

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 13, 2011

BOARD ROOM, LITTLE HARBOUR SCHOOL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011

TIME: 7:00PM [or thereafter]

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- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Walker at 7:05 p.m.
 - II. **ROLL CALL** ANN WALKER (CO-CHAIR), TOM MARTIN, CLAY HAYWARD, LESLIE STEVENS, KENT LAPAGE, REBECCA EMERSON, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), ANN MAYER (SAU50 REPRESENTATIVE), AND ELIZABETH BOYNTON (STUDENT REP)
 - III. **INVOCATION**
 - IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** –Mr. Hayward led in the pledge of allegiance. Mr. LaPage paid tribute to long time coach and educator Mike Grogan who recently passed away. Named National Coach of the Year in Track by his peers, the Portsmouth High School track is named after Coach Grogan.
 - V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of November 22, 2011 by Ms. Stevens
SECOND: Mr. Martin
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Unanimous
 - VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
 - VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. **RECOGNITION OF PORTSMOUTH HIGH FOOTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH MURPHY ON EARNING STATE CHAMPIONSHIP** – Vice Chair Walker presented PHS Football Coach Murphy with a trophy and commended him on his ability to instill sportsmanship and teamwork in his players. Coach Murphy recognized his captains, Billy Hartmann (quarterback), Anthony Kurylak (linebacker) and Sean Miller (lineman) and praised their ability to hold the team accountable and turn around morale on the field to win a game. All three captains made All State. Coach Murphy recognized the passing of Mike Grogan, stating that he was the reason why Murphy began coaching in Portsmouth.
 - b. **RECOGNITION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS REBECCA EMERSON AND CLAY HAYWARD FOR THEIR SERVICE TO CHILDREN IN THE PORTSMOUTH SCHOOLS** – Vice Chair Walker recognized Mr. Hayward and Ms. Emerson for their years of service and their dedication to students and their community.
 - c. **PROJECT SAFETY UPDATE** – Ms. Sue Christmas and Ms. Karen Webb gave a brief overview of the program; an annual, day-long conference held in the spring each year for seventh graders and their parents. The conference features area speakers and workshop leaders who address critical substance abuse prevention issues, as well as the consequences of other high risk teen behaviors such as peer pressure, bullying and internet safety. Ms. Webb would like to increase the programs ability to provide additional prevention programming at all grade levels. With these goals in mind, the committee has formed a new non-profit called Project Safety Association. The new

corporation will make the program eligible to receive financial support from a greater number of both public and private funding sources.

- d. TECHNOLOGY PLAN UPDATE – Assistant Superintendent Zadravec, along with Technology Director Thomas Lotz, presented a PowerPoint mapping out the districts plans over the next couple of years technology wise. To view the presentation, please click [here](#).

MOTION: Motion to move up item REQUEST FROM PORTSMOUTH MUSIC BOOSTERS TO ENROLL IN NH CHARITABLE GAMING for consideration by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Stevens

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- i. PROPOSED FY 13 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE
- ii. ELEMENTARY LUNCH MENU, JANUARY
- iii. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE, DECEMBER 2011
- iv. NEW FRANKLIN GAZETTE
- v. NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL BOARD DELEGATE SELECTION/RESOLUTIONS FOR 2012 – Mr. LaPage requested that a delegate be chosen at the next regular School Board meeting.

b. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. NOTICE OF RETIREMENT, JUNE LURVEY, DONDERO
- ii. MEMOS FROM LEGAL:
 - 1. BOARD COMMITTEES
 - 2. SUB-COMMITTEES AND QUORUM CONCERNS – Attorney Dwyer provided two memos highlighting different types of committees requiring that the public have access to governmental records and meetings. Attorney Dwyer recommended that a member be designated from each committee to be responsible for assuring that meetings are posted, minutes are taken and forwarded to Central Office. As a practical matter, if a matter is of such universal interest of the School Board, work should not be delegated to a subcommittee, but should be considered by the Board as a whole at a regular or special meeting.

c. DISTRICT REPORTS

i. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

- 1. PRINCIPAL COLLINS, PHS – Mr. Collins provided an update on events and school news, highlighting a holiday auction run by student council which was renamed for Barbara Porter this year. Funds raised are given to needy families within the PHS community. Mr. Collins provided an update on the high school's reaccreditation process through NEASC.

NEASC is one of six regional research based boards with standards and best practices. Accreditation through NEASC is a 10 year process in which PHS is currently in the self-study process. Mr. Collins provided the standards that PHS will compare against during the self-assessment process. Mr. Collins concluded by thanking Ms. Emerson and Mr. Hayward for their service.

2. DIRECTOR CANADA, CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION – Ms. Canada highlighted each program and provided the Board with an update on the ROTC program. Ms. Canada proudly reported that an architectural student, Alec Brown, submitted a competition design to be built by students from Portsmouth for America’s Cup Race. It is currently under consideration. For a SMART goal, Mathematic concepts have been identified by each of the teachers. Pre and post tests were developed and the pretests have been administered. Teachers are in the process of creating lesson plans using the math-in CTE template and will have an opportunity to teach a short lesson at a CTC meeting. Teachers will use the associated seven Elements rubric to critique each other’s lesson prior to teaching the lesson to a class. Ms. Canada thanked Ms. Emerson and Mr. Hayward for their support and service to the Portsmouth Schools.

- ii. FINANCIAL, MR. BARTLETT – Mr. Bartlett provided an updated financial narrative and report.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. REQUEST FROM PORTSMOUTH MUSIC BOOSTERS TO ENROLL IN NH CHARITABLE GAMING - Mr. Diemer discussed a fund raising opportunity through the New Hampshire and Charitable Gaming Commission. 501c organizations that are in good standing with the state may apply for a section of time at different gaming locations throughout the state where a portion of daily gaming proceeds are awarded to the organization. The Portsmouth Music Boosters will receive a 10 day period at a gaming facility located in Hampton Falls. Proceeds from the event will assist the Portsmouth High School marching band travel to Disney to participate in their parade. Vice-Chair Walker requested that the topic be added to the next School Board agenda for further discussion.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO AMEND SCHOOL DEPARTMENTS 403(b) PLAN MOTION: Motion to approve to amend school department’s 403(b) plan by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Stevens

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

- b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LITTLE HARBOUR MATH AWARD (ROBIN BURDICK SCHOLARSHIP)

MOTION: Motion to approve the Little Harbour Math Award Scholarship by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Emerson

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

c. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (1st READING)**

i. **VOLUNTEERS (IJOC) Amended.**

MOTION: Motion to approve first reading of policy VOLUNTEERS (IJOC) by Mr. Hayward

SECOND: Ms. Emerson

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (JRA) – Required policy.

MOTION: Motion to approve first reading of policy FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (JRA) by Mr. Hayward

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATE

a. **JBC** – The committee continues to fine tune the FF&E and technology budgets.

b. **ELEMENTARY EDUCATION FACILITIES** – Mr. Martin reported that a survey will be conducted asking school and community members what activities they like to do, the value of neighborhood schools and what they like about them. Forums are being created and will be conducted at each of the three elementary schools.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn by Mr. Martin and seconded by Ms. Stevens at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Ed McDonough
Superintendent of Schools