



PEMBROKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, February 7, 2023
North Pembroke Elementary School Library

Call to Order

Mr. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present from Administration: Erin Obey, Superintendent; Marybeth Brust, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica DeLorenzo, Director of Student Services

Present from Committee: Lance Kennedy, Chair; Susie Scholl, Vice Chair; Susan Bollinger, Secretary; David Boyle and Michael Quinn

Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors

Mr. Kennedy welcomed the audience members.

Tom Hickey, Superintendent – South Shore Vocational Technical School

Mr. Hickey explained that SSVT serves 8-member towns and has around 650 students enrolled. They enroll 170-180 new 9th graders each year via the admissions process. In the past SSVT admitted Pembroke students as non-resident students but the Department of Education changed its non-resident regulations a few years ago making regional vocational schools unable to accept nonresident students if there is enough interest from member towns. At that time SSVT had a policy in place to accept students after their scores reached a certain point, therefore, there a still some Pembroke students enrolled. It is possible for students to enter SSVT in grade 10 as nonresident students as the regulations don't prohibit that. The process of becoming a member town starts with creating a regional planning committee that acts as an exploratory committee for the town and district. There are informal conversations in order to get more information. The committees then come up with terms and conditions for the town to join and the town pays into a stabilization fund. SSVT is in the MSBA pipeline for a renovation/construction project. Then an article needs to be placed on the town warrants of the eight-member towns and also the new town looking to join. If 2/3 of the current member towns plus the new town all vote yes it goes to DESE for sign-off. The financial piece needs a lot of attention due to the building project and SSVT is in the beginning stages and will have the project team established by end of the calendar year and then should have rough estimates. The size of the new/renovated school is an important variable and will be an enrollment of up to 975. SSVT is going to build the most modern affordable building it can, and all member towns will vote on this ballot question around the fall of 2024. The rough estimate for the opening of the new building is the 2028-2029 school year. SSVT uses a town's eighth-grade enrollment in the calculation to figure out the number of freshmen from that town that they will accept. Unused seats get reapportioned to the remaining member towns. 80% of current enrollment is made up of four member towns so the other town's available seats get reapportioned. Norwell and Cohasset have lower enrollment, so the open seats are given out via the application score of waitlisted students.

Mrs. Obey said the capital investment is variable. PPS will still pay tuition even as a member town plus transportation and special education fees. Pembroke needs to work through what the debt exclusion will look like for the community. Mrs. Bollinger asked for clarification on numbers and confirmed the capital number is separate from the stabilization fund. Mrs. Scholl asked about the timeline to join if Pembroke desired. Mr. Hickey said SSVT will still be at 650 seats until the opening of the new/renovated building, so around 2028, and will know more by the end of this calendar year. Mrs. Scholl confirmed there is a contingency fund built into the project pricing and Mr. Hickey added there is predictability built into the debt share. Mrs. Scholl asked if any other surrounding towns have expressed

interest in joining and Mr. Hickey so no. Mr. Boyle asked if SSVT will add new programs and Mr. Hickey said they will right-size their current programs first and then would like to add programs if there is space, possibly plumbing and vet tech, and this will be part of the conversations. Mr. Quinn asked about SSVT's desire to bring on another town and Mr. Hickey said SSVT believes that students should have access to vocational education, and they advocate for more opportunities for students. Mr. Quinn asked for clarification on the debt share and Mr. Hickey explained the phased-in process of open seats until the building project is completed. Mr. Kennedy asked what town was the last member to join and Mr. Hickey said it was Whitman Hanson in 1983.

Mrs. Obey presented the draft town meeting warrant article and said this article is to start a regional planning committee which will start the process to gauge student interest. She said for the sake of transparency it makes sense to put this on the warrant so the community can be involved as the community will need to vote for the debt exclusion. Mrs. Obey said SSVT isn't the only option, Silver Lake is looking to add new programs in the next couple of years.

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to create a warrant article for the Town Meeting to form a regional planning committee.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

Adjustments to Agenda

None

Communications

None

Approval of Bill Schedule

Warrants were sent out electronically for signature.

