

Pembroke Public Schools

72 Pilgrim Road, Pembroke, MA 02359

www.pembrokek12.org

pembroke@pembrokek12.org



(781) 829-1178
FAX (781) 829-6957

PEMBROKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

North Pembroke Elementary School Library

7:00 PM

Call to Order

Mr. Chilcott called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Present from Administration: Mrs. Erin Obey, Superintendent; Marybeth Brust, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Learning; and Jessica Duncanson, Director of Student Services

Present from Committee: Patrick Chilcott, Chair; Ginny Wandell, Vice Chair; David Boyle, Secretary; Michael Tropeano

Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors

Mr. Chilcott welcomed the visitors.

Adjustments to the Agenda

Addition of PHS homeschooling request

Approval of Bill Schedule

Bills were circulated for committee approval.

Communications

None

Consideration of Approval: School Committee Minutes of February 6, 2018

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Ginny Wandell, it was unanimously voted to approve the School Committee Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2018.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Consideration of Approval: PHS Boosters Brick Fundraiser

Mr. Tropeano said the PHS Boosters are looking to raise funds by selling personalized engraved bricks, which has been successful with other programs. The bricks will be sold to build a walkway at the turf field. He said the first year goal is to sell as many as possible and they will only be sold by parents. The walkway will level the entryway to the bleachers and will eventually go all the way down the bleachers. Mr. Tropeano said Ken Horn has donated his labor for this project. He said this is a parent driven fundraiser but students can get involved. Mr. Boyle clarified that orders will be reviewed for appropriateness. Mrs. Wandell asked about maintenance of the bricks. Mr. Chilcott clarified that the district cannot have a line item for this maintenance. Mr. Tropeano said if it

is done correctly, the district shouldn't have to worry about maintenance for 10-15 years. Mr. Chilcott asked about the cost and a Boosters representative said the cost will be \$40-\$60 per engraved brick and all money will go into the Boosters account. The selling will begin in the spring and the project will begin in the fall. Mrs. Wandell asked for a follow up in August.

VOTE: On a motion made by Ginny Wandell and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the brick fundraiser in the areas of the map as presented with a check in from the PHS Boosters in August.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Consideration of Approval: PHS Homeschooling Request

Mrs. Obey presented the homeschooling request from Mr. and Mrs. Doescher for their daughter Maia Doescher. She said Mr. Talbot has approved this request.

VOTE: On a motion made by Michael Tropeano and seconded by Ginny Wandell, it was unanimously voted to approve the homeschooling request from Mr. and Mrs. Doescher for their daughter Maia as presented.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Superintendent's Report

Natures Classroom/Camp Bournedale Recommendation

Mrs. Obey said she heard from many parents how beneficial Nature's Classroom/Camp Bournedale is for students. Talked about pilot of Bryantville and direction to move in was to open the overnight experience to Bryantville. She said she and Mrs. Brust visited each site and looked at the educational experience provided by each. She said her recommendation is for all three elementary schools to attend Camp Bournedale. She said the location has certified teachers and since students miss 5 days of school, they should be receiving instruction by certified teachers. She said she also recommends all three schools attend at the same time in May 2019. She said Camp Bournedale can handle all schools without co-mingling. Mrs. Obey said the chaperone piece has been different at all three schools and now that the trip will be school sponsored, she finds it important to have staff present. She said she can't make staff stay overnight so there will be a need for parent chaperones. She clarified that parents are only needed at night during sleeping hours and can leave in the morning. Mr. Chilcott asked if there is a lack of parent chaperones and Mr. Obey said no. Mrs. Obey said the cost to families will go down doing it this way and Camp Bournedale has sponsored scholarships for students in need. Mr. Tropeano confirmed the previous trips have always been just Pembroke schools at the specific time. Mrs. Wandell said she is pleased with this plan. Mrs. Obey added that missing five instructional days in May is less disruptive than in the fall.

Tech Scorecard – Winter Update

Mrs. Obey said a few highlights include the Google Expeditions Augmented Reality Pioneer Program, the purchase of 150 chrome books for the elementary schools and 50 for PCMS in preparation for online testing coming in the spring. Also, funding of \$40K from Project Lead the Way STEM grant, a \$50k technology grant from Representative Cutler and \$76K from Town Meeting for infrastructure, hardware and devices. Mr. Tropeano suggested breaking devices and infrastructure needs down for the Town meeting. Mrs. Obey said the district needs to get into a cycle for replacing devices.

