

## SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2008

TIME: 5:30PM [or thereafter]

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Present: DR. MITCHELL SHULDMAN (CHAIR), KENT LAPAGE, SHERI HAMBARRITY, ANN WALKER, DEXTER LEGG, LISA SWEET, REBECCA EMERSON, LESLIE STEVENS, DR. ROBERT LISTER (SUPERINTENDENT) STEPHEN ZADRAVEC (ASST. SUPERINTENDENT), STEPHEN BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), JEFF COLLINS (PRINCIPAL PHS), JOHN STOKEL (PRINCIPAL PMS), MS. ABIGAIL ROCKEFELLER (STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE), MS. LINDA BRIOLAT (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE).

Absent: BRENDAN RISTAINO (VICE CHAIR), ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REPRESENTATIVE)

Chair Shuldman stated the purpose of the workshop was to hear from JCJ Architects on where the Portsmouth Middle School project stands with cost and size. Chair Shuldman also stated the board has worked very hard to provide a middle school with the smallest footprint possible and still accommodate existing educational programs needs.

JCJ Architects then presented a cost breakdown analysis showing the final budget and how costs may fluctuate, depending on the project schedule. The longer it takes to decide on site, size and cost, the higher the costs may increase due to increases in construction costs. While fields were still a concern of the board, the cost will be included into the middle school project in order for the city to receive reimbursement from the state, but board members felt it was a city issue and should be taken into consideration in the final cost presented to City Council.

Chair Shuldman stated that because the city was renovating the existing middle school and not building a brand new facility, the cost per square foot was \$145.00. If the city were to build brand new, it would cost \$185.00 per square foot. By using the existing site, utilities are already in place. Because the city will be renovating under what the state considers "high performance" standards, the city will be reimbursed an extra 3%.

It was again reiterated that the state requires parking for every teacher be made available and the board would need to figure out the parking issue before submitting their plan to the state.

Additional waivers may be available for break out areas, teacher collaboration rooms and additional unified arts programs that the middle school offers that other middle schools do not offer. This could decrease the overall cost further.

There are also existing spaces that will qualify for waivers. Hallways are allowed to be eight feet across. Because the hallways pre-exist at ten feet, the extra footage will qualify for a waiver from the state.

Waivers could total a little over \$1,000,000.00.

At 6:34 p.m., voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dr. Robert J. Lister

Superintendent of Schools