Consideration for Approval: Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2023

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the regular school committee meeting minutes of January 24, 2022.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

Consideration for Approval: Joint School Committee/Select Board Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2023

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the joint School Committee/Select Board meeting minutes of January 24, 2022.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

Superintendent's Report

Teaching and Learning Budget Presentation

Ms. Brust discussed the topics that were worked on year this year and recognized the work of the Content Supervisors in assisting with this budget presentation. The accomplishments this year PreK-6 include The Science of Reading, OpenSci Ed which is an inquiry-based science curriculum, and the tutoring happening in all schools for Math and English to work on gaps due to the pandemic, made possible with the ESSER funding. In grades 7-12, the accomplishments include grant awards for Project Lead the Way, the NEASC work over the summer and beginning of this year around curriculum, new courses being offered like Arabic and Latin for Law & Gov, OpenSci Ed at PCMS, and also tutoring.

Ongoing work for this year includes continuing to celebrate the diversity of Pembroke learners, K-6 DIBELS reporting for progress monitoring in classrooms, K-6 report card revision to be brought to the school committee in May or June, grades 6-8 Open Sci Ed is in year two of training. 9-12 Pathways is developing relationships, community outreach, and info sessions for younger students and planning teacher PD options for the 2023-2024 school year.

The FY24 goals for curriculum:

- Include new course development at PHS
- ELA curriculum review for grades 6-8
- Math curriculum review for PCMS
- K-5 common unit and benchmark review in Humanities and Science
- K-6 common unit and benchmark review in Math

The FY24 budget goals for instruction and professional development:

- PLTW PD for Biomedical Science, Engineering, and STEM 7 at PCMS
- District-wide PD for literacy prek-6 for teacher training and product training
- Grades 6-8 Science PD for year three of OpenSci Ed
- A full-time educator for grades 5 and 6 introductory instruction in Spanish and French
- World language PD on Avant Advance.

The FY24 budget goals for new materials to support instruction:

- Include the program to support Science of Reading and DIBEL reporting for Prek-6
- Textbooks to support grades 2 and 4 Social Studies
- Textbooks for PHS Exploring Business and Physical Science
- Pathways expansion for Biomedical and Engineering
- New course Microsoft for Business
- Supplies for 6-8 OpenSciEd,
- Multiple online curriculum resources for grades 6-12

FY24 budget requests:

- Preserving existing program and support: \$153k
- Curriculum: \$32k
- Instruction: \$106,498
- New materials: \$538,897
- Total = \$645,845,000

FY25 Next Steps include:

- A review of enVision and K-5 Science
- A review of World Language offerings; add a two-year graduation requirement to align with Mass Core, phase out Latin III and IV, and explore the addition of American Sign Language
- A review of the AP Precalculus curriculum
- Addition of second PLTW courses in Biomedical Science and Engineering
- Expand pathways offerings to include Early Education and Information Technology

Mrs. Bollinger said she appreciates the work of the administration to secure grants. She asked about the Culturally Responsive Scorecard and Learning for Justice Standard. Ms. Brust said the Scorecard is a tool that engages teachers to think about incorporating diverse perspectives. Mrs. Bollinger clarified that the district is not purchasing materials

for this. Mr. Boyle asked about the internships being offered. Ms. Brust said there is a heavy demand in the digital arts field and mentioned that Mr. Hall received a grant that will pay to hire interns to start a help desk. There are also additional opportunities for office clerical work. Mr. Kennedy thanked the administration for their work on this budget presentation.

Consideration for Second Read and Approval: PPS Technology Plan

Mrs. Obey said there were two technology roundtables last week and the district made connections with community members that are willing to help. She said the technology scorecard will be presented to the committee quarterly so that the progress of the goals is monitored.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the PPS Technology Plan.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

Review of Policy BDDH – Public Participation at School Committee Meetings

Mrs. Obey said recently the questions asked at the school committee meetings have not been tied to the topic being discussed so she suggests revisiting the current policy on public comments and going back to that format. The committee reviewed the policy and agreed to return to the format outlined in the policy.

Tracy Marino asked what the process is if the vocational tech exploratory committee is voted down at Town Meeting and Mrs. Obey said the School Committee can still move forward with the Select Board.

Allison Glennon asked if the Pathways Program funding is in place of membership to a regional vocational program and Mrs. Obey said it is not.

Future Meeting Dates and Topics

2/14

VOTE: At 7:51 PM, on a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

APPROVED: March 7, 2023

MOTIONS

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to create a warrant article for the Town Meeting to form a regional planning committee.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the regular school committee meeting minutes of January 24, 2022.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the joint School Committee/Select Board meeting minutes of January 24, 2022.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the PPS Technology Plan.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

VOTE: At 7:51 PM, on a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susie Scholl, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Michael Quinn
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none