



Provincetown School Committee Meeting

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

**Tuesday
March 20, 2012
5:00 p.m.**

**Members Present: Kerry Adams, Jamie Kryszkiewicz,
and Lory Stewart.**

Members Absent: Cass Benson and Shannon Patrick

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

AGENDA

Public Comments

There were none.

Minutes: February 27, 2012

Motion: Move to approve the February 27, 2012 minutes as written.

Motion: Lory Stewart Seconded: Jamie Kryszkiewicz Vote: 3-0-0.

Superintendent's Update:

▪ Remote participation guidelines for Boards

The above mentioned directive regarding remote participation of Board members was sent out by the Town Clerk to all Boards. It defines telephone participation within certain guidelines.

Lory's comment was that this method of communication was antiquated and the fact that it has to be done by phone is ludicrous. You should be able to

skype as well as other means of communication. She will send a letter to the Board of Selectmen (BoS) regarding her thoughts.

▪ **CIP-changes**

Basically, the FinCom felt that pointing the exterior walls should be moved into Year 1 because good maintenance of the building is the priority especially where damage is occurring. They want it done first and have placed other plans on hold for the time being. Beth pointed out that sealing and pointing the exterior doesn't solve the current roof problems. If patching is not sufficient and we need to replace the roof, we will be seeking the necessary funds.

▪ **Playground option 2**

David Gardner came up with a better location for the playground. If we were to build the playground in the parking lot triangle, we would get 200 extra feet of space for the playground and the existing picnic area could remain. We may need a more substantial fence. Everyone at Town Hall with whom the proposal was discussed was very supportive.

▪ **Annie Jr.**

The school will be putting on a junior production of Annie on March 30th, March 31st and April 1st. Eleanor Lincoln and her cast and crew are working very hard on this effort and tickets are already on sale.

Unfinished Business:

Policy manual

James Hardy, Field Director of the MA Association of School Committees, has been chosen to be our advisor for rewriting the Provincetown Policy Manual. Lory volunteered and Mr. Hardy would like to work in two hour increments. Lory said that she would be available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and (maybe Fridays) from either 3 to 5 or 4 to 6. Beth – now that she knows Lory's schedule possibilities will go ahead and schedule a few meetings.

New Business:

School calendar 2012-2013

The proposed school calendar includes 180 school days for children – 5 professional development days – and 1 teacher work day (Sept. 4th). The Wednesday before Thanksgiving will be a half day. The last day will be June 21st in order to allow for 5 snow days.

Lory, commenting on the calendar, said that the problem is – it only comes in as 179 days and we have to squeeze in another day thus the ½ day before Thanksgiving counts as a full day.

Overnight field trip requests

There were two field trip requests:

One for Overlook Farm (Heifer International Program) for grades 5-7 taking place on May 21-23, 2012.

The other for the Cape Cod National Seashore at the Coast Guard House in Eastham – grade 4 happening on April 5 & 6.

Motion: Move to approve the two overnight field trip requests as discussed above.

Motion: Lory Stewart Seconded: Jamie Kryszkiewicz Vote: 3-0-0.

Library book surplus list

The surplus books were discussed briefly culminating in the following motion:

Motion: Move to declare the list of books as surplus.

Motion: Lory Stewart Seconded: Jamie Kryszkiewicz Vote: 3-0-0.

Policies-mission statement, assessment policy, language policy

This is the 1st reading and Kim said that we will need a vote to adopt these three guides at the next meeting.

Mission Statement - The statement was written after studying the mission statements from other International Bacclaureate (IB) schools as well as having our teachers, parent groups and site council work on a Provincetown mission that aligns with IB. This resulted in two drafts. Site council combined them into one which we recommend adopting.

Assessment Policy – The key from this policy is that assessments are ongoing and often.

Language Policy – Kim said that the main idea is not necessarily to learn a new language but to appreciate the culture of others as well as the language. We're not looking for just conversational ability.

Kerry asked how often assessments happened? Kim replies it varies from the end of a unit to at the end of a lesson. He also wanted to know how often the educators are evaluated? Answer: Every two years for professional status teachers and annually is without professional status.

Paraprofessional job description

The 1st page is the existing job description and the 2nd page is the proposed job description. This is a 1st reading under qualifications – we no longer have a test – the standard is an associate’s degree or its equivalent.

Lory noticed that it said PAE proposal? Beth said it shouldn’t. Also, Lory continued, should “who does the evaluation” be in here? Kim said that it is in their contract.

Amended to add “and evaluated by”.

PSC Comments

Lory Stewart said that she’s been on the board for 2 years and she has never seen an auditor’s report. It will be on a future agenda.

Lory then asked – is the school going to use their garden space? Kim said that kindergarten students are going to plant a bit. Kim said that last year we had a parent who helped out.

Lory then requested a report on how the one on one computing is working. Kim said that she planned on doing a survey. Lory said that she’d like to know because the project cost the town a lot of money.

Kerry Adams wanted to know how many handicap parking spaces we have – and who monitors them? Ans: The police monitor our one space.

Jamie Kryszkiewicz noted that the handicap parking spaces are being used inappropriately.

Adjournment happened at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by the School Committee on April 23, 2012

Executive Session:
Superintendent hire/waiver process