

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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May 25, 1999

Members Present: Lois Borgesi (Chair), Frank Wills (Vice-Chair), William Rogers, Dana Berry, Adrienne Duncan
(arrived at 7:25 P.M.)

Members Absent:None

Others Present:Dr. Susan Fleming (Superintendent), Michael Marino (PHS Principal), Keith Bergman, (Town Manager), Mr. Goodrich (Town consultant), parents and staff.

Call to Order:Chair Lois Borgesi called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

REGULAR SESSION

VISITORS STATEMENTS

None

MINUTES

March 23, 1999 - postponed until Adrienne Duncan could be present.

April 13, 1999 - *Frank Wills moved to approve with a correction and an addition, William Rogers seconded and it was so voted, 3-0, 1 abstain (Dana Berry), 1 absent (Adrienne Duncan).*

April 16, 1999 - *Frank Wills moved to approve, William Rogers seconded.* Frank Wills offered an amendment/correction which was extensive enough to be considered a substitute set of minutes. Frank Wills said the original draft minutes were so detailed as to make it impossible to attest to their accuracy after so long. After discussion, *the School Committee voted to approve the minutes as amended/corrected, 2-0, 2 abstain (Dana Berry, Lois Borgesi), 1 absent (Adrienne Duncan).*

May 11, 1999 - *Dana Berry moved to approve with modification, Frank Wills seconded, and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 absent (Adrienne Duncan).*

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Fleming presented the following:

<>Board in Brief', the review publication from the State Dept of Education .Dr. Fleming and Mr. Rokicki spoke in some detail about the Academic Support Services Grant;

<VMES Spring Concert, which had been held on May 17, 1999;

<PHS Spring Concert scheduled for May 26, 1999;

Lois Borgesi reported on:

<Negotiation of successor agreement with union to begin in September;

<Two notices of Public Hearing: Licensing Board and Zoning Board of Appeals;

<Brochure on protecting schools, announcing an event in Boston in August;

Peggy Sheehan asked about the expansion of the MCAS tests. Dr. Fleming said the expansion is being discussed by the Commissioner and the Board of Education.

EDUCATIONAL UPDATE

VMES School Schedule/Staff Assignments - Mr. Rokicki gave a brief synopsis of the proposed configuration. The School Committee will review the configuration handout and will perhaps discuss the issue at a later meeting.

PHS School/Course Schedule/Staff Assignments - Mr. Marino said he is still putting the PHS configuration together.

Summer Institute Update- Dr. Fleming reported that the Scholars had visited and met with Administration and several members of the teaching staff.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

School Safety Crisis Protocol - Dr. Fleming reminded those in attendance of the upcoming Community Forum on >Keeping Our Schools Safe.' Dr. Fleming discussed the various actions that have already been taken and planned. Discussion postponed.

Town Facilities and Fiscal Realities - Dr. Fleming reported that the Town Manager is attempting to reach some closure on this issue and has proposed a June 3rd meeting with various committees and Town staff. Discussion postponed until Mr Goodrich arrived.

Other -

<Meeting Minutes of March 23, 1999 - *Adrienne Duncan moved to approve with modifications, Frank Wills seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 abstain (Dana Berry)*

<Dr. Fleming suggested revisiting the issue of finalizing the Superintendent's job description.

NEW BUSINESS

FY - 2000 District Goals - Dr. Fleming discussed the Goals prepared by the sub-committee. Consensus of the sub-committee was that the main focus should be on student achievement. Frank Wills pointed out that the hope was that School Councils' goals would be consistent with the School Committee's goals. The School Committee discussed the Goals and how progress would be measured.

Frank Wills moved to adopt the Goals, Dana Berry seconded. The Administration will develop the action plans for implementing these goals. Mr. Marino asked when the action plans were expected to be completed and whether the School Committee would be forming action teams for each goal. Dana Berry suggested that the Superintendent and PHS Principal provide an estimate of how long each goal would take. Dr. Fleming suggested bringing the issue back for extended discussion at the July meeting. William Rogers asked if it was appropriate for the Administrators to develop rough estimates of time and resources required and then have a workshop with the School Committee to finalize action plans. The School Committee and the Administrators discussed various procedural possibilities. By consensus, the School Committee postponed further discussion until after the school year ended. *The School Committee voted to approve the motion by a vote of 5-0.*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (continued)

Town Facilities and Fiscal Realities - Town Manager Keith Bergman distributed a handout on the Project Overview and proposed a alternative meeting date of June 7, 1999. Mr. Bergman introduced Mr. Goodrich, consultant to the Town on the Wastewater Project, who has agreed to help on the Town Facilities and Fiscal Realities Project. Mr. Bergman gave a brief overview of the history and status of the Project and discussed the various scenarios and projections outlined in the handout. The Finance Committee has suggested that the School's Capitol needs could be paid for from the School's Operating Budget, due to declining enrollment. Mr. Bergman discussed several budgeting strategies for developing the School Budget based upon enrollment.

