

Pembroke Public Schools

72 Pilgrim Road, Pembroke, MA 02359

www.pembrokek12.org

pembroke@pembrokek12.org



(781) 829-1178
FAX (781) 826-1182

PEMBROKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

November 1, 2016

North Pembroke School Library

7:00PM

Call to Order

Mr. Tropeano called the meeting to order at 7:27 PM.

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

Present from Committee: Michael Tropeano, Chair; Suzanne Scroggins, Vice Chair, and Paul Bosworth
Patrick Chilcott arrived at 7:51pm
Absent: Ginny Wandell

Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors

Mr. Tropeano welcomed the audience.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None

Communications

None

Approval of Bill Schedule

Bills were circulated for committee approval.

Achievement Report Presentation

Mrs. Obey said the district is lucky to have the structure of Content Supervisors and the amount of work and effort they put in is invaluable to her.

Mrs. Brust said for the report this year she picked a few areas and social/emotional students are included in this data. She said she will cover 2016 accountability data, MCAS, PARCC, AP, SAT and ACT. She said the accountability analysis is about narrowing the gap between high need and non-high need students. She said North is rated level 1 for the second year meaning the school it exceeded the proficiency target for all students as well as the high needs students and students with disabilities. PHS exceeded the proficiency target for all students and the high needs subgroup in math and made improvements in ELA. Bryantville showed significant increases in proficiency for all students, high needs students and students with disabilities. She said a concern is that high needs subgroups which includes economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities reveal persistent gaps in proficiency.

Mrs. Brust reviewed the ELA Grade 10 MCAS, Math grade 10 MCAS and Biology grade 9 MCAS. Mr. Tropeano asked why Pembroke is not as good in the category of Science Pro+ compared to both DART and local schools. Mrs. LaCroix said students receiving zero on open response questions are the

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ones failing the test. She said the open response questions are found at the end of the first and second day of testing and this poses a problem. Suggestions have been made to students to start with the open response questions instead of waiting until the end. Mr. Brust said Mrs. LaCroix found that the science curriculum was not the same across the district. She said a decision was made to purchase Pearson interactive Science instead of continuing with the science kits as they were not always able to be included in the curriculum depending on timing of their delivery.

Mr. Bosworth asked about the four categories around the district analysis of percent of correct grade 5 science MCAS. Mrs. LaCroix said they will be taught equally beginning this year. Mrs. Brust said right now teachers are getting familiar with the new science material on top of enVision2.0 Math. Mr. Bosworth asked how to be sure that teachers are delivering instruction timely and Mrs. LaCroix said she is offering professional development opportunities and is helping teachers as best she can to implement this. Mr. Obey said the district is working on consistency among the three elementary schools. Dr. Glaude said teachers are excited about the science program and Mr. Murphy said the Pearson science program looks similar to enVision2.0 which is helpful. Mrs. LaCroix said it aligns with Pearson Success program which is used by grades 6-8.

Mr. Brust reviewed the PARCC cohort data for grade 6. Mr. Tropeano pointed out that for proficient plus in math, North and Bryantville are on same slope but the state and Hobomock are higher. PC asked if can get data....MB said 2015 brand new test and 2016 new curriculum are two things might want to look at. MB looking at instructional model. PC asked if can get debriefed on what is working well and what are focus areas going into budget cycle. EO said looking at best practice on teachers teaching. Mr. Chilcott said he is concerned about students falling through the cracks and Mrs. Brust said the state has been very consistent in tracking the high needs students versus the non-high needs students in order to hold schools accountable to the growth of those subgroups. Mr. Bosworth said the grade 8 Algebra I PARCC results show students have done well. Mr. Duffy said on behalf of math the challenge is grade 8 as compared to the students in high school and how to improve in this area. In terms of content in math, he said adjustments have been made to be sure topics are not being missed. Mr. Duffy said he is in favor of the Algebra I for all push in grade 8 as long as students are ready for it. He said the middle school teachers will continue with the curriculum that has been used for the past few years and the same assessments that they've given so this will provide a data checkpoint. Mrs. Brust presented PARCC cohort ELA data on grade 6, 7 and 8. She said for 2017 all 4th and 8th graders are required to test on computers and by 2019 all schools will test on computers. She said Pembroke has elected the computer based test in math for grade 3 at Bryantville, grade 5 at North and grade 6 at Hobomock.

