

## School Board Summary/Action Sheet

**Date of Meeting: May 14, 2002**

A regular meeting of the Portsmouth School Board was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2002 in the Council Chambers at the Portsmouth Municipal Complex.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Kent LaPage (Chair), Mr. John Lyons, Jr. (Vice-Chair), Mrs. Nancy Novelline-Clayburgh, Mrs. Nansi Craig, Mr. Clay Hayward, Mrs. Colleen Montminy, Mr. Carvel Tefft, Mr. Charles Vaughn

**ABSENT:** Mr. Raimond Bowles

**PARTICIPATING:** Dr. Lyonel B. Tracy (Superintendent of Schools), Dr. Robert J. Lister (Assistant Superintendent), Mr. Alan Robinson (Student Representative), Mrs. Ann Walker (Employee Representative), Mrs. Ann Mayer (SAU 50 Representative)

### Actions Taken by the Board

Chair LaPage called meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Chair called for a moment of silent reflection and asked people to keep in their thoughts and prayers the students who will be participating in end-of-year and graduation activities. Mr. Alan Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Approval of minutes:

February 12, 2002 – C. Vaughn moved the minutes be accepted as written; N. Clayburgh seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

March 26, 2002 – C. Vaughn moved the minutes be accepted as written; C. Hayward seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

April 9, 2002 – C. Hayward moved the minutes be accepted as written; C. Montminy seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

#### Correspondence

Letter from Prescott Park requesting volunteers for the Prescott Park Arts Festival. The Board chose Friday, July 19 as the date they will volunteer to collect donations at the Park.

The Chair read a letter from Senator Mark Fernald, responding to the Board's letter about the Statewide property tax. C. Vaughn moved the letter be placed on file with thanks. N. Clayburgh seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

## Correspondence (continued)

Copy of a memo from City Manager John Bohenko concerning the drastic implications to the City of Portsmouth should the Governor sign SB 140, which results in the loss of revenue for free and reduced meals in the amount of \$375,791. C. Vaughn moved the correspondence be accepted; N. Clayburgh seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Copy of letter from High School Principal Richard Gremlitz dated May 10, 2002 concerning a school-wide assembly on Monday, May 20. The topic of drug and alcohol abuse will be discussed at this assembly.

Chair LaPage reviewed list of activities that will take place in the school system over the next several months.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTARY SESSION**

There was no one in attendance who wished to address the Board.

## **RECOGNITION OF STAFF/STUDENTS**

There were no students or staff presentations to come before the Board.

## **PERSONNEL**

Dr. Lister presented the following professional nominations:

Philip Loud (math teacher, PHS). C. Vaughn moved to accept nomination; seconded by N. Clayburgh. Unanimous vote.

Robert James Andrews (computer teacher, PHS). C. Vaughn moved to accept nomination; seconded by N. Clayburgh. Unanimous vote.

Linda George (computer teacher, Dondero School). C. Vaughn moved to accept nomination; seconded by N. Craig. Unanimous vote.

John J. Marlowe (third grade, New Franklin). N. Clayburgh moved to accept nomination; seconded by N. Craig. Unanimous vote.

Christine Stilwell (special education teacher, PASS). C. Vaughn moved to accept nomination; seconded by N. Craig. Unanimous vote.

Christina Cook Bates (first grade teacher, New Franklin). J. Lyons moved to accept nomination; seconded by N. Clayburgh. Unanimous vote.

Dr. Lister presented the resignation of Michael Parr, Computer Teacher/Integrator at Portsmouth Middle School, effective the end of the 2002/03 school year. C. Vaughn moved the Board accept the resignation with regret; N. Clayburgh seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Joint Building Committee – Chair LaPage reported on the progress of renovations plans for Portsmouth High School and the ongoing construction at New Franklin School. The committee meets again on May 22.

“SchoolMatch” Response Committee – C. Hayward reviewed the work presently being completed by members of this committee. The committee meets again on June third.

Technology Committee – C. Hayward reviewed the minutes from the April 10, 2002 meeting. C. Vaughn moved the Board accept the minutes and they be placed on file; N. Clayburgh seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

Curriculum Committee – Dr. Lister reviewed the membership of this committee and the topics that have been discussed at meetings. The next meeting is June 20.

Athletic Committee – N. Craig reported the committee will meet after the spring season is over. She reviewed statistics of the various high school teams. C. Tefft requested the Superintendent meet with the City Manager to discuss the rehabilitation of Clough Field.

GPEPC (Greater Portsmouth Education Partnership Council) – J. Lyons reviewed the membership of GPEPC and what has transpired since the new committee members have been meeting.

Negotiations Committees – Chair LaPage said assignments will be made to negotiating committees. The Board will meet in a non-public session on Monday, May 20 with its chief negotiator, Tom Flygare. The Chair reviewed the process of meetings with Mr. Flygare in anticipation of the beginning of negotiations.

Joint Loss Workplace Safety Committee – J. Lyons reviewed the membership and purpose of this committee, as well as the schools visited to date.

The Chair reviewed the dialogue on early education that was held last Thursday, May 9, at the Community Campus. Chair LaPage said he was most pleased with the turn-out, as over 60 people were in attendance.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

C. Vaughn moved the proposed dates for the 2002/03 School Board meetings be accepted as presented; J. Lyons seconded the motion. Chair LaPage suggested the June 24, 2003 meeting be held at “Exchange City” at the Wentworth School.

(Ann Mayer left the meeting at this time – 8:30 p.m.)

The Board, after discussions, decided to hold its retreat in late November/early December, as usual, and there was no need to hold the retreat prior to the retreat with GPEPC.

Dr. Tracy stated the High School administration will send letters home to all high school parents informing them of the requirements set forth by the “No Child Left Behind” Act; specifically,

that all school systems are required to furnish military recruiters and institutions for higher education with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all high school students, unless the parent specifically requests this information not be released. After some discussion, Chair LaPage requested the Board meet in a work session prior to the end of June to discuss this Act, as he believes funds for Title I and IDEA may be at risk.

### **CONTINUING BUSINESS**

Dr. Lister reported on the Business Collaborative; its purpose and plans.

Chair LaPage stated the Board will discuss the Superintendent's evaluation process in a non-public session to be held on Monday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. Board members received and reviewed a copy of the evaluation document used last year.

### **FINANCIAL**

The April 2002 financial report was reviewed by the Board. C. Tefft questioned the deficit in account 144 (safety and good order). Chair LaPage said he would discuss this with Mr. Torrey after he returns from his conference.

The Chair stated a public hearing on the 2002-03 Municipal budget will be held on Monday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m.

### **NEXT AGENDA**

Chair LaPage said the Principals will introduce new staff members to the Board at the May 28 meeting.

Dr. Tracy said that Bruce Boley and Paulette Hoeflich will be present at the next meeting to update the Board on the KIDS (Kids In Difficult Situations) Program and to discuss the transition period as Mr. Boley's retirement nears.

N. Clayburgh asked if there is anything the School Board can do to prevent activist groups from showing horrific videos to students. There was a brief discussion about the recent event at the Middle School.

### **OTHER**

Dr. Tracy presented Dr. Lister with a Special Olympics gold medal in recognition of his efforts in organizing and bringing the recent Special Olympics Basketball Tournament to Portsmouth.

N. Clayburgh commended Middle School Principal John Stokel and High School Principal Rick Gremlitz for their presentations to parents. She believes the parents left the meetings feeling comfortable about their students going to the Middle School or High School.

There was no further business to come before the Board.

J. Lyons moved the Board adjourn its meeting; C. Vaughn seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

*(LBT/paw -5/15/02)*

