

# TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes of October 10, 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, Dana Berry

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

**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

➤ None

### MINUTES

**September 12, 2000, Regular Session** – *Dana Berry moved to approve as written, Frank Wills seconded and it was so voted, 5-0.*

**September 26, 2000, Regular Session** – *Frank Wills moved to approve as written, William Rogers seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 abstain (Dana Berry).*

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

### COMMUNICATIONS:

- Truro Tuition Agreement – signed by four of the School Committee members.
- City and Town Newsletter
- Memo to Keith Bergman from Dr. Fleming – concerning wording in Town's financial planning documents pertaining to paying debt service on Building Project.
- Letter to NEASC – re: postponing accreditation process
- District Improvement Panel Meeting: November 14<sup>th</sup>
- Financial Statement: September 26, 2000
- VMES Newsletter
- MASC resolutions to be proposed at annual meeting. The School Committee discussed the resolutions and whether anyone from the Committee was planning to attend the annual meeting. In particular, the Committee discussed the resolutions which addressed the perceived flaws in the MCAS and opposed the MCAS graduation requirement. By consensus, the Committee agreed to review the resolutions and discuss them at the next meeting.
- Frank Wills reminded the members of the concert he had mentioned at the last meeting.
- William Rogers asked about several memorandums received from the PAE in sealed envelopes. Dr. Fleming explained that the memos concerned potential staff grievances and were not to be discussed at this time.

### EDUCATIONAL UPDATE:

- ◆ **Introduction of New FY 2001 Staff** — Dr. Fleming introduced several new staff members.

- ◆ **October 1, 2000 Enrollment** – Dr. Fleming referred to and discussed two data sheets displaying the enrollments for 1999 and 2000 by grade and source.
- ◆ **Building Renovations Project Update** – Dr. Fleming referred to and discussed a memo from her to the School Committee, dated 10/6/2000. One member of the Building Committee has resigned and needs to be replaced.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Update on Fiscal/Educational Plan: –
  - ◆ Letter to Selectmen – Lois Borgesi distributed a draft of the letter to be sent to the Selectmen over her signature. By consensus, the Committee agreed to the wording of the letter with minor revisions.
2. One-Time Early Retirement Incentives, FY 2002 –
  - ◆ See analysis of Retired Personnel – Dr. Fleming referred to and discussed a memo, dated 10/6/2000 from her to the School Committee with the subject “One-Time Early Retirement Incentive.” The Committee discussed Dr. Fleming’s recommendation for configuring the 2001 retirement incentives. *Frank Wills moved to approve the one-time retirement notification incentives as described in Dr. Fleming’s memo, Terese Nelson seconded, and it was so voted, 4-1 (William Rogers).*
3. School Committee Policies
  - ⇒ **PSC Policy CBE, Superintendent’s Contract: 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – *Dana Berry moved to approve Policy CBE, Superintendent’s Contract, for a third reading, Frank Wills seconded and it was so voted, 5-0.*
  - ⇒ **PSC Policy EEAA, Walkers and Riders: 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – *Dana Berry moved to approve Policy EEAA, Walkers and Riders, for a third reading, Frank Wills seconded and it was so voted, 5-0.*
4. FY 2001 School Budget – Dr. Fleming referred to a line item transfer request from the Special Education Department to move \$8,000 from Psychological Services (VMES) to Psychological Services (PHS). Terese Nelson objected to continuing to transfer funds from the VMES budget to the PHS budget. Dr. Fleming explained the rationale for the requested transfer, affirming that the expenses incurred by the IEP’s had to be paid. After detailed discussion, Dr. Fleming agreed, in response to a question from Dana Berry, that the transfer could be postponed until the next meeting to allow Terese Nelson more time to research and understand the transfer. Lois Borgesi requested that Dr. Fleming supply a list of all the line item transfers approved to date for the FY 2001 budget. The Committee discussed whether it was preferable to transfer funds on an ongoing, as-needed basis or to allow budget items to go into cost overruns and do many line item transfers at the end of the year to balance the budget. Ms Slivka asked if the problem was based upon a lack of trust in the SPED Department and the School Committee affirmed that trust was not at issue, but rather an objection to the budget adjustment mechanisms.
5. Other
  - Dana Berry asked Dr. Fleming for the name of someone at the Cape Tech who could reproduce the condensed version of the School Committee Policy Manual.
  - William Rogers asked about the status of parking for students and staff in the Grace Hall Parking Lot and Dr. Fleming said she will report back on this issue.

## NEW BUSINESS –

1. FY 2002 Budget Projections – Dr. Fleming referred to and discussed a memo from her to the School Committee, dated 10/10/00 with the subject “Projected FY 2002 Budget due to Salary, Column and Step Increases. The figures in the memo projected that there may be a Non-allocated Amount remaining in the FY 2002 budget (assuming a 2.5% increase) of \$14,690. Dr. Fleming confirmed that the School Committee will have the new budget books within two weeks.
2. Building Committee Appointments – *Frank Wills moved to accept Jessica Waugh’s resignation from the Building Committee, Frank Wills seconded, and it was so voted, 5-0.* William Rogers said that he also planned to submit his resignation from the Building Committee. Lois Borgesi said that they needed to find another School Committee member to act as the alternate School Committee’s representative on the Building Committee, especially considering that she is not planning to run for reelection to the School Committee. The Committee discussed why the Building Committee had to meet during the day. Terese Nelson volunteered to be the alternate School Committee representative to the Building Committee. *Dana Berry moved to accept the verbal resignation of William Rogers from the Building Committee and to appoint Terese Nelson as the alternate representative to the Building Committee, Frank Wills seconded and it was so voted, 5-0.*
3. VMES School Council Election Process – Dr. Fleming and Mr. Rokicki referred to and discussed a memo from

Mr. Rokicki to Dr. Fleming, dated 10/3/00, with the subject "Required Approval for Parent Selections for VMES School Council." Mr. Rokicki noted that he would like to change several of the dates in the memo specified for balloting and notification of results. *Frank Wills moved to approve the VMES School Council Election Process as detailed in Mr. Rokicki's memo, Terese Nelson seconded and it was so voted, 5-0.*

4. Other

- The School Committee briefly discussed the need to delay the accreditation process until the spring of 2004 (due to the Building Project construction).

**CLOSING STATEMENTS**

- None

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Frank Wills moved to adjourn at 8:50 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