



School committee tours high school language lab

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Pembroke — As a side note to the Pembroke School Committee meeting last Tuesday night (May 18), members along with Superintendent Frank Hackett got a small tour and practice session in the high school's state-of-the-art language lab.

Guided by Carole Glass, the chairperson of the language department at Pembroke High School, the school committee received an insiders look into how the lab works and how it has benefited Pembroke High School students since it opened in 2005.

Glass showed off the new technology, which allows the instructor to speak directly with the students through headsets and select individual students if they need specialized help.

Committee members were able to record their speech, listen back and even practice with partners, all through the use of the language lab software.

"We could do the same thing in class but with this software and equipment it has such a greater effect," Glass told the group.

Committee member Mike Tropeano said he was impressed with the language lab.

"It's very neat," he said. "I think it is great that kids are able to learn with this new and very exciting technology."

Glass said that especially with larger classes, the technology is a big time saver.

"Plus the kids love using it," she said. "It's new and different."

Glass also said the technology affords the opportunity for those students who are wary and nervous about speaking up in class, the same level of education without the anxiety.

"It's a very safe way to learn," she said.

While schools have traditionally centered their language curriculum around reading and writing, Glass said the new technology provides students real world scenarios and boosts their ability to speak the language.

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