

**PROVINCETOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
PROVINCETOWN HIGH SCHOOL
ELMER I. SILVA LEARNING CENTER
12 WINSLOW STREET
PROVINCETOWN, MA 02657
TUESDAY, June 10th, 2014**

Members Present: Cass Benson, Liz Lovati, Shannon Patrick (left at 6:30), Anthony Brackett

Members Absent: Kerry Adams

Others: Beth Singer, Superintendent
Kim Pike, Principal

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:33

2. Roll Called: (See above)

Motion to move 7.1 to right after Costa Rica presentation

Motion: Cass Benson **Seconded:** Shannon Patrick **Vote: 4-0-0**

3. Public Comments:

Brendan Dillon (Mathematics teacher and Costa Rica chaperone), Lisa Colley (PE/Health teacher and chaperone): *Offer their thanks to the school committee, the community, for such a wonderful experience efor the students and school community.*

Nancy Flasher (Community projects teacher): *Thanks on behalf of 6th and 7th graders for trip to overlook farm.*

Elizabeth Francis (K teacher and PYP IB Coordinator): *Thanks to dolphin fleet for gifting to our students and faculty a whale watch on Thursday morning. Announcement of World of Inquiry on Wednesday, June 18th*

Reading of letter from Kristen Shantz (Costa Rica chaperone and former school nurse) in appreciation of Costa Rica trip, students, chaperones, and Kim Pike in particular.

Kim Pike (Principal): *Offers her appreciation to the community*

4. Minutes May 20th, 2014

Motion: To accept minutes of May 20th with corrections (Motion to name Anthony Brackett as PSC Chair made by Kerry Adams, not Cass Benson)

Motion: Cass Benson **Seconded:** Shannon Patrick **Vote:** 4-0-0

Presentation: Powerpoint presentation by students of their trip to Costa Rica

7.1 (Moved from New Business) Food Services Reports

Brenda Costa (Food Services):

It's tough to feed 3-12 year olds all the same thing – hard to please everyone, as well as following guidelines. Everything will have to be whole grain starting in September.

We're supposed to have a bean at least once a week, which can be difficult. The targets for calorie counts are between 550 and 650.

Anthony Brackett: Do they offer suggestions when they come up with guidelines?

Brenda Costa: They do want you to introduce a lot of red and orange vegetables – carrots, red and yellow peppers, the whole grain is difficult, but needs to be in there for it to be a reimbursable lunch. The kids have trouble with wheat

Liz Lovati: What is a reimbursable lunch?

Beth Singer: The motivation behind the new lunch plan is to combat obesity. For our students, having a whole grain, whole wheat pasta and a bean regularly is new to them, a bean regularly.

BC: Our lunches are reimbursed, we offer 5 items, they have to take 3, for it to count. A sandwich and milk counts for 3 - meat, bread, and milk.

AB: How were kids eating in the old system?

BC: About the same, there are a couple who won't eat the whole wheat.

AB: Are whole grain pastas more successful than the breads?

BC: Not particularly

Claudia Colley (Food Services): It's tough, because we try new things, and they refuse to try it

AB: Do we know what Truro is doing?

Cass Benson: Do we have a higher percentage that gets reimbursed?

BS: The reimbursement pays for lunch and salaries, we wouldn't be able to not have reimbursed lunches

AB: I did a little bit of research online about kids being unreceptive to school lunch, found a district with the same percentage of Free and Reduced lunch, though a larger district – and they also had some of the same problems. One of the things they tried was presenting it in a different way – I'm wondering if that might be a possibility here. The farm to table that we tried seemed to fall off, what happened with that?

BC: The problem with that is having people deliver here – it's out of Falmouth, and some larger companies won't go the extra distance because they don't make a lot of money coming out here.

AB: Could we make a sub committee and work with the kitchen staff and try to contact some other schools with similar populations to see what they are doing?

CB: Would be great to have a committee because it would be good to see kids eating this food, and it's a problem everywhere.

BS: Would be good to have students on that committee

AB: We appreciate your hard work, and I know it must be frustrating.

Motion to form a sub committee to look at other schools and collaborate with kitchen staff to try to have more success with meals.

Motion: Anthony Brackett **Seconded:** Cass Benson **Vote:** 3-0-0

BS: Part of being a world school should be having a world culinary experience – if we have a large population of students who are used to a different diet, we could cater to that.

