



School Committee

Provincetown School Committee Meeting

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

**Tuesday
December 21, 2010
5:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Kerry Adams, Cass Benson, Peter Grosso,
and Lory Stewart.

Members Absent: Shannon Patrick (unexcused)

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

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

AGENDA

Public Comments

There were none.

Minutes: December 7, 2010

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the December 7th meeting as amended.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Lory Stewart Vote: 4-0-0.

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Singer said that the negotiations are moving along and she has met with every group except AFSCME which represents custodians and cafeteria workers. The meetings require an out of town person so they are difficult to schedule. They

require a 1 or 2 p.m. afternoon meeting; the union rep comes from New Bedford and we also coordinate with the Town so scheduling becomes more complicated.

Unfinished Business:

FY-12 Budget Discussion

Dr. Singer and Betty White walked the PSC through the budget. Beth said that tonight you'll see names attached to positions. The summary page was the first one visited and it showed a \$131,654 decrease from FY11. It was also noted by Beth that these figures were estimated and they could change as more figures come to light. Some adjustments have been made since the last meeting. The PSC absorbed the information and had no comments on the summary page.

Some of the existing positions have been reduced, others have been eliminated, and there are 2 positions that were not filled in FY11 and will not be filled in FY-12

Central Office was discussed. The major reduction in this area is the decrease from \$80K down to \$65K for the MIS town services. Kerry asked what prompted the reduction and Beth said that this amount was negotiated with both the Town Manager and the head of the MIS services. It was agreed in that negotiation that the school would take over a few things, i.e., the website, etc., that MIS has done in the past.

Also the combining all the students in the high school building results in savings.

A discussion of the position, Assistant to the Principal began.

Lory then asked, "If we are going to recommend a stipend position that takes on several tasks but will take the place of the Assistant to the Principal – what are the several tasks? Beth replied that we need support for certain projects, i.e., we have an extensive after school program and it's a lot of work. Also, the Assistant to the Principal position ends June 30th, 2011 and needs to be negotiated in any event.

Lory was concerned because it's such a large amount of money and the position is going to evolve differently? Lory then questioned the need for a guidance counselor who would be working with the middle school.

Beth said that Lory made a good point and one of the options we had was to use time that people had that wasn't occupied - the idea is that the guidance counselor could take on other duties.

Beth said that both she and Kim have been meeting with other people to shake down other responsibilities. Kerry asked what other duties would that entail. The answer was that - we have athletes and we don't have an athletic director and also we're looking to do more outreach work via publications, press releases, newsletters, etc. We're going to have to fund the position of an IB coordinator. Too, we're looking for support with data management.

Kerry then said, "So would it make sense to put this on as a line item?" The reply from Beth was that any stipend position or any additional job responsibility would have to be posted.

Lory responded by saying, "You bring up the data person – and that's a very unique thing – to give it an educational spin - it's very specialized." She continued by saying that she would be reluctant to have that wrapped into a job and wonder if funds should be extracted out - she's having a little trouble on those two positions.

Lory said that you talked about sports and you have no athletic director. She remembers that you would be combining classes, could the PE teacher have time to do this? Lory suggested looking at it as an 80/20 idea. Beth reminded the group, once again, that it would have to be posted, but that this is exactly what may be worked out.

Beth said that the money assigned to athletics at this time is something of a guess. We don't know how many teams we'll have next year but we hope to have some.

Under supplies and services we see a slight increase and we have a large item – the IB fee. Some line items are down so the net increase is less than expected.

A question was raised on the Instructional Technology Supplies (hardware & software) for \$37,800. This amount includes computers for teachers and either iPads or 40 additional units that are mobile. This addition was made at the request of the PSC at the previous budget discussion.

As regards to the building maintenance figure - we'll still owe 1/3 of the bills from VMES because we will be occupying 1/3 of the building.

The Nauset tuition for grades 9 and 10 is an estimated amount.

Kerry asked – if we have agreed to have a public hearing on January 18th – would it mean that we would have to adopt before the 24th meeting with the FinCom, BoS, and PSC? The answer is yes.

Beth said that last year she did it differently – last year they were separate meetings with FinCom and BOS. Thus the 24th meeting is in lieu of those two separate meetings.

January 18th – the public hearing will be at 5:00p.m.

January 20th will be the official acceptance of the budget (5:00 p.m. PSC meeting).

Motion: Move to eliminate the Assistant to the Principal position and reduce the guidance position.

Motion: Lory Stewart

Seconded: Kerry Adams (for the purpose of discussion.)

After a bit of discussion the motion was withdrawn by Lory.

Peter said that we're already in negotiations for these positions and the Ass't to the Principal position runs out in June. Kerry thinks that we should get rid of it and then start with whatever we need.

Lory would like to see the differences in the amounts.

New Business:

Facebook & Social Networking IJNDD –

1st Reading

Beth said that this version, written by Lory, is a friendlier version – it says the same things in a nicer way. Beth's only question is – should we include something on teachers "friending" students. Beth doesn't know that the risks are appreciated by teachers - that if you become a friend then your whole page is available on line. Lory said that she would agree to add – teachers are not to befriend students. It was decided to save any more discussion on this subject for the next meeting.

Bullying Prevention & Intervention Plan

Beth said that every school district in the state has to submit a plan by December 31st so this is a requirement and it doesn't require 2 readings. We just want you to be familiar with it and advise us on it.

Maryann Campagna, the District Social Worker, went through the document – page by page. She said that they have training for the entire faculty, including bus drivers, cafeteria workers, etc.

There are forms, penalties, etc. for any infractions noted and/or reported.

Kerry asked, “What about the targeted child?”

Maryann said that if possible we’ll make scheduling changes to keep the child out of harm’s way.

Disciplinary Action

If staff members fail to report bullying, that staff person would be subject to disciplinary action.

Peter asked, “How do you deal with “she said” or “he said?”

Maryann said we also talk to bystanders and are teaching children to be good bystanders; that 99% of the time children are truthful.

Lory asked questions about implementation and the persons in the task force. There are teachers, community members, students, parents and administrators on the task force. Lory also asked about there being no reference to adult bullying. Evidently that isn’t what the state is concerned with.

Motion: Move to approve the Provincetown Bullying and Intervention Plan.

Motion: Kerry Adams Seconded: Lory Stewart Vote: 4-0-0.

PSC Comments

There were none.

Executive Session:

Discussion with respect to collective bargaining

Adjournment of the regular session of the PSC happened at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by the School Committee on January 18, 2011

Peter Grosso, Chairperson