Mrs. Brust said ACT and SAT are in competition and have two very different objectives. She said the SAT has changed its design and 194 students, 84% of class of 2016 took the SAT. Mrs. Obey said Mr. Meerback will be coming to a school committee meeting to talk about what testing guidance counselors are suggesting to students. Mr. Bosworth questioned the low number of students taking the SAT a second time. Mr. Chilcott said testing is a family driven decision and there is only so much the district can do to influence that. Mr. Tropeano said he would like to look at the instruction practices instead of how many students are taking the test multiple times. Mr. Chilcott said the committee would like to invest in SAT preparation for students and would like administration to explore the best options. Mrs. Brust said in the past she contacted Princeton Review to offer SAT prep in Pembroke and it is an option but it is costly. Mr. Duffy said the College Board has worked with Khan Academy to offer free SAT prep.

Mrs. Brust said next steps include focusing on high needs groups, continuing to monitor the newly formed benchmark assessments K-6, looking at science benchmark assessments across the district, and continuing to reach the social/emotional learners through different programs.

Mr. Bosworth asked Mr. Duffy if the district is ready to outline a plan of the accelerated program to prepare for Algebra I for all eight graders and Mr. Duffy said the district is ready. He said there is a district committee working on this plan. Mrs. Brust said the committee will look at the impact of 5th and 6th acceleration on all students and what are the different opportunities for students to enter the accelerated pathway. Mr. Bosworth confirmed that the resulting curriculum change will be brought to the committee in a timely manner. Mrs. Obey said decisions like these include teachers in addition to

administrators so at times it may take longer to get information back to the school committee. Mr. Bosworth asked Mrs. Obey for a list of the eight committees and what their outcomes might be. Mrs. Obey asked the committee to give her their questions for Mr. Meerbach when he attends the December meeting. Mrs. Brust said she wants to thank Mr. Duffy, Mr. Galligan, Mrs. LaCroix and Dr. Hartley for their hard work.

Superintendent's Report

Consideration of Approval: PTO Donation to Bryantville

Mrs. Obey said the Bryantville PTO has offered a donation of \$5000 to be spent on technology. She said Dr. Glaude would like to purchase a laptop cart with the donation money. Mrs. Obey said with the requirement of computer testing coming down the pike, this will be necessary.

VOTE: On a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to approve the PTO donation to Bryantville of \$5000.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Patrick Chilcott and Paul Bosworth

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

Consideration of Acknowledgement: Donation to PHS Music Department

Mrs. Obey said Mrs. Erin Gerlach would like to donate a violin, case and bow to the PHS music department. The approximate value of the instrument is \$300.

VOTE: On a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to acknowledge the donation to the PHS music department as presented.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Patrick Chilcott and Paul Bosworth

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

Consideration of Approval: Exchange Student

Mrs. Obey presented the application for the exchange student Rodrigo Cantu Barreda and said he is from the same company of another foreign exchange student here in Pembroke. Mrs. Scroggins asked about the ESL needs of the student. Mrs. Obey said he will not require additional resources beyond those already in place at PHS. Mr. Chilcott said he doesn't see an issue with this if there is no budget impact.

VOTE: On a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to approve the application of Rodrigo Cantu Barreda.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Patrick Chilcott and Paul Bosworth

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

Consideration of Approval: PHS Books deemed surplus

Mrs. Obey said the committee has discussed the future of PPS libraries and said Mr. Talbot has similar ideas around bringing the PHS library current. She said deeming these books surplus gives the district the option to not only discard but possibly donate or sell. The committee suggested offering

them to the Pembroke Public Library or Athenaeum. Mrs. Obey suggested not voting tonight as she would like to have the department heads review the list of books before making a decision. Mrs. Scroggins said if the money raised from these books can be put toward making changes to the library than it is worth it.

