PEMBROKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 16, 2018
North Pembroke Elementary School Library
7:00 PM

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

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

Present from Committee: Patrick Chilcott, Chair; Suzanne Scroggins, Vice Chair; James Agnew, Secretary
Michael Tropeano and David Boyle

Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors
Mr. Chilcott welcomed the visitors.

Adjustments to the Agenda
None

Approval of Bill Schedule
Bills were circulated for committee approval.

Communications
Mr. Chilcott referred the committee to a letter from the Town Accountant to the Board of Selectmen regarding removing any capital requests from the Special Town Meeting warrant. He said the school has a $55k technology article to add devices at the elementary level and he told the Advisory Committee that the School Committee would have to decide on that.

Consideration of Approval: School Committee Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2018

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to approve the School Committee Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2018 as presented.

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

Social Emotional Presentation/PE/Health Update
Mrs. Duncanson said the overview tonight will include the district focus on social emotional wellness curriculum and instruction. She said there is a need for continued health and wellness education, a need for prevention strategies, and a need to address students that have experienced trauma in their life. She explained that a council has been created to help provide supports. Mrs. Duncanson reviewed the data on 51As, 209As, overdose incidents and date on the number
of times children are present on the scene for police incidents. Mr. Talbot said the PE department at PHS has piloted a health curriculum that includes classroom work on social emotional, hazardous substances and vaping. He said each unit is a week to week and a half so this year they are looking to add another week and the PE teachers are trying to balance PE with the wellness piece. He added that this year two sets of textbooks were purchased that stay in the classroom where last year the teachers used photocopies. Mr. Chilcott asked how students are responding and Mr. Talbot said they are in favor of the units. Mr. Agnew asked if has been a long time since health was in the curriculum and Mr. Chilcott said it has been about 10 years and it is such an important topic. Mr. Chilcott asked what students miss in PE when participating in the health piece. Mrs. Duncanson said the elementary PE teachers are very creative in how they incorporate the health units so students do not miss much PE.

Brittney Noons, PE teacher at Hobomock informed the committee that the three elementary PE teachers got together this summer and worked on cardiorespiratory health. She said the students are missing the physical activity when being taught the wellness piece so they are trying to work in the wellness education while the kids are moving. Mr. Chilcott said he would like nothing more than to have a block for wellness education and suggested the PE teachers let the committee know their suggestions. He also asked if there is any interest in a nutrition night and Mrs. Duncanson said the wellness committee is looking to offering something like this. Mr. Agnew said that South Shore Hospital would be a good resource. Mr. Walsh said the middle school has personal fitness and team building units up and running and the students are enjoying them. He said the idea is to have kids active while learning and to have it be interactive while working on the lesson plan. He added that they are also using Calm Classroom.

Mrs. Duncanson said the work going forward will be on trauma sensitive schools and a grant was received called “helping traumatized and drug endangered children learn”. Mrs. Brust said strategies for trauma students are effective for all students and this will be a positive thing for the whole community. Mrs. Duncanson added that a trauma sensitive steering committee has been created for building based work and it will create an action plan for each building. She said the first part is to survey and collect data from social workers, then create priorities and an action plan for each priority. Mr. Murphy said the concept of Red Envelope is being used at North Pembroke and he explained the concept. Mrs. Pearson presented the Zone of Regulation. Mrs. Kay said a teacher started Mindful Mondays. Mrs. Kelly said Hobomock is using Calm Classroom, kids are reporting they like it and some 6th graders have reported they are using it outside of school. Mr. Walsh said PCMS uses the Collaborative Team Approach where academic teachers and the school psychologist meet to discuss students they are concerned about. He said the school is going to generate a survey to gather data on whether each student has one connection to one adult at the middle school. He added that teachers are doing a Calm Classroom technique before giving an assessment. Mrs. McGowan said at PHS she has teachers and paras contact the student support team when a student is struggling. She said students are working on mindfulness in the classroom and during Titan Time. Mr. Tropeano said the social workers have great resources outside of the school system. Mrs. Duncanson said the Interface Referral Service is a service that PTAD has funded for this year and next for town of Pembroke access. She explained it is a hot line that supplies referrals to assist families in finding mental health providers and services. She added that the next steps around social emotional include K-8 pilot units implementation and revisions as needed this coming spring/summer, council meetings and supports, additional PD as identified by an end of the year survey. Mr. Chilcott thanked the staff and administrators for coming to the meeting and asked for update on this topic in the spring.

Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Chilcott said Article 4 is the main capital article and said there are four articles requesting use of free cash. He said the School Committee was asked to withdraw the capital request of $55k. Mrs. Obey said she spoke with Mr. Tropeano but not Mrs. Scroggins about this. She said if the committee does not go forward with this request it will prevent the district from getting to lease purchase in year 3. Mr. Agnew said the committee has a strategic plan and should not withdraw this. Mr. Chilcott requested the School Committee draft a letter to The Board of Selectmen stating it would be concerning to use free cash to fund positions and ask them to find alternate funding.

VOTE: On a motion made by James Agnew and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Chair to draft a letter to the Board of Selectmen.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Suzanne Scroggins, James Agnew, Michael Tropeano and David Boyle
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Mr. Agnew said using free cash is a slippery slope and Mr. Chilcott said that in fairness the BOS has not done this before. Mrs. Obey said next time to ask for anything would be spring of 2020. Mr. Chilcott said to add in the letter to the BOS that the School Committee has chosen not to withdraw the request for funds.

Joint Budget Committee Report Out
Mr. Chilcott said the group has not met since the last school committee meeting but he has a request of the joint budget committee to get into what is behind the budget numbers being presented. He added they are looking to meet the week after town meeting.

Future Meeting Dates and Topics
Town meeting a week from tonight. Next SC meeting 11/6/

VOTE: At 8:29pm, on a motion made by Michael Tropeano and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted 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, Suzanne Scroggins, James Agnew, Michael Tropeano and David Boyle
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

APPROVED: December 11, 2018

Materials
Agenda
Visitor Sign in Sheet
SC Minutes of October 16, 2018
Social Emotional PowerPoint
Letter from Town Accountant

MOTIONS

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by James Agnew, it was unanimously voted to approve the School Committee Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2018 as presented.

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

VOTE: On a motion made by James Agnew and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Chair to draft a letter to the Board of Selectmen.

Voting Yes: Patrick Chilcott, Suzanne Scroggins, James Agnew, Michael Tropeano and David Boyle
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none
VOTE: At 8:29pm, on a motion made by Michael Tropeano and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted 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, Suzanne Scroggins, James Agnew, Michael Tropeano and David Boyle
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none