



Provincetown School Committee Meeting

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

**Tuesday
November 8, 2011
5:00 p.m.**

**Members Present: Kerry Adams, Cass Benson, Jamie Kryszkiewicz,
Shannon Patrick, and Lory Stewart.**

**Staff: Dr. Beth Singer, Superintendent
Kim Pike, District Principal
Amy Rokicki and John Vosburgh**

AGENDA

Public Comments

There were none.

Minutes: October 18, 2011

Motion: Move to accept the minutes of the Oct. 18th meeting as written.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Cass Benson Vote: 5-0-0

Presentation: Data-John Vosburgh & Amy Rokicki

Amy Rokicki said that she teaches high School English and she is the data specialist this year. She also said that John Vosburgh has scheduled a plan for data assessment. She had hand-outs and said that the reading assessments are on page 1 and on page 2 – the math assessments.

Amy said that they began last year and we are on target for this year. Some assessments are monthly and some less frequently, etc. but we're definitely on target and are getting the data out to everyone in a timely fashion.

The data is more targeted to individuals. She attended a course on how to coach teachers with the goal of using assessments. If you walk into our faculty room you will see a data wall. A big part this push, as a district, is that the entire support staff meets monthly and ultimately assesses the data. What we ascertain may mean that we may need to align the curriculum or we might need to change the curriculum. Amy continued by saying that John has a Masters in the art of instruction and he's able to coach teachers. She said that we're also looking to maximize some of the programs we have; not only to assess students but also to adjust help for them. Continuing, Amy said that John is looking to have individual classroom libraries and he is meeting regularly with the teachers.

Kerry Adams asked if the 11th and 12th grades were intentionally left out of the statistics.

Amy said, "Yes". She added that all teachers have been cooperative and appreciative of the process.

Motion: Move to take New Business out of order since there were three people waiting to present.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Cass Benson

This wasn't posted per Lory – and - are we going to vote on something? Dr. Singer said that we need to vote prior to the BOS meeting and Beth said that she did call Doug Johnstone with the agenda addition. He didn't say we couldn't. Cass had a suggestion to get around the dilemma – just post a brief meeting for two days in the future and vote on it then.

Despite the objection on timing the vote on the motion was 5-0-0.

To further explain it is necessary for the school district to adopt the policy before the Board of Selectmen and this vote has to happen before the BOS meeting on Monday, November 14th. The school district has to adopt the same policy - so, again, the policy simply states that replacement would have to be with fuel efficient values.

David Gardner, Ass't Town Manager, gave the presentation on Fuel Efficient Vehicle Replacement Policy & Inventory Requirements. Currently the policy would have no effect on the School Department as all vehicles are exempt. Nevertheless, PSC approval is necessary for town-wide compliance.

Next the PSC heard from Brian Carlson regarding the Green Communities Grant Program. The town is submitting an application to the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resource on November 18th to become designated as a Green Community in order to be eligible for state Grant funds during the 2012 grant cycle. We have to target a 20% energy reduction town wide and the chart showed that both schools are the biggest users of energy. The Town has applied for FEMA grants to retrofit four critical structures against high wind events such as hurricanes. Two of our grant requests were wait-listed and two of them were recommended for funding.

The two grants recommended for funding include wind-retrofits to the Town Hall and the schools (Elementary and High School). They are 75/25 grants which means that 75% will be funded by FEMA and 25% will be borne by the Town. The total amount is \$405,216 with the Town's portion \$101,304.

Beth said that she recommends that we adopt both parts of this, the policy and the application for designation as a Green Community.

Kerry asked - who determines whether we have met the 20% reduction requirements?

David G. said that we have 5 years to achieve this 20% reduction in energy use and can easily attain it - especially since - by 2014 the Town will have three buildings that will not be in use.

Lory questioned whether we should vote since in all other instances any policy required a second reading. Beth said that the rule refers to school committee policy and this doesn't come under that umbrella.

