

## **School Board Summary/Action Sheet**

**Date of Meeting: August 13, 2002**

A regular meeting of the Portsmouth School Board was held on Tuesday, August 13, 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, Mr. Carvel Tefft, Mr. Charles Vaughn

**EXCUSED:** Mrs. Colleen Montminy

**PARTICIPATING:** Dr. Robert J. Lister (Assistant Superintendent), Mr. W. Peter Torrey (Business Administrator), Miss Sarah Sanger (Student Representative), Mrs. Diane O'Leary McGee (Employee Representative)

Prior to the regular meeting the Board met in a non-public session in the Legal Department Conference Room A to discuss personnel. This non-public session was held in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II. (b).

### **Actions Taken by the Board**

Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. He called for a moment of silence reflection. Mr. Vaughn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

J. Lyons moved, seconded by C. Hayward, to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2002 meeting. Motion unanimously approved.

The Board received the following correspondence: letter from Diane O'Leary McGee and Linda Briolat, representing the Association of Portsmouth Teachers, indicating the Association desires to bargain a master contract; letter from Virginia Kelleher, President of the Portsmouth Association of Clericals in Education (PACE), indicating the Association desires to bargain a master contract; and a letter from Mayor Evelyn Sirrell requesting the Board, prior to taking any action, hold a public hearing on the subject of considering changing the name of Portsmouth High School.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTARY SESSION**

Mr. Stu Krulnick (sp.?), representing Ear Craft Music of Dover, New Hampshire, asked that families whose children rent musical instruments have a choice as to where they may rent the instruments, and that Ear Music be placed on the band instrument rental list.

#### **PERSONNEL**

One year unpaid leave of absence for Jennifer Shaw, first grade teacher at New Franklin School, unanimously approved on a motion by J. Lyons, seconded by C. Vaughn.

## **PERSONNEL (continued)**

Transfer of Molly Smith from grade 4 at Little Harbour School to 50% reading recovery teacher at Little Harbour School unanimously approved on a motion by C. Vaughn, seconded by N. Clayburgh.

Dr. Lister presented the following professional new hires:

Ann Gilman, family and consumer science teacher at Portsmouth Middle School (unanimously approved on a motion by C. Vaughn, seconded by C. Hayward).

Nicole Keil, first grade teacher at New Franklin School (unanimously approved on a motion by C. Vaughn, seconded by C. Hayward).

Kenneth Sommers, automotive technology teacher at Portsmouth High School (unanimously approved on a motion by C. Vaughn, seconded by N. Clayburgh).

Jaime Trudel, second grade teacher at Little Harbour School (unanimously approved on a motion by C. Vaughn, seconded by C. Hayward).

Thomas Denning, physical education/health teacher at Portsmouth Middle School (unanimously approved on a motion by C. Vaughn, seconded by C. Hayward).

Dr. Lister reviewed the status of new professional staff hired to date.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Joint Building Committee: Chair LaPage said the Joint Building Committee will meet tomorrow morning. He reported great strides are being made with construction and renovations at the New Franklin and Dondero elementary schools. Mr. Bowles and Mrs. Clayburgh commented on private fundraising that will take place to fund those items that had to be cut in order to meet the construction budget (auditorium seats, lifts in the automotive shop, and a greenhouse in the science department).

Facilities Committee: C. Tefft reported the Facilities Committee reviewed maintenance and capital projects for the 2001-02 school year as well as additional projects funded through encumbrances. The Committee also received reports of the Dondero School renovation projects and did a “walk through” of the new addition at New Franklin School.

Athletic Committee: N. Craig reported the Athletic Committee met on July 18 to discuss the possibility of the girls lacrosse club becoming a varsity sport in the spring of 2003.

R. Bowles moved, seconded by N. Craig, the Board remove from the table Mrs. Clayburgh’s motion “the Board grant varsity status to the Girls Lacrosse Club at Portsmouth High School.” The motion to remove the item from the table was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

The motion to grant varsity status was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

N. Craig moved the Board support the Girls Varsity Lacrosse Team in a dollar amount not to exceed \$4,500 to pay for a varsity coach and transportation to the away games for

the 2002-03 season. R. Bowles seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

Chair LaPage reported there will be another meeting with all booster clubs on September fifth.

