

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 9, 2010

LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2010

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

I. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair Shuldman.

II. ROLL CALL

MITCHELL SHULDMAN (CHAIR), ANN WALKER (VICE CHAIR), ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASST SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), CAROL CHELLMAN, REBECCA EMERSON, KENT LAPAGE, DEXTER LEGG, TOM MARTIN, LESLIE STEVENS, CLAY HAYWARD, ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REP), AND SAVANNAH FODERO (STUDENT REP)

III. INVOCATION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Shuldman led in the pledge of allegiance. Board members remembered Mrs. Betty Ludington, a teacher and librarian who recently passed away.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a. OCTOBER 26, 2010

MOTION: Motion to approve the minutes of October 26, 2010 by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Vice Chair Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – Senator Elect Nancy Stiles introduced herself to Board members.

VII. PUBLIC INPUT ON DRAFT POLICY: PUPIL SAFETY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT – BULLYING

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- i. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MENU – NOVEMBER – Mr. Hayward thanked the nutrition department for the variety of food provided to students.
- ii. TECHNOLOGY NEWSLETTER
- iii. INSTANCES OF BULLYING REPORTED TO NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
- iv. ESTIMATED SAVINGS TO SCHOOL DEPARTMENT IF ALL EMPLOYEES MOVE TO MATTHEW THORNTON HEALTH CARE PLAN – Open enrollment meetings to discuss savings will be offered by Ms. Diana Fogarty. All eligible participants will be contacted to understand what the advantages may be of switching their insurance coverage.
- v. “*TRUTHS HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW*,” BY MCCANN, JONES AND ARNOFF IN OCTOBER 2010 PHI DELTA KAPPAN – Board member Chellman wondered if data on teacher effectiveness should be included in the matrix that Mr. McDonough is working on.
- vi. OCTOBER 28, 2010 MINUTES OF POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 9, 2010

- vii. 2011 TUITION RATES WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
- b. CORRESPONDENCE
 - i. CORRESPONDENCE FROM NEWMARKET SCHOOL DISTRICT, SAU # 31
 - ii. MEMORANDUM AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR DIANNA FOGERTY REGARDING LGC INTERIM REPORT
- c. DISTRICT REPORTS
 - i. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORTS – Principal Shea, Grossman and Callahan all reported on the opening of school, as well as current highlights and future events happening throughout their schools. For a look at each school’s snapshot report, please click here. [NEW FRANKLIN](#), [LITTLE HARBOUR](#), [DONDERO](#). Board members then asked follow up questions: Have principals noticed budget constraints from last year’s cuts? Has technology integration been successful? What kind of projects is the computer lab being signed up for? What are the differences, by school, regarding the Technology Integrator position? What processes are in place to share best practices throughout the district?
 - ii. FINANCIAL REPORT – STEVE BARTLETT – Mr. Bartlett provided an updated financial report stating that the budget is within parameters with a few line items that are constantly being monitored. Coaching overage is a result of having a large percentage of experienced coaches. Savings in FICA is expected to offset dental overage.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING POLICIES – (SECOND READING)
 - i. (IJOC) – VOLUNTEERS –
MOTION: Motion to approve (IJOC) VOLUNTEERS policy by Ms. Walker
SECOND: Mr. Legg
DISCISSION:
VOTE: Roll Call: 9 Yes, 0 No
 - ii. (GBCD) – BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION AND CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK - Language regarding Contracted employees and who is responsible for background checks will be revisited by Attorney Dwyer.

MOTION: Motion to table (GBCD) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION AND CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK by Ms. Walker
SECOND: Mr. Hayward
DISCISSION:
VOTE: Unanimously Approved

X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE: MS. REBECCA REMSEN, NEW FRANKLIN, GRADE 4

MOTION: Motion to approve the leave of absence for Ms. Rebecca Remsen by Mr. LaPage
SECOND: Vice Chair Walker
DISCISSION:
VOTE: Unanimously Approved

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. JBC – Mr. Legg reported that construction documents are approximately 80% complete. Cost avoidance items have been identified and will continue to be refined.
- b. MAYOR’S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON EFFICIENCIES – Finalized outcomes of this committee will be reported out shortly. Information regarding moving Central Office to City Hall concluded that a move will not be possible until 2018, when a building will become available. Coast Bus services may be able to mitigate the loss of the the high school late bus but will not be able to provide transportation for the district.
- c. POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE -

XII. ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn by Mr. Martin at 9:00 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Walker and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by:



Ed McDonough
Superintendent of Schools