Motion: Move to approve the grant application as presented.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Cass Benson Vote: 5-0-0

Beth then told the group about the FEMA Wind Retrofit Grant. It's been awhile since you've been updated on this grant which includes the generator. Brian gave a very comprehensive report on the storm windows and the wind shutters which are planned. The manufacturer's rep put together a proposal after measuring all the windows. The cost will be 75% vs 25%, if and when the grant is awarded. FEMA also wants to know what the color of the shutters would be. Dr. Singer got a quote on the generator so Brian thinks it's a win, win.

The generator would power the entire building. The shutters are electric. The generator and shutters are required components of the grant.

David G. said that it's our intent to move forward with this proposal at the April Town Meeting.

Superintendent's Update:

▪ **Replacement of gym lights**

Beth had Cape Light Compact come in at the end of the summer. Their assessment was that we needed new nozzles on our faucets in the cafeteria and they said we needed replacement of gym lights in both gyms. With the new lights, the electric use in the gym will be cut significantly. At the same time she sought their help with the heating system Honeywell wanted a great deal of money to do a study; Cape Light Compact will do an assessment for nothing.

▪ **Community education**

Beth said that she was delighted that Melanie Braverman has accepted our offer for community education. I think the consensus is that one thing doesn't work well for all adults – so some things will be an offering of one day and some will be for two or more weeks because we are not a totally year round community. There will be a fee schedule for some things and if we think it is a community service – then there will be no fee.

Kerry asked - do you foresee that any classes will be for college credit and or do we have the ability? Beth said that it might be possible that 4Cs would offer credits here in the future.

Lory had information about the Northeast Consortium and will be happy to share it with Beth.

▪ **November calendar of events**

Kim Pike said that November has a myriad of events. There has been a trip to visit and learn about the Wampanoags and the Pilgrims. Sadly the Chinese visitor who was to come here will not be able to make it. Many people were enthused about his visit and volunteered to help; we want to thank everyone for their offers and enthusiasm.

Shannon wondered if we could get another teacher to come over.

There will be a sing along and some instrumentals. The children will be singing at Seashore Point.

There is also more training for IB teachers.

The first thing in the morning (over the PA system) there will be a short program of classical music accompanied by a short description of what they'll be listening to.

The 4th graders will be going to Orleans for a program on water. They always come back excited about what they've learned.

Too, there will be a series of health seminars and a trip to the Monument.

We have a community bullying program and it is for families. We also have what we're calling a data party to look at different scores that we've received.

On the 16th our high school students are going to Boston and Plymouth.

On the 29th Sebastian Younger is coming to speak to the students. He is the author of the *Perfect Storm* and *War*.

Kerry asked about the junior prom. It will be held the 2nd Saturday of May (12th) and will take place at the Harbor Lounge (the old MEWS restaurant). Cass Benson generously donated her place of business for the event.

Kerry wondered if the kids might be able to spend a night in a dune shack. He thinks that it would be a great experience for them.

New Business:

Line item transfers

Beth asked to move \$44,000.00. She said that after we adopted our budget we concluded negotiations with the different groups. Some of the salary line items in the budget changed but then when you hire someone there are adjustments. Also, we've recently have had a problem with the air conditioner. It's up on the roof and is rusted out and needs to be replaced. These transfers will put the money where it needs to be.

Motion: Move to accept the line item transfers as detailed.

Motion: Cass Benson Seconded: Kerry Adams Vote: 5-0-0

PSC Comments

Kerry Adams is just thrilled about the adult education proposal.

Cass Benson - how about the sidewalk and it should be at the top of the list. Beth said that they are trying to do sidewalks & sewers at the same time so they don't have to go over repaired areas once they're completed. Beth will check with David Guertin. She also said that the town will be fixing the drainage problem at the high school

Shannon Patrick - the kids Halloween dance was in the cafeteria – why? We have two gyms and why can't we use them. Kim Pike said that the VMES gym is not quite ready and the gym floor downstairs needs proper shoes.

Shannon, again asked, what are we saving it for? We are not saving the gyms. They are being used; just not for this dance. The construction on VMES is about to start and the gym is also being used by alums.

Adjournment happened at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by the School Committee on December 13, 2011

Shannon Patrick, Chair