



**PEMBROKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 2023**  
**North Pembroke Elementary School Library**

**Call to Order**

Mr. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:08 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

**Public Comment**

None

**Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors**

Mr. Kennedy welcomed the audience members.

**Adjustments to Agenda**

Approval of PHS out-of-state trip.

**Communications**

None

**Approval of Bill Schedule**

Warrants were sent out electronically for signature.

**Consideration for Approval: School Committee Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2023**

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 April 4, 2023.

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

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

**Superintendent's Report**

FY24 Budget Balancing

Mrs. Obey said the Budget Subcommittee met last Thursday to work on balancing the budget. The two required additions are a 1.0FTE special education para and additional BCBA/LABA contract hours. The Level 1 priority that

was moved forward is a PCMS Titan/Compass para. At the last meeting, the school committee voted to raise fees which will generate about \$37k of revenue, as the intent is to stay away from reducing staff and services. There will be a reduction of one special education teacher across the district due to the shift in enrollment and this will be a savings of \$68k. Additionally, there will be a reduction of one teacher at PHS due to enrollment, but it is not yet known where that will be, and that will be a savings of \$68k. PHS will still have reasonable class sizes and no programmatic changes. Also, there will be a reduction of a .6FTE world language over both PCMS and PHS due to an enrollment shift, so PCMS will run one less section of Spanish, resulting in a savings of \$40,800. PHS has low enrollment in Latin and French and next year PHS can combine honors with CP or have the three Latin students take the course online. The Education Subcommittee will look at the language offerings in the district beginning the following school year and start to discuss the Latin and French offerings, but for 2023-2024 all language offerings will continue. Mrs. Obey said these reductions would be made even in a good year because they are due to enrollment changes. The growth on the Pembroke tax base is not what was expected for FY24 as projects are not where they should be. Hopefully, FY25 will be better so the sentiment is to use one-time funds for FY24. Circuit Breaker reimbursement in FY24 should be higher at about \$224k so the suggestion is to use \$150k of the first quarter Circuit Breaker reimbursement. Rental revenue from North River usage of classrooms at Bryantville generates \$15k per year so the building utilization fund can supply \$60k. These all total \$386,800 leaving a remaining budget gap of \$13,200 to solve which is doable. Mrs. Scholl asked if Mrs. Obey is confident using one-time funds and she said she wouldn't suggest using the funds if she was not confident and added that the State has excess funds to give districts in the next 12-18 months, so she expects to see additional funding coming to Pembroke. Mrs. Scholl asked what other districts are thinking and Mrs. Obey said there is expected movement on the extraordinary relief formula which will benefit districts. Mrs. Scholl suggested giving the State Representatives information on unfunded and underfunded mandates so they can advocate on behalf of Pembroke. Mrs. Bollinger said after discussions with the Selectboard next year's budget conversations between the town and the district will happen earlier and she added that the district can't continue with the MOE budget, if the district is to grow it needs to be a bigger part of the Town budget. Mr. Quinn suggested clear lines of communication and more collaboration with the Selectboard. Mrs. Obey said in prior years there were quarterly joint meetings with two members of both the School Committee and the Selectboard and that would be helpful to start up again. Mr. Quinn asked if the district could have a stated minimum percentage of the Town budget so it is known going into the budget year and Mrs. Obey said there are challenges to that which include that the minimum percentage might not be enough. Mr. Boyle said Pembroke has a limited commercial tax base as there is not a lot of buildable open space so have to think outside the box. Mr. Kennedy commended Mrs. Obey and her administrative team and said the solutions presented tonight make sense and balance the budget. He added that the bigger picture is the challenge of moving the district forward to get beyond the MOE budget by working with Town leadership and advocating at the State level, in addition to challenging the community to push for resources. He added that there will be additional challenges coming up with the vocational issue.

#### Consideration for Second Read and Approval: PCMS Program of Studies

Mrs. Obey said she shared the response about the removal of A Midsummer Night's Dream from the PCMS curriculum and moved it to PHS.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susie Scholl and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the PCMS Program of Studies for 2023-2024.

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

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

#### Consideration for Approval: PHS Track Meet in White Plains NY

Mrs. Obey said this is the Dartmouth Relays and gone in the past. It is an out of state and overnight trip happening in May.

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to approve the PHS Track overnight out-of-state trip.

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

Mrs. Obey said the district held a meeting about the vocational education warrant article for parents last week and there were many interested audience members with great questions and feedback. If the article doesn't pass at Town Meeting the School Committee can still move it forward. She added that it is important for people to come to vote. Mr. Quinn thanked Mrs. Obey, Ms. Brust, and Ms. DeLorenzo for holding the meeting.

### **Future Meeting Dates and Topics**

5/2, 5/9

VOTE: At 6:46 PM, on a motion made by Susan Bollinger 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: May 2, 2023**

### **MOTIONS**

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 April 4, 2023.

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 Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the PCMS Program of Studies for 2023-2024.

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 David Boyle and seconded by Susie Scholl, it was unanimously voted to approve the PHS Track overnight out-of-state trip.

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

Absent: none

VOTE: At 6:46 PM, on a motion made by Susan Bollinger 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