

**Provincetown School Committee Meeting
Veterans Memorial Elementary School
Library Media Center – Room #73
2 Mayflower Lane
Provincetown, MA 02657**

**Wednesday
January 14, 2010
5:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Peter Grosso, Shannon Patrick and Deb Trovato.

Members Absent: Kerry Adams and Carrie Notaro (both excused)

Staff: Dr. Beth Singer, Superintendent
Kim Pike, District Principal (excused)

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

Public Comments

David McGlothlin, President of the PAE, wanted to clarify his public comments of the previous night. He wanted to indicate that the PAE membership had access to the budget which was released last Thursday and was available up to a week prior. During the course of that week members have come to him with questions they want him to raise. A vast majority of the high school membership and the entire Executive Committee of the elected officers have problems with the budget as presented. Deb and Carrie were copied on the PAE e-mail and he wants the parties with concerns to speak to him soon BEFORE he speaks with the PSC subcommittee. He has, of course, encouraged those individuals to speak during the public comment time, as well, in order to speak in support or whatever at the next meeting. He's encouraged them to speak to you about their concerns.

Amy Germain, a teacher, was wearing the hat of a union member tonight and wants to support David's comments of last night. She also wants to support all her brothers and sisters in the union and she isn't happy with the budget. She supports opposition of the budget, i.e., the art teacher with a reduction of 60% and the elimination of some of the positions saddens her and she feels both art and music are important parts of any school education.

Mary Beck is also a teacher and a member of the union. She is in favor of the budget and she feels that many of the cuts should have been made in the past.

Peter Grosso responded by saying that these are hard issues and during the public hearing you'll all have your opportunity to speak out with your opinions.

New Business

Job Description – Special Education Secretary – 1st reading

Beth read from the job description for Sped secretary. She gave an explanation on why the position is so important. She is presenting a 10 month 40 hr/wk job and she feels that it may become full time in

the future. Peter further explained that there is just a lot of paper work during the summer months due to the very strict time line restrictions.

This position will be voted on after the Public Hearing at its second reading.

Unfinished Business:

FY-11 School Budget Overview

Deb T. asked if anything has changed since the day before? Peter G. said that he would like to see some work done on saving the High School Library/Media Services; he felt that he'd like to see another place cut in order to save the Library Media Specialist.

A discussion ensued about possible cuts which would allow the restoration of one English teacher while also keeping the High School Media Specialist's position in the proposed budget. After much deliberation, the following motion was made:

Motion: Move to eliminate the daytime custodian at the High School and move one early childhood SPED support professional amount into the ELE revolving account as a temporary measure which will restore an English teacher at the High School.

Motion: Deb Trovato Seconded: Shannon Patrick Vote: 3-0-0.

Then the conversation turned to the new accounting system, MUNIS, that the Town has been using for some time. The PSC was told that putting the school budget on MUNIS is a very long, complicated process and – if the process were to start this very day – the school would be up and running on the system by June.

Beth then announced that the PSC has been invited to meet with the Board of Selectmen (BoS) on Monday, February 8th – and Beth said that she is meeting with the FinCom on the following day. Some of the members expressed a desire to know where they are scheduled on the agenda; Beth will find out.

Some of the group hoped that their budget would meet with approval and Peter Grosso said, “We don't need anyone's approval as a matter of process.”

PSC Comments

Deb had a question regarding the word “unanticipated” in the budget. Beth said that there's \$1K there to cover any extras in salaries that we don't anticipate.

Shannon is happy with the new budget process..

Peter is happy with the budget as it exists.

Beth said that its important that as we're downsizing we're already moving forward.

Adjournment happened at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by the School Committee on February 2, 2010

Peter Grosso, Chairperson