Call to Order
Mr. Tropeano called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Present from Administration: Mrs. Erin Obey, Superintendent; Marybeth Brust, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica Duncanson, Director of Student Services; Mark Duffy, Math Curriculum Supervisor; Dr. Mark Galligan, Humanities Curriculum Supervisor; Jonathan Shapiro, Science Curriculum Supervisor

Present from Committee: Michael Tropeano, Chair; David Boyle, Vice Chair; Susie Scholl, Secretary and James Agnew
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors
Mr. Tropeano welcomed the visitors.

Adjustments to the Agenda
None

Approval of Bill Schedule
Bills were sent out for electronic signatures.

Communications
None

Consideration of Approval: School Committee Meeting Minutes of October 15th and October 22nd

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of October 15, 2019 and October 22, 2019.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Achievement Report – Part II
Mrs. Brust said this presentation will be a little different than in the past. She said the 2019 MCAS is the next generation MCAS and involved migration to computer-based testing in grade 9. She said at the end of June or beginning of July the district will get the data back and summer work will involve looking at the benchmark assessments.
Dr. Mark Galligan gave an example from the 10th grade ELA MCAS. He said the question he chose closely mirrors what he sees in assessments. He said the average score for Pembroke was a 6 out of 8 and the State was 5 out of 8 so Pembroke outperformed the State. Mrs. Brust added that the testing was computer based for students in grade 10. Mr. Duffy gave a sample math question from the 2019 10th grade MCAS. He said the question had Pembroke at 27% and state at 37% and it was the lowest performing question. He said the computer testing may have gotten in the way and he anticipates an improvement next year. Mr. Shapiro gave an example of a 2019 biology MCAS question. He said this question proved very difficult and one reason is that anatomy is taught as the end of the year and the other part of the question was taught at the beginning of the year causing a disconnect. Mrs. Brust said the district has received the raw data and can break it out by strands to see how Pembroke performed against the State. Mr. Agnew asked about data correlation between MCAS performance and GPA and Mrs. Brust said there is a strong correlation. She explained the parent report that is sent home about the student’s MCAS performance. She said the 2019 results should not be compared with the previous years data as there is a big difference between the tests. She added that there is a conversion chart to hold students harmless as they transition to the new test. She said high needs students and students with disabilities performed lower than the non-high needs, non-disability students. Mrs. Brust went on to review the DART schools’ performance compared to Pembroke and the surrounding area schools. She presented 8th grade data and said it is not odd to have a dip going into middle school. She said the State sets a target which leads to a percentile for each school. She explained that last year PCMS was a school that needed assistance and a lot of work was done and now PCMS is no longer in that situation. She said a main goal is to close the gaps for the high needs population and students with disabilities. She added that there is an alternative way for students with disabilities to take the test.

Superintendent’s Report

Consideration of Approval: PHS Overnight Trip
Mrs. Obey presented the trip.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the overnight Model UN trip to Boston on February 7-9, 2020.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Mr. Talbot gave an overview of the Model UN club.

Consideration of Approval: PCMS Homeschool Request
Mrs. Obey said Unity Knowlton has been has homeschooled in the past. She said she reviewed the request and does not have any concerns.

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to approve the homeschooling request of Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton for their child Unity Knowlton.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Policy Subcommittee
Consideration of First Read:

IHBG & IHBG-R Homeschooling
Mrs. Obey said policy IHBG already exists and is only being updated with a small change. She added that IHBG-R represents the procedural piece and it goes with IHBG. She said she followed up with the group of homeschool parents regarding their experiences with Pembroke Public Schools and the homeschooling procedure. Mrs. Obey said IHBG-R designates the Superintendent as the approver of homeschool requests and allows the School Committee to ask questions. She said the topic of privacy was also discussed with the homeschool group and they were concerned about saying the names of the families at the School Committee meetings. Mrs. Obey stated that the School Committee doesn’t have to say the names of the families but the document with the list of families is considered a public record.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to adopt policy IHBG and IHBG-R as a first read as presented.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

EFC – Free & Reduced Lunch (recode of 5.71)
Mrs. Obey said the Policy Subcommittee recommends replacing policy 5.71 with policy EFC.

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to adopt EFC: Free and Reduced Lunch as a first read and when it becomes policy, rescind policy 5.71.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

EFD – Meal Charge Policy
Mrs. Obey said this is a new policy for Pembroke Public Schools. She said this has been the practice at PPS and the last audit recommended a policy be established.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to adopt policy EFD: Meal Charge Policy as a first read as presented.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Mrs. Obey said families are notified in multiple ways if they have a school lunch balance. She added that School Office Pro had a disclaimer about meal charges this year.

JLCC – Communicable Diseases (recode of 5.73)
Mrs. Obey said the recommendation of Policy Subcommittee is to replace 5.73 with JLCC.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to adopt JLCC: Communicable Diseases as a first read and when it becomes policy, rescind policy 5.73

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins
VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to adopt HBEA: English Language Learner Programs as a first read and when it becomes policy, rescind policy 5.76

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Rescind 5.77 Admission to School (already replaced by JEB)
Mrs. Obey said policy 5.77: Admission to School has already been replaced by JEB.

VOTE: On a motion made by James Agnew and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to rescind policy 5.77: Admission to School.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Mrs. Duncanson said the district is required to correct the PHS Handbook due to the missing statement on harassment and the disclaimer on non-discrimination because it is inconsistent through all the handbooks.

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to update the handbooks as presented.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

Future Meeting Dates and Topics
11/19

VOTE: At 8:15PM, on a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to enter Executive Session Pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss collective bargaining strategy since an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

APPROVED: December 17, 2019

MOTIONS

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to approve the School Committee meetings minutes of October 15, 2019 and October 22, 2019.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the overnight Model UN trip to Boston on February 7-9, 2020.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to approve the homeschooling request of Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton for their child Unity Knowlton.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to adopt policy IHBG and IHBG-R as a first read as presented.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to adopt EFC: Free and Reduced Lunch as a first read and when it becomes policy, rescind policy 5.71.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to adopt policy EFD: Meal Charge Policy as a first read as presented.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to adopt JLCC: Communicable Diseases as a first read and when it becomes policy, rescind policy 5.73

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins
VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to adopt HBEA: English Language Learner Programs as a first read and when it becomes policy, rescind policy 5.76

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by James Agnew and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to rescind policy 5.77: Admission to School.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to update the handbooks as presented.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins

VOTE: At 8:15PM, on a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to enter Executive Session Pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss collective bargaining strategy since an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair.

Voting Yes: Michael Tropeano, David Boyle. Susie Scholl and James Agnew
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Suzanne Scroggins