



72 Pilgrim Road, Pembroke, MA 02359
www.pembrokek12.org
pembroke@pembrokek12.org

PEMBROKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, April 30, 2024
North Pembroke Elementary School Library

Call to Order

Mrs. Bollinger called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

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

Present from Committee: Susan Bollinger, Chair; David Boyle, Vice Chair; Allison Glennon, Clerk; Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott

Pledge of Allegiance

Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors

Mrs. Bollinger welcomed the audience members.

Public Comment

None

Communications

Mrs. Glennon said MASC is having A Day on the Hill next week and she and Mrs. Bollinger are attending. She reached out to the offices of Representative LaNatra and Senator Moran and both offices are allowing the school committee members to meet with their staff. Mr. Chilcott said meeting with them is important to do.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None

Approval of Bill Schedule

Warrants were sent out electronically.

Consideration of Approval: School Committee Meeting Minutes of April 23rd

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Michael Quinn, it was unanimously voted to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of April 23, 2024 as amended.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Patrick Chilcott

Superintendent's Report

Consideration for First Read: 2024-2025 School Calendar

Mrs. Obey said Monday, August 26 would be the first day back for teachers, they would be in Monday and Tuesday and students attend on Wednesday and Thursday, and Friday would be no school. The State Election is Tuesday, September

3rd and the Town Clerk said she has started the paperwork to move voting to the Community Center ahead of 9/3. Once the certificate of occupancy is given to the Community Center, she will go to the Selectboard to move voting out of the schools and into the community center. If this change cannot take place, the committee will revise the calendar. November 5th will be a no school day and K-12 parent/teacher conferences will be held. The tentative last day of school will be June 13th and adding five inclement weather days would bring the last day to June 23rd. Mr. Boyle suggested closing the school on January 2nd and 3rd to save money and Mrs. Obey said there would not be a big savings. Mrs. Obey stated that the two days in January are more valuable than the two days at the end of the school year. Mrs. Glennon asked if there were ever discussions to move the start of school to earlier in August. Mrs. Obey stated that the start of the school year is outlined in the collective bargaining agreements. The school committee would need to bring this up in negotiations if they choose to make any changes.

VOTE: On a motion made by Allison Glennon and seconded by Michael Quinn, it was unanimously voted to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar as a first read.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: none

Consideration for Approval: PHS Athletics Survey

Mrs. Obey said this is a basic survey to get feedback on the sports experience and Mr. Phillips will share the data once received. Mr. Boyle suggested adding a question on the survey about willingness to pay a higher fee for sports. Mrs. Obey said the best place for that would be the beginning of the year registration packet or a separate survey. Mr. Chilcott said the district has to find a way to educate people on the costs and then solicit feedback. Ms. Graziano said people may be willing to pay additional money at the time they are being asked about something they love. Mrs. Bollinger suggested adding a question about the coach building confidence and another question inquiring whether the participants/parents are comfortable approaching the administration with any concerns they may have. Mrs. Obey said this is the first athletic survey to gain feedback on the overall experience and suggested asking more specific questions in a survey after each season. Mr. Chilcott advised to be careful in how the question is asked. He also noted that not all students will have the same experience, but he does not want the survey to take a negative tone. Mrs. Obey explained that coaching positions are not evaluated since they are seasonal appointments. However, there is an end-of-the-season meeting with the Athletic Director. When coaches are put in an evaluation cycle, it assumes they will return the following year, when that may not be the case. Mrs. Bollinger suggested rephrasing the question to include information on an anonymous way to supply feedback through Titan Talk. She said her concern is that people in the community still don't know about Titan Talk. Mr. Chilcott said this question is framed in a negative way. Mrs. Obey said the Titan Talk is pushed out in newsletters, the PPS website and other avenues and she is not sure this survey is the place for this. Mrs. Bollinger said this survey is another opportunity to get the information to families. Mrs. Obey suggested putting it on the school registration page.

Mr. Chilcott said the committee is responsible for managing a district and it is not possible to ensure that every individual will receive all communication. The issue of Titan Talk has been addressed multiple times through various means, therefore, this survey is not an appropriate platform to discuss this matter.

Mrs. Bollinger suggested wording it more positively and added that she believes it is important that the community know their options. Mr. Chilcott said the community should be aware of the options but the constant critical nature of the district or the employees is inappropriate. He said the Superintendent intends to conduct an experiential survey to enhance the overall experience, and the committee needs to focus on this objective. Additionally, the committee must have confidence in the people who are employed to run the district.

Mrs. Bollinger said her intention was not to put a negative light on the administration. She believes that it is important for parents to feel comfortable and be aware that they have a way to voice their concerns. In addition, she thinks the superintendent, administration, and teachers are doing an excellent job. Mrs. Glennon confirmed that the survey could be anonymous. She also stated that in this day and age, everyone has access to the internet and a phone. Therefore, the district can only do so much to educate people. She added that the survey is not the appropriate platform to push this message and made a motion to move the survey forward as it is.

VOTE: On a motion made by Allison Glennon and seconded by Patrick Chilcott, it was unanimously voted to approve the PHS Athletics Survey as presented.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott

Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

Subcommittee/Liaison Updates

Policy Subcommittee:

Consideration for Second Read & Approval: Policy Section J – Students

Mrs. Glennon said she would like Policy JI pulled and sent back to the Policy Subcommittee based on some redundancy with IMB. Mrs. Obey said she and Mrs. Glennon discussed ways of tracking the policy changes and Mrs. Glennon spoke with the MASC representative and will share some best practices at the next Policy Subcommittee meeting. Mrs. Glennon said there are some redundancies in section K as well. Mr. Chilcott suggested that sections J and K go back to the Policy Subcommittee for review since the subcommittee hasn't met in more than three months. Mrs. Obey clarified that all of this policy work happened in July and August.

Consideration for First Read: Policy Section K – School, Community and Home Relations

This was tabled. Section K is going back to the Policy Subcommittee for further review.

Consideration for First Read: Policy Section L – Education and Agency Relations

Mrs. Obey said there is only one new policy, LDA: Student Teaching and Internships.

VOTE: On a motion made by Allison Glennon and seconded by Michael Quinn, it was unanimously voted to approve Policy Section L: Education and Agency Relations as a first read as presented.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

Future Meeting Dates and Topics

5/14 and 5/21

VOTE: At 7:12 PM, on a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Michael Quinn, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

APPROVED: May 14, 2024

MOTIONS

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Michael Quinn, it was unanimously voted to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of April 23, 2024 as presented.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Patrick Chilcott

VOTE: On a motion made by Allison Glennon and seconded by Michael Quinn, it was unanimously voted to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar as a first read.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

VOTE: On a motion made by Allison Glennon and seconded by Patrick Chilcott, it was unanimously voted to approve the PHS Athletics Survey as presented.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

VOTE: On a motion made by Allison Glennon and seconded by Michael Quinn, it was unanimously voted to approve Policy Section L: Education and Agency Relations as a first read as presented.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none

VOTE: At 7:12 PM, on a motion made by Patrick Chilcott and seconded by Michael Quinn, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Voting Yes: Susan Bollinger, David Boyle, Allison Glennon, Michael Quinn and Patrick Chilcott
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: none