

School Board Summary/Action Sheet

Date of Meeting: July 9, 2002

A regular meeting of the Portsmouth School Board was held on Tuesday, July 9, 2002 in the Council Chambers at the Portsmouth Municipal Complex.

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

EXCUSED: Mr. Charles Vaughn, Miss Sarah Sanger (Student Representative)

PARTICIPATING: Dr. Lyonel B. Tracy (Superintendent of Schools), Dr. Robert J. Lister (Assistant Superintendent), Mrs. Diane O'Leary McGee (Employee Representative)

Prior to the regular meeting the Board met with Dr. Tracy in non-public session in Conference Room A to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation. This non-public session was held in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II. (a).

Actions Taken by the Board

Chair called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. He called for a moment of silence. Former School Board member Shaun McEachern led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of June 25, 2002 meeting approved on a motion by C. Hayward, seconded by J. Lyons – unanimous vote.

Chair LaPage declared the School Board had nominated Dr. Lyonel B. Tracy to receive the 2003 National Superintendent of the Year Award. He encouraged people in support of this nomination to write letters of endorsement.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY SESSION

Mr. Martin Cameron, 469 Ocean Road, Portsmouth, informed the Board of an Environmental Monitoring System in place in seven high schools within a ten-mile zone of the Pilgrim Nuclear Plant and a program in place at Phillips Exeter Academy. Students, using sophisticated software and hardware, are able to constantly monitor, and analyze, radiological and meteorological conditions. Mr. Cameron urged the School Board to investigate the possibility of having this program at Portsmouth High School.

Mrs. Louise Duprey, parent of three students, spoke on behalf of the Girls Lacrosse Club and requested the Club be granted varsity status so that it may schedule games with other varsity teams. Mrs. Duprey said this request does not require the Board to obligate funds for the

program for the 2002-03 school year. N. Clayburgh moved the Board grant varsity status to the Girls Lacrosse Club at Portsmouth High School; N. Craig seconded the motion. After discussions, C. Tefft moved the Board table this request until the September 10th meeting. R. Bowles seconded the motion. The tabling motion was unanimously approved.

The Chair reminded Board members they had volunteered to collect donations at Prescott Park on Friday evening, July 19.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF/STUDENTS

Ms. Tricia Lee and Ms. Stacey Weeks (fifth grade teachers), and Mr. George Shea (computer integrator teacher), from Little Harbour School presented the video created by fifth grade students. With funds received through a grant, they worked with the students to develop a CD entitled, "Pass the Muck." This CD is a learning resource to explain the Little Harbour estuary. The teachers, along with Principal Robin Burdick and Technology Director Ed Stokel commented that this project integrated technology across the curriculum and enhanced the students' learning.

PERSONNEL

Dr. Lister presented the professional nomination of James C. Keane to the position of science teacher at Portsmouth High School. Nomination approved on a motion by N. Clayburgh; seconded by C. Hayward – unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Joint Building Committee: Chair LaPage reported the Committee has not met since the last School Board meeting. A meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday, July 17.

Athletic Committee: The Athletic Committee has not met since the last School Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

R. Bowles reported on the following: The "Leave No Child Behind" Act; a change in the Scholastic Aptitude Tests (SATs) to correlate with the "Leave No Child Behind Act;" and inaccuracies made by the media in reporting on the drop-out rate.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Chair LaPage stated a public forum to discuss the name of the renovated High School will be held on August 8, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at Portsmouth High School. The forum will allow for an open discussion as to whether or not there is a need to change the name of the school.

The Chair stated a date will be set for the School Board to meet in a work session with members of the Clipper Health Center Advisory Board.

Dr. Lister stated that plans for "Exchange City" are on schedule; they have just applied for the last permit, the City is being built in Minneapolis and will be shipped to Portsmouth for assembly, and they plan on opening the "Exchange City" on October first.

FINANCIAL

There was no financial report to come before the Board.

NEXT AGENDA

N. Craig requested an updated list of Board work sessions be presented to the Board. Dr. Lister said this can be brought to the Board at the next meeting.

OTHER

J. Lyons acknowledged that Rai Bowles will celebrate his birthday tomorrow, and Diane O'Leary McGee will celebrate her birthday on July 14.

There was no further business to come before the Board. The meeting was adjourned on a motion by J. Lyons, seconded by N. Craig, and unanimously voted. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

LBT/paw
7/10/02