

PROVINCETOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of December 17, 2002
Meeting held at Annex Building

Present: Terese Nelson (Chair), William Rogers (Vice-Chair), Peter Grosso (Secretary), Debra Trovato and Frank Wills.

Others Present: Dr. Colette Traylor (Superintendent), Edward Boxer (PHS Principal), Anthony Teso (VMES Principal) and Sheila Colburn (Recording Secretary).

REGULAR SESSION

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Cynthia Packard: (Parent) Addressed concerns regarding the lack of homework and computer clubs at VMES, and concerns with regard to a reading teacher. Further concerns regarding game scheduling.

Custodio Silva: (Parent) Stated the gym should be open for students on weekends.

Isabel Peres: (School Choice Parent) Echoed the previous speakers feelings that the gym should be open on weekends for students.

Candy Silva: (Parent) Stated Motta Field should not be locked. Students should be allowed maximum use of the field.

Jill Macara: (Parent) Asked what the process is for reinstating a program.

Jessica Waugh: (Reading Specialist) Stated PHS has a homework club for grades 7-12.

Pauline Richmond (Parent) Urged the Committee to consider use of gym for taxpayers and students.

Stormy Mayo: Stated the use of the gym is necessary but that due to the renovations use of the one gym is very limited.

Anthony Teso (VMES Principal) Informed the Committee and parents that there are five gym slots allocated to the Rec. Dept. each week. He also stated a Computer Club is now ready to go after tech staff had devoted much time to get the wiring and computers up and ready for student use. Mr. Teso also said the Homework Club is in the process of being formed.

Alma Welsh: (Adm. Assist. To the Supt.) Stated the use of school facilities has always put students first, followed by Rec. Dept. and then other community or out of town groups. Historically there has always been full cooperation in allowing use of school facilities.

Marie Pace: (Parent) Stressed the importance of middle school sports.

WORK SHOP

A motion was made by Debra Trovato to move to school committee workshop; seconded by Frank Wills; so voted 5-0. Dr. Traylor informed the committee that the school dept. is supportive of community use of the facilities. The difficult process of renovating both of the school buildings resulted in the use of only one gym. Originally the contractor set the opening date for September, then November 1st. Due to a problem with the heating system, a new date was set for the middle of January. Scheduling with one gym has been very difficult; winter sports, practice times, etc. All away games were rescheduled to take place at the beginning of the season. A request was made for an independent team wants to use the gym but certain issues arose regarding present policy requiring: proper liability insurance; the presence of school staff; a potential problem with Title IX since these teams are only for boys not girls. This team is affiliated with the Cape Cod League which does not carry liability insurance.

Mr. Clark agreed to consider the team to be under the auspices of the Recreation Dept. However, parents would need to transport the students themselves. Further, Mr. Clark will discuss this issue with the Recreation Commission. The consensus was that the school department could give Mr. Clark a gym key to access the gym when there was no school custodian in the building.

Mark Silva, the district's insurance representative, said that outside groups should have an Insurance Certificate in order to use the facilities for liability purposes. The accurate coverage for groups must be researched. There was a lengthy discussion on insurance with Mr. Silva.

Frank Wills made the motion to make a sub committee to review school facility use with Debra Trovato, Peter Grosso and Dennis Clark; seconded by William Rogers; so voted 5-0.

MINUTES:

Frank Wills made the motion to accept the minutes of November 12, 2002 with the addition of the dates of minutes tabled: October 1, 2002 and October 15, 2002; seconded by Debra Trovato; so voted 5-0.

Peter Grosso made the motion to accept the minutes of October 15, 2002 as printed; seconded by William Rogers; so voted 3-0 with Debra Trovato and Frank Wills abstaining.

EDUCATIONAL UPDATE:

- Dr. Traylor gave the committee a brief **Building Committee** update.
- Mr. Boxer gave the committee an **SAT comparison** that shows that PHS students have excellent scores and the district has met its goals at all levels tested in accord with the "No Child Left Behind" requirements.
- **MCAS** retakes have been given with great moral support for success by Kay Dundas, Jessica Waugh and Bob McKay. The instructional strategies used to prepare students keyed in on their strengths and weaknesses from their previous testing.
- The **winter activities schedule** and bus/transportation schedule was given to the committee.
- The **Harwich/Provincetown coop ice hockey agreement** has been signed by both parties.
- **The Boston Striker's Soccer Club** has donated two hundred dollars for our athletic program for the use of our field and was acknowledged.
- Dr. Traylor gave the committee an update on the **generator** as follows: it is ready to install and will be done during our December Holiday break.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

7.1 Provincetown School Committee has approved its **goals** for 2002-2005: Debra Trovato made the motion to adopt this work in progress; seconded by Frank Wills; so voted 5-0.

7.2 **Budget update FY 04** was given by Dr. Traylor for the committee's perusal. There will be a scheduled public hearing and the agenda will be voted on after that meeting.

7.3 The Committee was given a **job description addendum** to the position of Administrative Director of Instructional Technology to clearly define supervisory responsibilities. Frank Wills made the motion to approve the clarifications in the job description for this position; seconded by William Rogers; so voted 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

8.1 No further discussion was necessary after the work shop.

8.2 Rick Leighton gave the community copies of the **Science Curriculum** guide and an overview of the document. Deb Trovato made the motion to accept the science curriculum guide as presented; seconded by Frank Wills; and so voted 5-0.

8.3 Frank Wills made the motion to approve the one time **early retirement** notification as presented; seconded by Debra Trovato; and so voted 5-0.

8.3 Dr. Traylor informed the committee that a proposal was given to design a school system **public relations** brochure for both schools for \$4,500 for prep work. Debra Trovato made the motion to accept this proposal for prep work and that the finish product be brought to the committee for approval of printing; William Rogers seconded; so voted 5-0.

No closing statements.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2003.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

These minutes were approved by a vote of the Provincetown School Committee at their meeting on _____, 20_____.

Respectfully Submitted,

School Committee Signature

Sheila M. Colburn, Recording Secretary

Title