



## **Provincetown School Committee Meeting**

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

**Tuesday  
August 14, 2012  
5:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Kerry Adams (arr 5:25p), Cass Benson,  
Jamie Kryszkiewicz, Shannon Patrick,  
and Lory Stewart.

**Staff:** Dr. Beth Singer, Superintendent

### **AGENDA**

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m.

### **Public Comments**

There were none.

### **Minutes: July 10, 2012**

**Motion:** Move to approve the minutes of the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting as written.

**Motion:** Lory Stewart                      **Seconded:** Jamie Kryszkiewicz  
**Vote:** 3-0-2 ab (KA & SP)

**Motion:** Move the Over Night Field Trip Request up the agenda.

**Motion was made, seconded, and approved by all.**

### **Over Night Field Trip Request**

An overnight field trip will be conducted with the 9 senior girls. It will be a four or five hour trip to Canobie Park. They will be staying in a hotel and

the class advisors, Lisa Colley and Kristin Shantz, will be accompanying them; they spoke to the PSC and were in attendance in order to answer any questions the PSC might have. It was referred to as a “bonding expedition.”

**Motion: Move to approve the field trip request as presented.**

**Motion: Jamie Kryszkiewicz    Seconded: Cass Benson    Vote: 4-0-0.**

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### **Technology Integration Specialist Job Description**

Cass asked - didn't the town pay for part of this person's job? Beth said that we have paid the town for IT services, part of that service was a person primarily assigned to the schools. Cass continued - is there any piece that we can charge back to the town?

There is Massachusetts license use for this position - which would be nice - but is not required. The person we hired doesn't have certification but will be applying.

After a comment by Jamie regarding computers borrowed for the summer being blocked – Beth's guess is that all the computers will have to be cleaned off when they are returned at the beginning of the school year.

On August 2<sup>nd</sup>, prior to the approval of the job description, a technology integration specialist was hired; his name is Scott Nagel. He is also very skilled in photography and video. There will be a technology based, problem solving class and Amy Rokicki will be the instructor.

Lory asked – what about an education qualification? Answer: I assumed a bachelor degree minimally, and it should be added to this job description. He has a master's degree in informational technology.

**Motion: Move to accept the job description and add that it should include having a BA degree.**

**Motion: Jamie Kryszkiewicz    Seconded: Cass Benson    Vote: 5-0-0**

### **New Business:**

#### **Line Item Transfer**

There was a request for a line item transfer of \$40,000. to pay for the tech position. We paid for the tech licenses in advance to have money to pay for this position.

**Motion: Move to accept the line item transfer as presented.**

**Motion: Cass Benson                      Seconded: Jamie Kryszkiewicz**

**Vote: 3-in favor 1-opposed (LS) 1-abstained (KA was late)**

Lory said that she will not vote for it since it was not budgeted and only serves to add additional burden to the town.

Beth defended this by saying that it happened after the town meeting, it was not anticipated. The loss of our teacher balances the benefits paid by the town.

Cass asked - it's a "wash" for the benefits? Answer: Yes. We have paid the Town \$65,000.00 for MIS services. We won't be paying that amount again. But the MIS budget was based on including our portion so we paid it.

Lory continued - so we're paying \$65,000. for the whole year? Beth said that Mr. Jackett was here for a long time this year and the MIS department went to town meeting with a budget which included the school.

### **Superintendent's Evaluation**

Dr. Singer's evaluation was a compilation of each committee member's comments.

Shannon and Cass compiled the opinions. The overall cumulative assessment of Beth's performance was EXEMPLARY. Beth has also reached out to include the community and all local organizations in the progress of education in Provincetown. The adult night school has also been rebooted, was enjoyed by many in Town, and will continue to be augmented as opportunities arise.

The new IB curriculum is seen as innovative and an attempt to re-energize the school population and reputation. This also serves as part of the accolade given to Beth Singer.

The only question raised by Kerry Adams – in response to keeping parents informed – was how will any information be implemented in the future? Kerry had evidently receive complaints from several parents about not being "in the loop" when children (itty-bitty ones) were moved from the VMES to the High School building. Beth countered by saying that every family involved received a letter informing them of the changes, reasons for, and plans for the future. This statement satisfied Kerry's questions.

Also, the parents complained that they were not in on the decisions. That really isn't their job and that's why a Superintendent is in charge of decision making.

Jamie expressed concern about – how do we get more parents into the school and get involved. We need to find ways to get parents in here to find out what we're doing.

Shannon said – most parents don't get involved – we have to start with our own families. We can do things in the school to entice parents in - maybe a barbeque or a pot-luck – or some activities.

At the end of the evaluation – Beth was thanked for her efforts and most of the PSC told her that they felt they were lucky to have her.

Beth thanked them for their report and said that in September she will bring them her professional and personal goals. The next time for an evaluation will be mid-year – some time in January.

### **PSC Comments**

Jamie said that she's very happy with everything at the school.

Cass feels its exciting and school looks great. She opened the discussion about the report at the BOS meeting on the exterior of the building.

Lory said that at the meeting with Sharon Lynn – there was the same report. It was a meeting led by Mark Almeida and dealt in detail with the structural problems facing the high school – and – more importantly the amount of money needed to address the problems.

Costs have come in substantially higher. \$420,000. was appropriated and is not adequate.

Beth explained that a closer look revealed additional problems including the roof. The warranty has expired, there are repairs needed and it will need to be replaced within 5 years. Also, in repairing the wall - the roof will have to be taken back 3 feet. Safety is the high priority. It is hoped that the entire job can be accomplished with one scaffolding.

Lory said that scaffolding is expensive-so- if you're going to scaffold-you may as well do it all. What she heard last night at the Almeida presentation was that the whole package may go to the town with choices, do all of it or we can defer pieces of it. Beth's issue is – now that we know it's unsafe – waiting until November is worrisome. We have to do something protective.

Beth said she is looking into if we can close off that walkway. So those are the questions.....do we have to keep it open? The least expensive would be to block it off. We're \$250,000. short of the money needed to complete the high priority fixes to make it safe and we also need an architectural design. She will try to get some of those answers.

**NEXT MEETING  
TUESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>  
5:15 P.M.**

**Note – the new start time!!!**

**Adjournment**

**Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 P.M.**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by the School Committee on \_\_\_\_\_, 2012

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