

PROVINCETOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of November 4, 2003
Meeting held at VMES Library

Present: Terese Nelson (Chair), Peter Grosso (Vice-Chair), Frank Wills (Secretary), Molly Perdue and Debra Trovato.
Others Present: Dr. Colette Traylor (Superintendent), Edward Boxer (PHS Principal) and Anthony Teso (VMES Principal).

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM.

No public comments were heard.

MINUTES:

Peter Grosso made the motion to accept the minutes of October 7, 2003 as written; Frank Wills seconded; so voted 5-0.

EDUCATIONAL UPDATE:

- Dr. Traylor **acknowledged the Lions Club and Tom Reis** for a successful dinner fundraiser for the Florence Bent Memorial Playground fund. A donation was made of \$4,200. The Chair suggested a plaque could be made to present at a future Lions Club dinner. Peter Grosso thanked everyone who helped make the dinner such a success.
- Dr. Traylor informed the Committee of an ongoing survey that is being conducted by the **Pupil Personnel Services Initiative**. Results will be compiled to form a needs analysis and should be complete by the spring of 2004. The group is comprised of the school psychologist, school adjustment counselor and lead nurse. Three goals for focus are: drug free students, mental health support and violence prevention. Susan Baker, Lead Nurse, will oversee implementation as per our four year Health Grant. Data has been gathered from 2001, 2002 and 2003. Programs already in place: smoking cessation and visits by the Mobil Health Van.
- An update was given on the high school **Building Project** as follows: the punch list is being worked on including difficulties with the heating system. Certain areas are not receiving heat and are being dealt with by Rusty's. The DPW pulled up trees at the tennis courts and the restoration project there should begin within the week. The gym floor is under repair; the walk in refrigerator in the kitchen has been installed. The first stage of auditorium lights is completed but this does not cover any unit in the balcony area to run the lights. Play director, Jim Brizzi is working on temporary arrangements to use during the Senior Class Play. There is ongoing concern regarding the exits from the VMES gym. The boiler replacement at VMES will not be covered by insurance. The claim adjuster informed the district that it was improperly installed. It will cost \$35,000 to replace the boiler. Wilkinson will check the remaining two boilers.
- **The Town Manager requested that Dr. Traylor and the Chair meet with him and Dr. Cheryl Andrews, selectman.** He would like a fiscal summit between the two boards to be held on Monday December 15, 2003 at the Town Hall and would like to begin to develop an agenda for that meeting. Dr. Traylor and the Chair met with them and were presented with a proposal for the joint meeting. Topics included were: fiscal overview, policy frameworks, town and School Committee goals, financial projections, level funding and school finance and revenue. A number of other topics were discussed. There was a lengthy discussion of what the town expects of the schools. Dr. Traylor informed the Committee that the Chair did an admirable job at the meeting. It was noted that the voters ultimately have the power to approve or disapprove the school budget. Per pupil costs do not deduct monies earned from school choice, outside tuition and/or grants. The Committee feels it must go to the finance committee well prepared on their budget. The use of the Annex building was discussed at length. The Annex houses offices and files. It allows the central office to be separate with discreet office space that gives parents confidentiality. It is also used by Adult Education and community based groups. The School Committee will put their own items on the agenda for the joint meeting and be proactive regarding the lease of the Annex. The consensus is that the operational school budget and the Annex should be considered separate issues. Dr. Wills cannot make the meeting with selectmen on the fifteenth; Dr. Traylor will try to reschedule.
- **Jessica Waugh, Curriculum Coordinator**, gave the Committee the Curriculum Councils goals and a brief overview of their objectives.
- Dr. Traylor informed the Committee that Provincetown High School has been **granted accreditation**. She thanked everyone involved for all of their hard work to bring this forward.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6.1 The Chair asked for direction from the Committee on how to proceed with the possible leasing of the Annex. Frank Wills felt that the Committee should proceed with leasing possibilities to see what the market is. The Committee does not feel that the town is offering them a feasible alternative to leasing the building. Frank Wills made the motion to proceed with finding out the options for the leasing of the Annex; seconded by Peter Grosso; so voted 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 School budget subcommittee meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2003 at 8:30 AM in the Superintendent's office.

7.2 Dr. Traylor informed the Committee that a parent had taken issue with the **extra curricular activity form** that the high school uses. This form is to be filled out by all students who participate in any activity that does not take place during the regular school day. The need for this form began with an incident in Newton, Ma. That district was sued after a school bus accident that was not the bus drivers fault. This form, to be signed by both student and parent, was strongly recommended to all Superintendents in the Commonwealth, and by the district's lawyer. This does not cover negligence by the school and/or its employees. Dr. Traylor will call the district's lawyer for verification. Peter Grosso made the motion to accept the form as it is; Molly Perdue seconded; so voted 3-0 with Frank Wills and Debra Trovato abstaining.

CLOSING STATEMENTS:

Debra Trovato gave the Committee an update on the after school program that is beginning at VMES.

The motion to adjourn was made; no time was recorded.

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