Discussion of Subcommittee membership

Mr. Bosworth said he doesn't think the Long Range Planning Subcommittee is needed. Mr. Tropeano asked if the Long Range Planning Subcommittee is disbanded does the Budget Subcommittee take over capital planning. Mr. Chilcott said the idea of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee was to plan out 3 to 5 years. Mrs. Scroggins said the Long Range Planning Subcommittee helps vet things out and she believes it is needed. Mr. Chilcott suggested the school committee figure out what the needs of the district are for the next five years and then decide what subcommittee should discuss them. Mr. Bosworth said the feedback from the Education Subcommittee should be incorporated into the program of studies. The committee decided on a December Education Subcommittee meeting to discuss the PHS program of studies.

VOTE: On a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Paul Bosworth, it was unanimously voted to maintain the same subcommittee membership for 2016-2017.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Patrick Chilcott and Paul Bosworth

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

Matt Furlong

a.) Environmentalism in Pembroke

Mr. Furlong presented his idea to have citizens of Pembroke develop ideas related to environmentalism and create a poster or pamphlet to display at Town Hall of the library. He said he would like to include both elementary and middle school students, not just high school students. Mr. Tropeano said to make this program clearer and suggested he create a rubric for judging. Mr. Bosworth suggested involving the environmental clubs at each school.

b.) Entrepreneurship in Pembroke

Mr. Furlong presented his idea to help high school and/or college students build their own business by having an essay competition and awarding a winner a \$1000 grant to start their business. He said he is open to suggestions. Mr. Tropeano said it is a great idea and suggested stating there will be no award given if there is not enough interest. He also suggested promoting like Shark Tank and have candidates present their idea. Mr. Bosworth suggested having DECA sponsor it. Mr. Chilcott suggested some adjustments and told Mr. Furlong to contact Mrs. Obey for help in making a connection with DECA at PHS.

Mr. Furlong also proposed a school garden idea and the committee had a discussion and gave some suggestions. Mrs. Scroggins said the committee has to be cautious of the amount of time and resources needed. Mr. Tropeano asked Mr. Furlong to put his ideas down in bullet points to start a framework and said he would be happy to work with Mr. Furlong.

Discussion of Future Meeting Dates

Mrs. Obey said she would like to invite Chief Wall to the next meeting to discuss the vision of School Resource Office (SRO).

Next Meeting: November 15th at 7:30pm

VOTE: At 9:32PM, on a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Paul Bosworth, it was unanimously voted, by roll call vote, to enter Executive Session Pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy for negotiations as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair, with further business to be discussed.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Paul Bosworth and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

Return to Regular Session

VOTE: On a motion made by Paul Bosworth and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Chair to sign the Memorandum of Agreement for the Custodial Unit.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Paul Bosworth and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

VOTE: On a motion made by Paul Bosworth and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Chair to sign the Memorandum of Agreement for the Cafeteria Unit.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Paul Bosworth and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

Vote: At 9:50PM, on a motion made by Paul Bosworth and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Paul Bosworth and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

DOCUMENTS

Achievement Report PowerPoint

PTO Donation to Bryantville document

Donation to PHS Music department document

Foreign Exchange Student document

PHS Books deemed surplus document

Matt Furlong document

APPROVED: November 15, 2016

MOTIONS

VOTE: On a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to approve the PTO donation to Bryantville of \$5000.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Patrick Chilcott and Paul Bosworth

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

VOTE: On a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to acknowledge the donation to the PHS music department as presented.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Patrick Chilcott and Paul Bosworth

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

VOTE: On a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to approve the application of Rodrigo Cantu Barreda.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Patrick Chilcott and Paul Bosworth

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

VOTE: On a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Paul Bosworth, it was unanimously voted to maintain the same subcommittee membership for 2016-2017.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Patrick Chilcott and Paul Bosworth

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

VOTE: At 9:32PM, on a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Paul Bosworth, it was unanimously voted, by roll call vote, to enter Executive Session Pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy for negotiations as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair, with further business to be discussed.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Paul Bosworth and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

VOTE: On a motion made by Paul Bosworth and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Chair to sign the Memorandum of Agreement for the Custodial Unit.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Paul Bosworth and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

VOTE: On a motion made by Paul Bosworth and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Chair to sign the Memorandum of Agreement for the Cafeteria Unit.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Paul Bosworth and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell

Vote: At 9:50PM, on a motion made by Paul Bosworth and seconded by Suzanne Scroggins, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, Suzanne Scroggins, Paul Bosworth and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Ginny Wandell