dana Berry (excused), Representative from the PHS Student Advisory Council (not yet elected)

Others Present: Dr. Fleming (Superintendent), Mr. Rokicki (VMES Principal), Ms Slivka (Director of Student Services), Rachel Crosby (Recording Secretary), parents, students and staff.

Call to Order: Chair Lois Borgesi called the Meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

REGULAR SESSION

VISITORS' STATEMENTS

- Emily Anderson read a prepared statement concerning the recent student elections.

MINUTES

September 12, 2000, Regular Session – postponed.

May 13, 2000, Joint Meeting with Truro School Committee – postponed until corrections can be made.

Lois Borgesi reported that previous minutes of the School Committee needed to be amended to reflect the absence of a Student Representative.

Frank Wills moved to amend the previous School Committee minutes to reflect the absence of a Student Representative as follows: 5/23/00 – absent; 6/13/00 – absent because all representatives had graduated; 7/11/00, 8/15/00 and 8/29/00 – absent because meetings held during summer vacation, Terese Nelson seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 absent (Dana Berry).

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Cape Cod Collaborative: Invitation to Visitation Day October 4
- Frank Wills reported on a concert on October 21, with a special rate for tickets bought through a school.
- Dr. Fleming distributed a memo describing the results of the Student Elections.

EDUCATIONAL UPDATE:

- ◆ **Introduction of New FY 2001 Staff** — Dr. Fleming introduced several new staff members.
- ◆ **Proposal for District Improvement Panel Meeting: Mid November** – Dr. Fleming said she hoped to revisit the District Improvement Plan at the Panel Meeting and to accomplish the following:
 - ⇒ **Review School Programs**
 - ⇒ **Set Budget Parameters for FY 2002**
 - ⇒ **Review Indicators of Excellence, Including New MCAS Scores**

The Panel Meeting, tentatively scheduled for either November 14 or November 28, 2000, would coincide with a meeting of the School Committee

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Update on Fiscal/Educational Plan: Budget FY 2002 – Dr. Fleming distributed and discussed a letter, dated September 12, 2000, from Ms Steele-Jeffers, Chair of the Board of Selectmen (drafted by Town Manager, Mr. Bergman), to State Senator Henri Rauschenbach concerning the Town's request for a long-term waiver from the

net school spending requirements. Dr. Fleming also distributed a draft document entitled “300 School Operating and Capital Costs: Implementing the ‘Deal’ for SBA-Funded Building Projects.” The Committee discussed whether the School Committee had made the financial commitment(s) as described in the draft document and how the commitment would be met. The Committee discussed various ways, other than by reducing the School Operating Budget, that the financial commitment could be met and whether a clarifying letter should be sent to Senator Rauschenbach and/or the Selectmen. Terese Nelson suggested reviewing the minutes of the 2000 Town Meeting to see what was actually officially agreed to by the School Committee. Dr. Fleming agreed to draft a letter and to send it to the School Committee members for review.

2. PSC Rules and Procedures – Lois Borgesi referred to and discussed the revised Rules of Procedure, which had been changed by a vote at the previous meeting.
3. School Committee Policies
 - ⇒ **PSC Policy AA, School District Legal Status: 3rd Reading** – *Frank Wills moved to approve PSC Policy AA, School District Legal Status, for the third reading, Terese Nelson seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 absent (Dana Berry).*
 - ⇒ **PSC Policy CBE, Superintendent’s Contract: 2nd Reading** – *Frank Wills moved to approve Policy CBE, Superintendent’s Contract, for a second reading, Terese Nelson seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 absent (Dana Berry).*
 - ⇒ **PSC Policy EEAA, Walkers and Riders: 2nd Reading** – *Frank Wills moved to approve Policy EEAA, Walkers and Riders, for a second reading, Terese Nelson seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 absent (Dana Berry).*
4. FY 2001 School Budget – Dr. Fleming referred to spreadsheet showing line item adjustments/changes needed in the Budget. Dr. Fleming confirmed that the Budget is now basically balanced and said she would make new budget books for the School Committee. *Terese Nelson moved to approve the line item changes as shown on the spreadsheet so as to reflect the personnel movements and hires for FY 2001, Frank Wills seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 absent (Dana Berry).*
5. Other
 - None

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Line Item Transfer – None.
2. Budget Process Time Line: FY 2002 – Dr. Fleming said she would like to see a review of PSC policies concerning the budget process and discussed whether the FY 2002 budget would stay within the Town Manager’s recommended 2.5% increase. Dr. Fleming said that, due to contractual and other fixed obligations, staying within a 2.5% increase will mean cutting other operating expenses. The Committee discussed whether other Town departments were staying within a 2.5% increase. The Committee discussed the budget process and the fact that the Provincetown School Budget is a relatively small percentage of the Town’s Budget. Dr. Fleming will prepare a 2.5% scenario to use as a starting point in the process.
3. Proposal for One-Time Early Retirement Incentives, FY 2002 – Dr. Fleming referred to and discussed a memo with attached materials, dated September 21, 2000, from her to the School Committee. *Frank Wills moved to allow Jessica Waugh, the PAE union representative, to speak on this agenda item, Terese Nelson seconded, and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 absent (Dana Berry).* The Committee discussed with Ms Waugh various options involving the teachers’ contract and the benefit package offered to teachers who retire. Ms Waugh said the motivation for a teacher choosing to retire does not necessarily involve money. Frank Wills requested that the School Committee learn exactly what benefits a Provincetown teacher received upon retirement. Terese Nelson said she felt the long-range impact of offering incentives needed to be researched first. By consensus, the Committee agreed to continue the discussion in the future.
4. Other
 - Dr. Fleming referred to and discussed a memo, dated September 22, 2000, from her to the School Committee with the subject of “Breakfast Price Increases,” in which she recommended increasing the price of various breakfasts. *Frank Wills moved to approve the increases in breakfast prices as described in Dr. Fleming’s memo, William Rogers seconded, and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 absent (Dana Berry).*
 - Lois Borgesi mentioned that she had provided the Committee with copies of revised minutes of the Joint Meeting with the Truro School Committee on May 22, 2000. These minutes will be approved at the next meeting.
 - Dr. Fleming mentioned that she needed signatures for the Truro Tuition Agreement.

- The Committee discussed whether the public should be offered an opportunity to make closing statements, which would be regulated by the Chair.

CLOSING STATEMENTS

- None

ADJOURNMENT

Terese Nelson moved to adjourn at 8:52 P.M. 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