5. Superintendent's Update:

5.1 8th Grade Commencement

School committee warmly invited

5.2 Exterior Restoration

The final louver in the front of the building is all that's left, it's being delivered soon and will be installed shortly.

5.3 Summer Programs

We'll be offering a summer program to pre-school children at CMVV beginning June 30th, and with the exception of July 4th, will be continuing 5 days/week from 8 to 4, concluding August 15th. We are again planning to offer Summer Math and ELA camps for children in grades K-7 to children who have extended year services on IEPs, to children who have not yet reached proficient on MCAS, and to students who are below grade level in either or both subjects. We will divide students into 2 groups – PYP and MYP. Camps will be starting July 7th going through August 15th.

AB: Do the majority take advantage of this?

BS: We invite about twice as many as we get

LL: Who will be teaching the classes?

BS: Not finalized yet, we offer it to our staff first and then move out to others.

6. Unfinished Business

6.1 Policy for Use of Background Check Information

You will need to vote on this policy at the next meeting – you can decide who, besides faculty and staff, are fingerprinted, language related to addressing discretionary fingerprinting, and on the storage site for records, and if you want to list factors that would determine suitability or unsuitability, and if you want to accept results from other districts.

LL: Who makes decision about if a person is eligible or not once we have the information from a CORI?

BS: Right now, I do.

6.2 2014-2015 School Calendar

This is the calendar that has been approved by the PAE and begins, for teachers, before labor day.

Motion to accept proposed calendar as presented

Motion: Cass Benson **Seconded:** Anthony Brackett vote 3-0-0

7. New Business

7.1 (Moved)

7.2 MCAS Vs. PARCC

You'll need to vote on if we'll continue to use MCAS for one more year, or switch to the PARCC this year. The recommendation from discussion with teachers and principal is to go with MCAS for another year because students with accommodations would still be doing MCAS, so we'd have to do both, and PARCC is all electronic, we're not fluent in all electronic testing. Two years is also the time period needed to determine our level, we'd need next year to do that.

Kim Pike: Teachers wanted to be trained in how to administer the PARCC

Motion to stick with MCAS for one more year

Motion: Anthony Brackett **Second:** Cass Benson 3-0-0

7.3 Summer PSC Meeting Dates & Times

CB: Would prefer a morning meeting

BS: Meeting during school hours when school is open and in session would be difficult, but a meeting at 3:30 or 4:00 would be possible.

LL: Morning would be great in the summer, 10 or 11?

Next meeting will be July 8th at 10:00 am August 12th other meetings to be determined at next meeting

7.5 Discussion: PSC Retreat

AB: How do you feel about having a retreat to talk about 5 year plan or direction school is taking? I just had a retreat for another organization, which was excellent.

General consensus about interest in retreat after labor day next year.

7.4 Personnel

As of today we're saying goodbye to 4 wonderful employess – Val Valdez (4th grade) going to teach in an IB worlds school in Africa – Michelle Carrera (2nd grade) taking a hiatus from teaching, and Eleanor Lincoln (Music) and Ben Williams (SPED Secretary) returning to Western Mass.

We've hired people to replace all those leaving, but still are looking for a Spanish teacher. It's hard to attract people to a part time position with no benefits in this town.

LL: Would it be possible to hire a person at more than .55 so that benefits would be included? That might be attractive to someone who wanted to be here.

CB: I think it's very important that kids get a lot of Spanish here, I would like to see them get more.

BS: I appreciate that. Unfortunately it's not in the budget for FY15. This will be funded this year with school choice money, since it's not in the budget, and then we will put it in the budget at whatever FTE you decide

LL: How much would a ¾ time person be?

BS: Depends on their experience, etc. I think we could hire someone at .55, if we could offer benefits, it might attract someone.

8. Other Business

8.1 Any other business that shall come before the Board and could not be anticipated within the 48 hour minimum posting requirements of the Open Meeting Laws (None)

9. PSC Comments

LL: Wonderful presentation from Costa Rica, really looking forward to my son going in a few years. Thanks to Kim for being a leader and a mother to those kids while they were there.

CB: Thanks to the community for all the fundraising 34k is a lot of money, so thanks.

KP: I'm going to have EF come in so we can start budgeting and raising money now.

AB: The presentation was extraordinary, everyone was really excited and grateful. I'm grateful to the community to the businesses and to Kim Pike for their generosity and looking forward to the next one

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Cass Benson Seconded: Liz Lovati Vote: 3-0-0

Respectively submitted,

Ben Williams

Approved by the School Committee on July 8, 2014.