Dr. Fleming discussed the issues, with emphasis on the concept that there would be a commitment to a K through 12 system for at least five years. William Rogers said that he felt that the School Committee has been fiscally responsible and that he did not understand why the Town Manager was making suggestions concerning how the School Budget should be developed. William Rogers also said that he did not want to have the School's Budget lumped in with the Town's other financial issues.

Mr. Bergman said that he was there to make sure the School Committee's position was heard and understood by the other Town committees making financial decisions. Mr Goodrich spoke about the purpose of the proposed workshop and the four topics he would like to see the School Committee consider. The School Committee discussed various issues relating to being fiscally responsible and on the short notice given for the workshop. Mr. Goodrich said that the other budgeting committees had not had more time than the School Committee to think about the issues. Mr. Goodrich affirmed that there was no pre-ordained conclusions.

Arthur Pike, from the Board of Library Trustees, spoke concerning getting data on the Town's revenue sources. Mr. Bergman said there were other committees and groups that might be eventually involved and said that the workshop would allow for all parties to reach some closure on the issue. Lois Borgesi spoke about the Consolidation Project and suggested some means be developed to get a status report and direction on that issue as well, perhaps in a joint meeting with the Library Trustees.

Mr Pike spoke about the status of the Library relocation discussion. Lois Borgesi said that the School Committee was open for discussion at the workshop, but that she hoped that the other committees would not try to tell them what to do.

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

Student Health Assessment Survey - Dr. Fleming said that the Health Protection Grant required that be gathered on Youth Risk Behavior. Dr. Fleming distributed a Fact Sheet and a proposed survey. Lois Borgesi asked if the proposed survey was a requirement to keep the grant and Dr. Fleming said, no, that a pared-down version could be used. Dr. Fleming said that other Cape Schools were using the proposed survey. Dana Berry asked how data would be recorded at the District level and Dr. Fleming clarified the history of the survey.

Adrienne Duncan moved to approve the Survey, William Rogers seconded. In response to a question, Dr.

Fleming explained that the School would get the Survey results and would also report some of the results to the State as a requirement of the Grant. ***The School Committee approved the motion by a vote of 5-0.***

Line Item Changes - Dr. Fleming said she was asking for four line item transfers:

<PHS : \$2,000 from Heat to Math Textbooks for Grades 7-12 - ***Dana Berry moved to approve the transfer of \$2,000, Frank Wills seconded, and it was so voted, 5-0.***

<VMES: \$5,000 from Electricity to Math Textbooks for Grades K - 6 - ***Dana Berry moved to approve the transfer of \$5,000, Adrienne Duncan seconded and it was so voted, 5-0.***

<VMES: \$3,000 from heat to Classroom Equipment (Furniture) - ***Adrienne Duncan moved to approve the transfer of \$3,000, Dana Berry seconded, and it was so voted, 5-0.***

<PHS: \$4,000 from heat to Classroom Equipment (Cafeteria Furniture) - ***Dana Berry moved to approve the transfer of \$4,000, Adrienne Duncan seconded, and it was so voted,5-0***

Dana Berry asked if the School Committee got involved in the selection of textbooks and Dr. Fleming said, yes, the books would be brought before the School Committee before the final purchase decision was made.

Other- None

CLOSING STATEMENTS

Adrienne Duncan reported that, based upon her review of previous meeting minutes, revised Administrator job descriptions had been distributed at the School Committee meeting of October 27, 1998. There has been no subsequent action to review or approve.

William Rogers commented on a letter from Dr. Fleming to Mr. Marino, praising her for her professionalism.

ADJOURNMENT

Adrienne Duncan made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 P.M. and it was so voted unanimously.

These minutes were approved by a vote of the Provincetown School Committee present at their meeting on _____, 199__

Respectfully Submitted:

School Committee Signature Title

Rachel T. Crosby, On-call secretary