



School Committee

Provincetown School Committee Meeting

**PROVINCETOWN HIGH SCHOOL
ELMER I. SILVA LEARNING CENTER
12 Winslow Street
PROVINCETOWN, MA 02657**

**Tuesday
October 5, 2010
5:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Kerry Adams, Cass Benson, Peter Grosso,
Shannon Patrick, and Lory Stewart.

Members Absent: none

Staff: Dr. Beth Singer, Superintendent
Kim Pike, District Principal (excused)

AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Peter Grosso, Chair.

Public Comments

There were none.

Minutes: Sept. 7 2010, Sept. 21, 2010

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the September 7th meeting as written.

Motion: Lory Stewart **Seconded:** Shannon Patrick

Vote: 3-0-2 ab (KA & CB)

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the September 21st meeting as amended.

Motion: Lory Stewart

Seconded: Kerry Adams

Vote: 5-0-0.

Superintendent's Update:

Personnel Update

Dr. Singer announced that we have had a resignation of Jean Peterson in preparation for her retirement; it's effective as of September 29, 2010. The position will be advertised.

Evaluations

There are scheduled evaluations of staff and all are being evaluated by Beth Singer and Kim Pike.

Kerry Adams wondered if the teachers have notice of their evaluations. Beth said that first we meet and set goals and the evaluators will visit a class about 4 times and will go over their evaluations with the teachers. By the end of May all professional staff and non-professionals will be evaluated.

October 1st Enrollments

A sheet was handed out which was the official school count until January 2011. This is the official way of reporting enrollments; the pre-school doesn't count. It was also noted that students with special needs can attend school until age 22.

Kerry asked what the difference was between school choice and a non-resident. The answer was that of our 31 pre-schoolers – 10 do not reside in Provincetown.

Beth said that she went to a meeting on Friday regarding "Race to the Top."

Lory had questions about the high school enrollment. She asked, "Does this enrollment mean we have a viable school?" Beth said that it requires a creative approach. It would probably lead to shifts and our promise would be that we will be available.

Peter asked if the 5 students in the 10th grade want to stay? And Lory said that these 5 kids will not have the same opportunities. Beth said – no problem – they will get all their requirements for graduation.

Jean Peterson, the retiring teacher, will be replaced. We had a person subbing all summer and she will probably float into the job.

Motion: Move to add 6.3 – Race to the Top

Motion: Peter Grosso Seconded: Kerry Adams Vote: 5-0-0.

New Business:

PSC Policy: Facebook & Social Networking

1st Reading

Some of the PSC members had objections to 1d. This stated: “Teachers will not give out their private cell phone or home phone numbers without prior approval of the district.”

There were many possible substitutions for 1d discussed and these will all be taken under advisement but most of the PSC didn’t care for the negative tone of this rule. A rewording of “Facebook and Social Networking” will be presented at the next meeting.

PSC Policy: Bullying Prevention

1st Reading

Beth said that the PSC previously approved a policy under harassment and this policy would be located in the student section of the policy manual and is more specific.

One objection voiced by Kerry pondered the word “target” and wondered if that were the best word to use since it sounds really harsh. It was merely a matter of semantics. Also – on the same page 3 – Kerry thought that “the investigation should be completed in 14 days” should have an added “or an appropriate amount of time.”

Beth countered that she doesn’t like “target” either but “victim” seems worse. This, too, will undergo rewrites and typo eliminations.

Unfinished Business:

Job Descriptions

“Race to the Top” We did a Memorandum of Understanding “MOU” with the PSC, and in the 1st round MA didn’t get selected but now we’re one of 12 states that have been selected to get funding. On Friday we learned that if Provincetown is going to continue – we have to submit a Request for Proposal (RFP) by October 22nd so it requires that at least 3 of us have to have some meetings to qualify. Beth cautioned that this is a chunk of work in a very short period of time. The amount of \$22K is the amount we are to receive over a 4 year period. We would be able

to spend only 10% of the money during the first year. There are many possibilities for its use but there are specific requirements.

Shannon said that this is a lot of work for the allotted money. Kerry said that it sounds like a lot of work, too. The amount of money isn't very great.

Beth said that she'd like to focus on the IB program. The work required is necessary anyway. She asked, "So do you want to continue?" She also said that a school committee member has to participate and Peter volunteered.

Motion: Move to have Peter Grosso the committee member working on the data for the "Race to the Top."

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Shannon Patrick Vote: 5-0-0

Peter said he will make himself available at any time and the meetings will depend on Dr. Singer's and David McGlothlin's schedules.

District Principal's Adm. Asst.

Beth said that she would like to think about this as a full year position – as opposed to a 10 month position and the reason for this is that there's a lot of work to be done in the summer.

Peter said that we have to be talking about more money and what about the person who is currently in the job. Would they be willing to work for the full year?

Lory said that she hates to have a job description tied to certain software, i.e., Rediker; she suggested adding "and others as required."

Kerry wondered if the person in the position is aware that it could become full time? Answer: "No."

Motion: Move to proceed with the changes as suggested.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Lory Stewart Vote: 5-0-0.

District Receptionist 2nd Reading

Make the same changes made to above as to similar software and not any specific ones.

Motion: Move to accept with the changes suggested.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Lory Stewart Vote: 5-0-0.

PSC Comments

Shannon wanted to know what sport programs we are going to offer? Answer: girl's soccer, basketball, softball and a running club, etc. Shannon then wanted to know about getting the track fixed. Beth said that she has asked for a quote about that but she hasn't pursued the issue because it would cut through the softball field.

Shannon was told that we also offer golf and tennis.

Kerry then asked about the goose problem but was told that now it's a crow problem.

Peter said that at one time we had a girl with a dog who chased the geese away on a regular basis for a nominal fee BUT the idea caught on and now she is gainfully employed by golf courses and other fields.

Peter said that he still wanted a quote on a generator for the high school. He said that they could do it on a limited basis such as getting a generator for the furnace – period. That would protect the school's plumbing from freezing.

Peter and Lory both said that the H-04 door of the school really needs better lighting. This request will be researched.

Cass wondered what are we doing about the bullying. – The policy that was presented probably answered this question.

Peter wanted to go on record regarding the Wee Care program. He wanted to publicly thank Dr. Beth Singer and Kim Pike for initiating the program and he is proud and happy to have this done.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by the School Committee on _____, 2010

Peter Grosso, Chairperson