

## PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR JULY 19, 2011

PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011

TIME: 7:00PM [or thereafter]

---

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Shuldman at 7:11 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL** – MITCHELL SHULDMAN (BOARD CHAIR), ANN WALKER (VICE CHAIR), DEXTER LEGG, REBECCA EMERSON, TOM MARTIN, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR) ELIZABETH BOYNTON (STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE) AND ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REPRESENTATIVE)

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Chair Shuldman led in the pledge of allegiance.

**IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

a. JUNE 23, 2011

MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of June 23, 2011 by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Vice Chair Walker

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Unanimously approved

b. JULY 6, 2011

MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of July 6, 2011 by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Vice Chair Walker

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Unanimously approved

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

**VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

i. *BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR – JUNE*

ii. NEW FRANKLIN GAZETTE

iii. MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT SAFETY CONFERENCE 2011

iv. DORE AND WHITTIER ELEMENTARY FACILITIES ASSESSMENT SUMMARY –  
The Facilities Committee will meet to discuss the report.

v. *ADVANCE YOUR RETREAT, MAY 2011 SCHOOL BOARD JOURNAL*

b. CORRESPONDENCE

i. COMCAST LETTER RE: INTERNET ESSENTIALS PROGRAM – Students eligible for free or reduced school lunch will be able to receive internet at home for a very low cost through the Internet Essentials program.

ii. LETTER FROM SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL – Chair Shuldman reported that recommendations were discussed from all departments and three were forwarded to City Council. Reference #30 stated: *“In response to a concern raised by the School Board, the Committee recommends to the City Council that the Municipal Charter be amended to reflect what is believed to be the current practice regarding employment agreements for the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Superintendent of*

*Schools and other ranking major department officials. Specifically, at the present time contracts for those individuals are negotiated by the appropriate Commission or Board. After agreement between the Commission or Board and the employee, the employment contract is forwarded to the City Council for approval. The School Board expressed concern that the City Council might at that stage amend the terms or negotiate on its own with a Superintendent of Schools candidate, for example. A concept requested by the School board, and with which the Committee agrees, is that with respect to any of the employment agreements under discussion, that the City Council vote be limited to approval or disapproval of the agreement as approved by the Commission or board. In the event of disapproval, then negotiations would continue between the employment candidate and the respective Commission or Board. The end result sought by the School Board and this Committee is that the employment agreement of any Police Department, Fire Department or School official must be as negotiated by the Police Commission, Fire Commission or School Board as appropriate. The Council should not be able to change the terms approved by those entities.”*

c. DISTRICT REPORTS

- i. FINANCIAL – The District’s annual audit should be completed prior to the August 23<sup>rd</sup> School Board meeting. Mr. Bartlett will share a list of projects delayed throughout the year now that funds are available to complete them.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON YEAR # 2 SUPERVISION & EVALUATION SYSTEM – The Superintendent shared the report of the work group recommending improvements to the supervision and evaluation process. In 2011-2012, the school department will implement a two-year cyclical process that provides feedback from administrators/peers and establishes an annual cycle for teacher growth and professional development.
- b. DISCUSSION OF RETREAT PLANNING – Chair Shuldman requested that members think about goals they would like to set for the 2011/2012 school year and what they would like to see completed at the end of the retreat day.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. DISCUSSION OF PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY EDUCATION – Kim LaCroce, Adult Education Director for the School District, provided a brief history of the community education budget and the difficulties the program is facing. Due to recent budget cuts, it is necessary that the program become self-sustaining. Board members requested that Ms. LaCroce compare Portsmouth’s programs to neighboring towns, study class enrollment patterns and find ways to increase enrollment. Are there possible ways to co-offer certain classes with other community programs, i.e. those offered at Strawberry Banke? Board members requested that Ms. LaCroce report back her findings mid-March.
- b. UPDATE ON NEW HIRES
  - i. JENA BULGER-JUDD, DONDERO, GRADE 1 (ONE YEAR )
  - ii. JESSICA FAGAN, DONDERO, GRADE 3
  - iii. LAURA LAVALLEE, PHS, ENGLISH
  - iv. KATHERINE FITZPATRICK, PHS, ENGLISH (ONE YEAR)
  - v. OLIN JOHANNESSEN, 6-12 CHORAL
  - vi. KATELYN KERN, PMS, MUSIC

vii. DAVID LILLY, PHS, AUTOMOTIVE (HALF-TIME) –

MOTION: Motion to approve above nominations as a block by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Vice Chair Walker

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Unanimously approved

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 8:14 p.m. by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Vice Chair Walker

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Unanimously approved

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed. McDonough". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "E".

Ed McDonough  
Superintendent of Schools