Budget Update

Mrs. Obey said as of the February meeting there was a gap of \$233,266 and since then Administration has come up with reductions. Mrs. Obey said a reduction in support staff because of enrollment changes could provide \$72K. Mr. Chilcott suggested holding on this and said the district does not want to lose a good paras. Mr. Tropeano asked about the energy savings and Mrs. Obey said the district received a credit of \$14K.

Mr. Obey said she looked at the transportation fee of surrounding towns. She said the committee wanted to know what would happen cost wise with the implementation of the elementary bus fee for the students less than 2 miles. She said she came up with a \$37,800 increase in revenue if the fee remains at \$180/\$280 (cap). Mr. Chilcott said he is against the elementary fee as it is unfair and causes safety concerns in the areas where there are no sidewalks. Mr. Tropeano said he would not vote for elementary fee and said increasing the secondary fee can affect families, considering the other fees like sports and technology devices, etc. He added he is not comfortable with the message this increase will send. Mr. Boyle said he could make the case for either instating the fee or not instating it.

Mrs. Obey said she did the comparison of the athletic fees with surrounding towns. She said the committee made changes to this last year by increasing it to \$225/\$385 and added \$100/year, \$50/season for PCMS and an additional fee for hockey. Mr. Tropeano said Pembroke has been economical and he thinks other towns are driving students away from sports with their high fees.

Mrs. Obey reviewed the facilities usage fees and said there is not a lot of desire for facilities rentals. Mr. Tropeano questioned the custodial overtime rates of \$41/\$51 per hour for Saturday and Sunday for the "Pembroke Adult for Profit" and "All Other Groups". He added he would like to charge a fee for lights. Mr. Tropeano suggested considering decreasing the gym fee and Mr. Chilcott said he would not suggest that at this time.

Mrs. Obey reviewed the co-curricular fees in surrounding towns. She said the scenarios are to charge a \$50 fee per year for all activities, \$100 per year for all activities or \$100 fee for marching band/color guard.

Mrs. Obey reviewed the parking fee in surrounding towns. She said there is no fee at PHS currently and there are 180 spaces available.

Mrs. Chilcott asked the committee if there is interest in changing the Transportation fee. All members said no.

Mr. Chilcott asked the committee if there is interest in changing the Athletics fee. All members said no.

Mr. Chilcott asked about facilities usage and Mr. Tropeano suggested changing to \$125 no lights, \$150 for lights and \$41/51 for groups 1-4 and \$45/55 for groups 5 and 6.

VOTE: On a motion made by Michael Tropeano and seconded by Ginny Wandell, it was unanimously voted to approve the fee of \$125 no lights, \$150 for lights and \$41/51 for groups 1-4 and \$45/55 for groups 5 and 6.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Mr. Chilcott asked the committee if there is interest in charging a Co-curricular fee. All members said no.

Mr. Chilcott asked the committee if there is interest in charging a parking fee. All members said no.

Mrs. Obey informed the committee that the Mayflower health insurance increase came in at 4.5% instead of the 6% increase and this may result in an additional \$24k.

Discussion of CPC Field Plan FAQs

Mrs. Obey said these questions are a result of a conversation with Youth Sports. She said Mr. Tropeano put this document together. Mr. Tropeano asked the superintendent to mail the document out to all groups.

Future Meeting Dates and Topics

Mr. Chilcott said every year that the committee usually has a close to finalized budget around mid-April in time for the public budget hearing. Mr. Chilcott asked to schedule Senator deMacedo and Representative Cutler to come to the March 13th or 20th meeting. He also asked the superintendent to arrange a date for the committee to meet with the Selectmen.

VOTE: At 8:23PM, on a motion made by Michael Tropeano and seconded by Ginny Wandell, it was unanimously voted, by roll call vote, to enter Executive Session Pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss a personal service contract as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

APPROVED: March 20, 2018

MOTIONS

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Ginny Wandell, it was unanimously voted to approve the School Committee Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2018.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by Ginny Wandell and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the brick fundraiser in the areas of the map as presented with a check in from the PHS Boosters in August.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by Michael Tropeano and seconded by Ginny Wandell, it was unanimously voted to approve the homeschooling request from Mr. and Mrs. Doescher for their daughter Maia as presented.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano
Voting No: none

Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by Michael Tropeano and seconded by Ginny Wandell, it was unanimously voted to approve the fee of \$125 no lights, \$150 for lights and \$41/51 for groups 1-4 and \$45/55 for groups 5 and 6.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

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Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Ginny Wandell, David Boyle and Michael Tropeano
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins