



**PEMBROKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Tuesday, November 15, 2022**  
**North Pembroke Elementary School LGI**

**Call to Order**

Mr. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

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

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

**Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors**

Mr. Kennedy welcomed the audience members.

a) Eagle Scout Candidate Parker Glass

Parker thanked the committee for having him. He is a junior at PHS and runs track and cross country and is in the band. He would like to build a Gaga Ball court at North Pembroke Elementary, which the elementary school he attended. He worked at a camp this summer and said all the kids loved it. The court will be made out of pressure treated wood so it should last a long time and he is thinking it should be located on the recess field. Total cost is about \$1200, and he will have a fundraiser and ask for a donation from Lowes. Mrs. Obey asked if it could be moved if needed and Parker said I could. Mrs. Bollinger asked if there is a floor and he said he will add sand to the bottom. Mr. Boyle asked if there is any liability and Mrs. Obey said the insurance coverage will be the same as it is for recess. Mr. Kennedy said he is familiar with a Gaga Ball Court and highly in favor of it.

**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 November 1, 2022**

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the school committee meeting minutes of November 1, 2022.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susan Bollinger, and David Boyle

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Susie Scholl

## Superintendent's Report

### a) Social Emotional Learning Update

Mrs. Obey said the principals will give the update tonight. Mrs. DeLorenzo said support staff and mental health staff are here tonight. She said the elementary staff will talk about the therapeutic rooms (Titan Labs), PCMS will talk about the Signs of Suicide (SOS) Program and PHS will talk about the COMPASS Program and the Break Free from Depression Program.

Mr. Murphy explained that the elementary principals requested the creation of therapeutic rooms, now called Titan LABS, which stands for Learning Adaptive Behaviors. The LABS provide a safe space for students that are escalated and need to calm down using strategies provided by the trained mental health staff, "in the moment" emotional support. Access to the support is intended as a general education intervention. Entrance and exit criteria is determined by the SST process, (Student Support Team) via weekly meetings. Reasons for visits include anxiety, frustration, dysregulation and preventative check ins. Some of the methodologies and programmatic approaches used include Social Thinking language and Mrs. Pearson explained this as translating complex social concepts into a simpler form that can be taught and used as a common language to talk about what it means to be social. It encourages students to actively notice what's happening around them. She added that all three elementary schools have been trained in this. A second approach is Zones of Regulation which Mr. Lisi explained it teaches kids to be more self aware of their feelings and come up with strategies to regulate themselves. Another approach is Social Behavior Mapping and Mrs. Mannix explained it as a way to work with students around their unacceptable behavior and also included are motor breaks and sensory breaks. Mr. Murphy said that additional benefits of the Titan Labs include increased family collaboration, more students having access to counselors than before, and a reduction of administrative interventions. Also, the professional development opportunities have allowed the mental health staff to work collaboratively across the three elementary schools.

Mrs. McGarrigle introduced the mental health staff at PCMS. Mrs. Goitia explained the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Curriculum and said the plans for term 2 this year is the Signs of Suicide Program which has been used in thousands of schools for over 20 years. The hope is that students learn that depression is treatable and how to identify depression and suicide in themselves or peers. It also teaches what to do if a student is concerned and who they can turn to for help. This curriculum started this week, and it will not be delivered it at end of school day so that a student is need has time to reach out if needed before they leave school. Mrs. Kerr said students watch age appropriate video clips and at the end of class complete an exit slip which asks students to identify if they have someone in their lives to reach out to for help or if they want a counselor to follow up with them that same day. Mrs. Larson said the key message is ACT (Acknowledge, Care and Tell a trusted adult). Mr. Kennedy said the students have gone through a lot the past couple of years and these supports are vital to them.

Mr. Talbot said the Compass has been around for about 6 years and PHS recently hired a certified teacher, so it is now staffed by teacher and paraprofessional. The program provides academic and clinical support after a long-term absence (5 or more days). There are three tiers of services, and Tier I is a student returning from a physical illness and the goal is to organize, track and create a plan to make up missed work, then the student moves on from the program. Tier II support have been enhanced and is when a student is returning after a long-term absence for social emotional or mental health struggles. The exit date from the program is fluid and transition is more gradual. Tier III is a new level of support and usually consists of the Tier II students that continue to struggle after transition or students that have been identified as needing the Tier III supports without an extended absence. For Tier III, the program is considered the home base for daily check-ins and there is no established exit date as the student progress is assessed over time. 20 students used the program at the Tier 1 level. One student is in Tier 2 and was a student in Tier 1 prior. Eight students are in Tier III. The average length of stay at Tier 1 is 8 days. The Tier III students average 24 days, accessing it about 1.7 periods per day, which can include a study hall. Some students are there for multiple periods, but they are getting the instruction needed. There are a series of resources used for entry, reentry and exiting/post COMPASS program. Mrs. Obey said Mrs. Scholl wants to remind the group that students going to their elective is just as important as going to any other class. Mr. Talbot said the Break Free from Depression Program was developed by Children's Hospital and is focused on the education and prevention of depression and suicide. It is co-taught by a trained school counselor and the PE/Wellness teachers during 9<sup>th</sup> grade Health and Wellness

classes. It consists of three classroom sessions with a depression screener for students at the end, not used as a diagnostic tool but to encourage students to seek help based on their self-assessment. This program has been taught for the past eight years. A parent workshop will be held on 11/17 so that parents can hear about the curriculum before their students are introduced to it. Mr. Kennedy thanked all the staff for attending tonight and for their work on a daily basis.

Consideration for Approval: Overnight Field Trip Request – Model UN

Mrs. Obey said trip is scheduled for February 10-12, 2023.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the Model UN field trip request.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susan Bollinger, and David Boyle

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Susie Scholl

b) Update on Roundtable Series: #1 Social Emotional Learning #2 Achievement

Mrs. Obey said 10-12 parents attended the meetings and the big feedback was around communication.

Parents also request common language used at school that they can use at home with their children.

The Achievement Roundtable talked about accelerated classes, the elective model at PCMS and the Pathways Program at PHS. She said there is more to come on PCMS elective model. There will be two more roundtables and all meetings will be completed by the budget cycle.

Subcommittee Updates: Policy Subcommittee:

Consideration for Second Read and Approval: Revisions to Policy GBAA: Sexual Harassment

Consideration for Second Read and Approval: Title IX Grievance Procedures

Consideration for Second Read and Approval: Revisions to Policy JIC-R: Antibullying Regulations

Mrs. Obey said these policies were taken as a first read at the last meeting.

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the revisions to Policy GBAA: Sexual Harassment, Title IX Grievance Procedures and Policy JIC-R: Antibullying Regulations.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susan Bollinger, and David Boyle

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Susie Scholl

**Future Meeting Dates and Topics**

12/6 at 6pm

12/13

VOTE: At 8:07PM, on a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Voting Yes: Lance Kennedy, Susan Bollinger, and David Boyle

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Susie Scholl

**APPROVED: December 6, 2022**

**MOTIONS**

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the school committee meeting minutes of November 1, 2022.

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

VOTE: On a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to approve the Model UN field trip request.

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

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the revisions to Policy GBAA: Sexual Harassment, Title IX Grievance Procedures and Policy JIC-R: Antbullying Regulations.

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

VOTE: At 8:07PM, on a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

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