



School Committee

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

**Tuesday
March 23, 2010
5:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Kerry Adams, Peter Grosso, Carrie Notaro,
Shannon Patrick, and Deb Trovato.

Members Absent: none

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m.

AGENDA

Public Comments

There were none.

PSC Student Rep Comments

No students were in attendance.

Minutes: 3/2/2010

Motion: Move to accept the minutes of March 2nd as amended.

Motion: Kerry Adams **Seconded:** Deb Trovato **Vote:** 5-0-0.

Superintendent's Update:

- **Stipends**

A question was raised at the last meeting which pertained to an employee in two roles, i.e., a coach driving a bus and acting in two roles at the same time. Bottom line is that they get paid for one job. There probably have been mistakes made in paying in the past but there is no 2nd compensation. If a person is doing an after hours happening for a stipend salary and they have multiple roles with different stipends they can get both. Short answer is – if you are doing dual jobs at the same time there is one compensation – if you are doing multiple stipend jobs then there will be many stipends. i.e.: if you're a coach and drive the bus – you have to be there anyway, no pay.

- **Community Leaders Gathering**

Beth, in order to clarify the event, said that this is not a school event. She has invited the directors of local non-profits to come together at 5:00 p.m. on April 1st upstairs at Napi's to explore multi-faceted opportunities and she is hoping that we will find ways to work together. Beth assured the PSC that this get together is not about the schools – Beth is not hosting but merely facilitating. Deb Trovato wanted to make sure that there will be no governmental agencies. Beth said that the Town Manager will be present but the others will be representatives and/or directors of the COA, PAAM, Provincetown TV, the library, and any other non-profit agencies. Kerry Adams asked pointedly, “What is the goal of this meeting?” Beth answered by saying, “Suppose, for example, that WOMR said they had time that the school might want to use.” This would definitely be a plus and there are many other possibilities. Shannon said that having Beth as the facilitator indicates that it will be school based. Kerry said that if there are any offers coming forth from all the other non-profits, he hopes that the PSC would be informed. Beth will put it back on the agenda for the next meeting.

- **Education Week: 15 States Plus D.C. Are Named
Race to the Top Finalists**

Massachusetts came out as a finalist and soon we'll know if we are one of the chosen. The Federal Department of Education put out an RFP and they will select in rounds thus in April we'll find out our fate. If we are winners we will have 90 days to come up with an action plan and administration will start talking about this on Monday morning. The focus is teacher performance & evaluation, superintendent performance & evaluation, etc.

IB Introduction

The International Baccalaureate is a program with one mission: high quality international education for a better world. Beth showed a mini film about this program and what it hopes to accomplish. One of the advantages is in having a recognized high quality program. IB is designed to create a better world – not just in academics but in life long learning – citizenship, etc. The cost is \$10K/yr to participate in each program. We are looking at applying for two sections. We are looking to send a team of teachers to stage 1 training. One will be held in Atlanta and the other in New Orleans and will each be 4 day seminars.

There are 2,000 IB schools in 27 countries. The closest is the diploma program in Sturgis and there is one primary in Springfield and 2 middle programs in Springfield, Massachusetts and one in Brockton. Provincetown will apply for both the primary and the middle programs with the PSC's blessing.

Beth said PSC would be committing to professional development (always far away), IB fees (\$20,000 for two programs) and an IB coordinator. These are required for IB membership. Beth also said that students who do the diploma program and then go to college have an elite edge when they enter colleges. Colleges have said that IB applicants go in a separate pile.

Beth will try to identify the money between now and July 1st to send a group to be oriented for IB and it would consist of unspent money in appropriated funds. She further said that it makes sense to send 3 or 4 people at a time; you need the congeniality of sending a little group.

Motion: Move to approve pursuing the IB primary and middle programs for Provincetown's schools.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Shannon Patrick Vote: 5-0-0.

Unfinished Business:

Job Description: Paraprofessionals 2nd Reading

Motion: Move to accept the Job Description with the specified corrections.

Motion: Deb Trovato Seconded: Shannon Patrick Vote: 5-0-0.

New Business:

Daily School Schedule

Beth had a conversation with Brian Davis of the Truro School System regarding school hours. For Truro it was found that any change in school hours would not work for them with their bus schedules. Nevertheless, Beth recommends an 8:30-3:00 school day and our Choice bus will transport Truro students as well.

Motion: Move to amend the school day to begin at 8:30a and end at 3:00p.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Deb Trovato Vote: 5-0-0.

Athletics – Lou Preziosi, Athletic Director

Mr. Preziosi said that for spring athletics we have a baseball team which revolves around the middle school level; the older group elected not to join. The league and the MIAA agreed. We have a varsity only girls' softball team with 10 or 11 girls participating and we'll also have a girls' tennis team. Peter is concerned about middle school kids playing with older children but the argument is that the MIAA approved it so it's O.K.

Beth said that we are also offering some club sports, i.e., running, sailing, track & field, etc. The MIAA will not allow us to practice at another high school and our track doesn't go all the way around the field. Kerry would like the track looked at and try to get a price on bringing it back to usable condition. Basically we're looking at having more sports available. Lou said that we will have girls soccer in the fall but not sure about the boys soccer and we'll probably face the same situation in the spring again. He'll put more emphasis on the middle school program.

Carrie Notaro asked about racquet ball; and she also asked about getting water time.

Deb mentioned her same question – this time asking it of Lou. She said “What if a child wanted to be educated in Provincetown and join teams in other schools?” Short answer is “No.” This only works if we are part of a co-op and if the other school has the same needs; so far we are solo on this – as in other towns don't need any of our few numbers.

We're in the Lighthouse League now, but in May the Cape & Island League will be re-established. The schools involved are also looking into regionalization so things may change again.

Pet Policy Discussion & First Reading

Beth is recommending limiting dogs on campus and eliminating dogs in the building. As spring approaches we have found this to be an increasing problem. It was suggested that a sign stating “no dogs allowed beyond this point” at the beginning of the school property may suffice. The exclusion would be any service dogs. The school committee advises no dogs on school grounds. This policy will be rewritten by Beth and come back at next meeting.

PSC Comments

Deb Trovato thanked Lou for his time and all the information that he has gathered.

Kerry Adams suggested the idea of volley ball tournaments in the gym for any interested adults. We could set up the gym and everybody could play volley ball. Kerry said they have weighted stands for holding the nets. He also always brings in the subject of adult education and would love the community involved in here.

Kerry also announced that the IA Department made a trap shed. It was suggested that the Pier Corporation might be interested in buying it. The Pier Corp. agreed and also have ordered 2 more for next year. He wants a “made by” sign on it - it’s 10 or 11 ft. high with plywood flooring. Next year the IA Dept. will build 2 double sheds. Last year they built a boat & the Pier Corp. sold it for them.

The public meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Session:

- **Discussion Non Union Contracts**
- **Discussion Union Contracts**

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by the School Committee on April 13, 2010

Peter Grosso, Chairperson