



## School Committee

### Provincetown School Committee Meeting

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

**Tuesday`  
March 1, 2011  
5:00 p.m.**

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

**Members Absent:** Cass Benson (unexcused)

**Staff:** Dr. Beth Singer, Superintendent  
Kim Pike, District Principal

The meeting was called to order at 5:11 p.m.

#### **AGENDA**

##### **Public Comments**

There were none.

##### **Minutes: February 1, 2011**

**Motion: Move to approve the minutes of February 1<sup>st</sup> as written.**

**Motion: Lory Stewart                      Seconded: Kerry Adams                      Vote: 4-0-0.**

##### **Superintendent's Update:**

###### **▪ The move**

Dr. Singer said that it's absolutely overwhelming. Kim Pike has the transition team which is related to the move but not the move itself. Then there's the moving team. They have inventoried all the furniture and will bring the list of excess to the

next PSC meeting. They are doing the same kind of inventory process with the books. Kerry suggested a yard sale on the week-end before Memorial Day which traditionally has a town-wide yard sale. Beth said that she is also working on changes to the buildings that need to happen, i.e., moving the door at VMES down the corridor without buying new ones – just moving the current doors. She also plans on busing the school children to the front doors but having them enter through the side door. Once we have handrails, the front doors will be the main pupil entry to the school.

Lory worried that by moving the buzzers you will have no security system? Beth said that you have to buzz and then get buzzed in. So, Beth continued there are a lot of decisions to make and everyone is invited to help. She plans to start moving this spring.

Lory asked if Beth has determined what is surplus and where it will be stored. We'll probably use the room next to the library at PHS for surplus furniture. Beth would like to use the VMES gym. Peter wants to know which gym to showcase this sale? and therein lies the problem – the availability and usage of the gym(s), etc.

Lory suggested calling in a company called CRT and they will bring down a truck and you could use their bin - a full flat bed container. Beth will look into it. Lori also suggested making it a fundraiser by opening it to the town's people at a minimal fee.

Beth has been talking to Beau Jackett and he suggested the company who comes to the transfer station (may be one and the same). Beth likes the fund raising idea. Kerry wants to know how many computers would be considered surplus? Ans: over 100 pieces including monitors and computers.

Shannon is disappointed in not using the front door for pupil access. Beth said the railings have to be put into a future plan. The Historic District Commission is not an issue because it is a safety issue.

▪ **Superintendent position applicants**

The deadline for applications closed today and you have 3 applicants - 2 are retired and the 3<sup>rd</sup> is not licensed and has no experience. Beth then asked – how would you like to proceed? It was decided that Peter would go over the applications and get back to the PSC at the next meeting.

- **IB training & application**

Beth said that they are moving along with this. Our application will be completed when the chair of the PSC signs off on it. We have 2 apps for the primary and the middle school. The applications are complete and that puts us into the candidates phase and that will get us an advisor. It usually takes anywhere from a year to 1½ to get the ball rolling. You can get trained in category 1 and training never stops. There are 11 teachers who are currently in the training program. They are meeting with teachers from all over the world. There will be 5 teachers going to Florida in May and 3 more will train elsewhere during July.

Kerry would like to invite some of the teachers to a meeting so that they can update the PSC and what they're doing.

Kim didn't like the idea of online training but this is now the way to go. All teachers will eventually be trained. The requirement is to have the training at grade level and Kim feels that it's important for everybody to be trained at grade level.

- **Tomorrows parent workshops**

Kim and Beth have invited all parents to come at either 9 a.m. or at 5 p.m. in the library to hear any questions and concerns that parents may have about the move. Invitations have gone home to the parents and this is another opportunity for people to ask questions.

- **Alumni basketball games**

Saturday (March 5<sup>th</sup>) is the date for our 2 big alumni games. It's a fund raiser for the New York trip. Also another fund raiser for the same reason will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup> and will be a pasta dinner. Kerry volunteered to donate his time for an auction as he's done before. Beth said that she also needs help with some of the moving, if anyone wants to volunteer.

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### **Comparison head teacher – assistant to principal**

##### **Drafts Job Descriptions**

Beth said that we haven't gotten to this new job in negotiations – we will get to it in March and she would like the PSC's input.

