Board has opportunity to contract the next piece of the Green Communities funded energy saving measures, a weatherization and insulation contract for work at Warwick Community School funded by the competitive grant. This contract is through project expediter ECI who have a good track record with us including the town hall and highway heat pumps and the current measures being taken at WCS.

Our efforts to keep WCS open in a new and innovative way are many. I know there is concern about spending grant money with the ongoing uncertainty and want to note that in the event we fail to keep a public school, the town will still be able to use the building for a public purpose which may include senior meal site, some town offices, continuing education and many other ways. We are as well considering ways to develop revenues from our educational offerings and from the school space as part of containing educational costs.

There is a small discrepancy noted in the 1/12 budget approved by DESE Commissioner for PV. The WCS Education Task Force has a full meeting next Tuesday 7/9. To stay on schedule, we on the Charter School concept propose the board approve a Letter of Intent to DESE describing our town’s efforts to convert WCS to a Horace Mann Chartered School.

The Charter School group also proposes the Selectboard by a vote form the Local Elementary Committee (LEC) which is pursuant to our District Agreement. It’s members, by the terms of the DA, include the elected SC members from the Town. The LEC would serve as liaison between the SC and the Task Force. SC members would not need ethics exemptions to be involved in this way.

I propose the board vote a town Employee Mileage Reimbursement Documentation Policy that states that the preferred documentation is an actual vehicle log that states the trip beginning point and destination, and distance traveled. I propose further that absent a log; a computer map printout may be substituted as substantiation when a log isn’t kept.

My fellow PVRSD town admins are talking with their Selectboards about getting our legislative delegation to mediate a meeting between the town’s leadership and the schools. I did not offer that we have Senator Jo Comerford scheduled for a special August 12, 2019 Joint Meeting with Selectboard and Finance Committee as that is for Warwick purposes. We are though in search of a win / win with the District so I think the “impasse” is not terminal. I continue to work with the Administration.

Interesting that since PVRSD is subject to DESE Commissioner budget approval; and he has given such approval, our 1/12 regional school budget was based on the budget that underlaid the assessment we turned down twice and not on 1/12 of the FY19 budget.