

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR MARCH 22, 2011

DONDERO ELEMENTARY

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011

TIME: 7:00PM [or thereafter]

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- I. CALL TO ORDER** - Chair Shuldman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
- II. MITCH SHULDMAN (CHAIR), ANN WALKER (VICE CHAIR), LESLIE STEVENS, CLAY HAYWARD, KENT LAPAGE, REBECCA EMERSON, TOM MARTIN, DEXTER LEGG, CAROL CHELLMAN, ED MCDONOUGH, (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEPHEN BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REPRESENTATIVE) AND LINDA BRIOLAT (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE)**
- III. INVOCATION**
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** -Chair Shuldman led in the pledge of allegiance and requested a moment of silence be held for the people of Japan.
- V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
- a. MARCH 8, 2011
- MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of March 8, 2011 by Mr. Martin
SECOND: Ms. Walker
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Unanimously approved
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENT** – Mr. James Ritzo of 100 Clough Drive addressed the issue of traffic patterns in front of his house and Little Harbour Elementary School. Mr. Mark Brighton commented on the DRAFT policy regarding school facility rentals currently being reviewed by the School Board.
- VII. SPECIAL PRESENTATION** – GRADE 5 PRESENTATION ON DIGITAL STORIES. Fifth grade teacher Ms. Molly French and three of her students (Adhey Waworuntu, Clay Hundertmark and Bryan O’Malley) shared digital projects that focused on building reading skills. Stories written by students were broken up into movie scenes in which several technology tools were utilized.
- MOTION: Motion to move agenda item X (a) up by Ms. Walker
SECOND: Mr. Legg
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Unanimously approved
- VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
- a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
- i. *BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR – MARCH*
- ii. PROPOSED FY 2012 BUDGET AND DISTRICT PERFORMANCE MEASURES
- iii. DONDERO FIELD TRIP – FERRY BEACH ECOLOGY SCHOOL
- iv. RESIGNATION LETTERS
- 1.SUSAN BIRRELL

2.KENNETH SOMMERS – Mr. Sommer’s automotive position will be reduced to half time for the 2011/2012 school year. The school district has held several conversations with Great Bay Community College to assess the feasibility of sharing an instructor and program costs. Because of demands expressed by area dealers, the high school is better served running a “generic” program.

v. SCHOOL BOARD RETREAT, MARCH 29, 2011, 5:30 pm, PHS CONFERENCE ROOM

b. CORRESPONDENCE

i. INVITATION TO JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATIONAL NIGHT, MARCH 23rd

ii. REQUEST TO ALTER 2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR RESPONSE FROM COMMISSIONER BARRY

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- a. CONSENSUS ON SCHOOL BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY CHARTER The Board reviewed its previous list of recommendations and narrowed the list down to:
1. The Portsmouth School Board by Charter Section 6.3H has a Student member on the School Board. Throughout the years, the School Board has had an Employee Representative and School Administrative Unit #52 Representative who also has all the rights of a School Board member except they may not vote and attend executive sessions. The School Board would like to see these positions recognized in the charter revisions.
 2. In recent years, the Portsmouth School Board has had to fill vacancies when a member has been unable to complete his/her four year term. The School Board would ask for clarification on using the most recent election when, if a vacancy occurs when a member has completed more than 50% of his/her term
 3. 3. Clarify the language in the charter that the School board has authority to negotiate and agree upon the compensation and contract of the superintendent.
- b. UPDATE OF FOOD SERVICE WORKPLAN – Administration has met with a number of parents, some advocacy groups and a nutritionist who have offered input and advice on improving the school nutrition plan. Mr. McDonough and other administrators will be visiting a number of different programs throughout the state over the next couple weeks and will report out their findings at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.
- c. SCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARING ON POLICY KF, USE OF PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL FACILITIES – After a lengthy conversation, the Public Hearing was scheduled for April 12, 2011. Attorney Dwyer will present prior to the hearing.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF TRAFFIC MODIFICATIONS TO LITTLE HARBOUR ARRIVAL – Mr. McDonough stated that Principal Grossman received many traffic concerns from parents during his first year as principal. Traffic patterns were reviewed and a new pattern was put in place last fall. After a neighbor of Little Harbour raised concern regarding the new traffic pattern with the city, school administration met with City Attorney Sullivan and the property owner. City Council has now requested that a formal vote be taken to adopt the new traffic pattern and, if approved by the School Board, the City will then move forward with the consideration.

MOTION: Motion to approve the new traffic pattern for Little Harbour School during the time of drop off and pick up, (drop off to be from 8:20 am to 8:50 am) by Ms. Stevens.

SECOND: Mr. Legg

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF MIDDLE SCHOOL SLATE HARVESTING

MOTION: Motion to approve the removal and harvesting of 300 slate tiles to be used by Project Safety by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Ms. Stevens

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. POLICY

b. JBC – Mr. Legg encouraged all to attend the public meeting tomorrow night at the Portsmouth Public Library, where the focus will be on the construction management of Phase 1. At the JBC April 6th meeting, bids will be presented for discussion and consideration. April 13th the JBC will consider guaranteed maximum price.

c. ARTS & ATHLETICS – Ms. Stevens reported that the committee met in January and discussed the many successes throughout the school year and what the numbers of participants looked like. The committee also requested that the Policy Committee revisit the discipline policy.

d. BOOSTER LIAISON UPDATE – Mr. LaPage reported that a meeting has been scheduled for April 7th, 6:30 p.m. at the high school.

XII. ADJOURNMENT -Motion to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. by Mr. Legg and seconded by Mr. Martin.

Respectfully submitted by:



Ed McDonough Superintendent of Schools