Kerry asked, "Who decided to call it head teacher as opposed to assistant to the principal?" The answer was that "Head Teacher" is common in elementary

schools; the present person who holds the assistant to the principal position has done an outstanding job. But it could only work with two teachers in that classroom. That is no longer the case. Beth continued by saying - the head teacher is someone who has finite tasks and also makes decisions when the principal is not available. She continued by saying that it makes sense for the head teacher position to be periodically posted. Thus having it for 2 or 3 years, others can apply.

Kerry looks at it as an assistant principal position.

Beth said that a head teacher is not supervisory.

Lory said that she was still confused by “1.5 hours/day after school”

Beth’s answer: Work before or after school would be compensated. She gave many examples and concluded by saying that the work you do during the school day is because your schedule allows it but it doesn’t count toward compensation. This compensation that is here would have to be negotiated. This amount of money is in the budget and we have to make it work.

Peter asked - the 1½ hrs – if there is nothing to do – they just go home?

Yes, Beth answered. It should average-out.

Question re: Item 11 in the job description – publication, is it just a press release? Press releases, Fishtales, Foghorn, new opportunities, PTV and WOMR all pertain to “publications”.

Beth said that another piece to publicity is facilitating the programming to get it on the air.

**Motion: Move to accept the job description for the head teacher position contingent upon a successful negotiation with the union.**

**Motion: Kerry Adams           Seconded: Shannon Patrick   Vote: 4-0-0.**

**New Business:**

### **School Calendar 2011-12 Draft**

Beth said that it’s a little bit different than previous years. It includes four full days for professional development and three half days. Students would start the school year on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. The calendar year also includes one teacher work day. There are 180 student days and we end on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. We’ll have five days for possible make-up (snow) time. Contract language will allow for more days of professional development as the calendar allows.

### **PSC Policy Field Trips – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

This policy replaces the 1999 policy and this policy compliments the procedures we discussed at the last meeting. You may want to change the ratio (7:1) - a lot of school districts have 10:1. Beth likes it when parents chaperone. It's very difficult to pull all your professionals out for a field trip.

Kerry wondered who decided the amount of insurance? Peter said that you could get a policy for a specific event. Kerry said that this is too expensive.

This won't be voted on until the next meeting. Beth said that we can still talk about it. Kerry will supply Beth with the proper insurance terminology at the next meeting.

### **Signs**

Kim gave out a sample of the new signs being designed for the school in collaboration with Castle Hill. Cherie Mittenthal and Linden Gray are helping with the project and all participants are quite enthused. The two large proposed signs will be 5 ft X 3 ft; there will also be totems with 300 tiles used in all. Kim thinks that it will be a wonderful way to welcome people.

Peter asked, "So what happens to the current sign – VMES?" Beth said that's a good question. Maybe we can move it to the Pre-School area.

### **Nauset Tuition Agreement**

The agreement has been approved by the Nauset Tuition Committee. In addition to tuition they are asking us to pay \$159 per student for the capital expenses. Truro has a 5 year contract with them and they will be asking Truro to approve a per pupil cost to the capital plan when Truro's agreement is renewed.

Peter said we're over a barrel - what are the options?

Lory asked if there were any reason we're not looking at a multi year tuition plan? After a bit more discussion the following motion was made:

**Motion: Move to accept the Nauset contract if there's an opportunity to have a 5 year agreement.**

**Motion: Kerry Adams                      Seconded: Lory Stewart                      Vote: 4-0-0.**

### **PSC Comments**

Shannon Patrick asked if the school was having a musical this year. Yes, Susan Grilli from Counter Productions will be putting on *Fiddler on the Roof*. Shannon then wondered if there would be high school students in it. There will be auditions. Kim also suggested that anyone can go on the School's website and find all about future happenings.

Peter Grosso wondered if the school would be having an awards night. Yes, June 22<sup>nd</sup> is the target date. Also May 14<sup>th</sup> is the date for the Junior Prom and graduation will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup> with Senior Week happening the week before.

Beth is rewriting all the contracts from beginning to end. It was her idea to do it and she didn't realize the size of the task.

**NEXT MEETING**  
**MARCH 29, 2011**  
**5:00 P.M.**

Adjournment of the PSC happened at 6:30 p.m.

Executive Session:  
Discussion with respect to Collective Bargaining

Respectfully submitted,  
Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by the School Committee on March 29, 2011

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Peter Grosso, Chairperson