Policy Committee: N. Craig reported the Policy Committee met and reviewed the first ten policies of the “Community Relations” section. The committee will meet again next week, and she requested input from Board members should they wish any changes to these policies. C. Tefft moved the first reading of the following policies, seconded by C. Vaughn: School Board Meetings; Communication with the Public; School Media Information; Publications, Radio and Television; News Releases; Fund Raising; Responsibility of School Personnel; Responsibilities of the Board; Participation in Schools; and School/Community Associations. The motion was unanimously approved.

GPEPC (Greater Portsmouth Educational Partnership Council): J. Lyons reported GPEPC is having its summer retreat on August 21 from 8:00 – 12:00 noon at the Elks Club in Portsmouth.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

R. Lister reviewed the request for four early release days for the 2002-03 school year.

R. Bowles reported a public forum on the “No Child Left Behind” Act will be held on August 22, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. in the Legislative Office Building in Concord (Rooms 210 & 211). He urged the educational professional associations attend and make statements at this forum.

N. Craig moved the Board approve the early release days for the 2002-03 school year; J. Lyons seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **CONTINUING BUSINESS**

R. Lister and Chair LaPage reviewed the status of Board work sessions; specifically, Clipper Health, School Match, Booster Clubs/Fundraising Groups, GPEPC and JROTC.

R. Lister reviewed the status of graduates from the Class of 2002. He reviewed plans to track these students over the next ten years.

Chair LaPage clarified his thoughts on the naming of Portsmouth High School; that a way be found to honor all students who attend Portsmouth High School. He suggested a forum be held on September 12 to hear input from the community. C. Vaughn requested a straw vote to determine if the Board feels there is a need to change the name of Portsmouth High School. Board members expressed their individual opinions on this subject. Mr. Vaughn later withdrew his motion.

### **FINANCIAL**

W. P. Torrey reviewed preliminary general fund information for the 2001-02 fiscal year, and the July financial report for the new fiscal year.

## **FINANCIAL** (continued)

W. P. Torrey reviewed the proposed 2002-03 rates, and votes were taken based on his memo of August 7, 2002.

J. Lyons moved, seconded by N. Clayburgh, the rate of \$20 for bus tickets proposed in the Business Administrator's memo of August 7, 2002 be approved. The motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

N. Clayburgh moved, seconded by C. Hayward, the Board approve the driver education student fee as outlined in the August 7 memo from Peter Torrey; the rate increase from \$280 to \$350. The motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

J. Lyons moved the Board approve the rental rates as set forth in the August 7, 2002 memo from the Business Administrator; N. Craig seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

N. Clayburgh moved the Board accept the substitute rates for the coming year as outlined in the August 7 memo; C. Vaughn seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

C. Tefft moved, seconded by N. Clayburgh, the food service rates for the 2002-03 school year remain the same as the previous school year. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Hayward moved the employee out-of-district travel reimbursement rate be approved at .365 cents per mile; C. Tefft seconded the motion. Both Mr. Hayward and Mr. Tefft agreed to accept an amendment that, instead of a number, the rate will be the same as the Federal reimbursement rate. The amended motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

N. Clayburgh moved, seconded by C. Hayward, the lunchroom monitor rate be increased to \$8.35 per hour for the 2002-03 school year. The motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

P. Torrey told the Board the Joint Building Committee will be doing a "walk through" of the Dondero and New Franklin elementary schools next Wednesday, August 21. They will start at Dondero School at 7:00 a.m. and proceed to New Franklin School at 8:00 a.m. Members of the School Board and City Council will be invited to attend.

## **NEXT AGENDA/OTHER**

N. Clayburgh said the fifth annual road race to benefit PEP 2000 will be held on August 24 at 10:00 a.m. at Portsmouth High School. There will be a 5K race, a 2K race, and a kids' fun race. She reported that last year PEP 2000 raised about \$23,000 for after school programs in the three elementary schools.

C. Vaughn moved the Board adjourn its meeting; N. Craig seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

