

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR APRIL 10, 2012

CITY HALL, EILEEN DONDERO FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL** - LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), TOM MARTIN (VICE-CHAIR), CAROL CHELLMAN, PATRICK ELLIS, MARY OLEA, MITCHELL SHULDMAN, ANN WALKER, EDWARD MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), LINDA BRIOLAT (EMPLOYEE REP), ELIZABETH BOYNTON (STUDENT REP) AND ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REP)
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Stevens led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
 - a. MARCH 27, 2012
MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of March 27, 2012 by Mr. Martin
SECOND: Ms. Walker
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Unanimous
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Attorney Paul McEachern of 70 Dennett Street and Mr. Archie Griffin of Greenland NH spoke on behalf of a Portsmouth High School Student regarding disciplinary action.
- VII. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
 - a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
 - i. ELEMENTARY LUNCH MENU – APRIL
 - ii. DRAFT ANSWERS TO CITY COUNCILOR LOWN ON FY 13 BUDGET – Superintendent McDonough reminded Board members that the City Council’s Public Hearing on the 2013 budget is April 18th and a workshop between the School Board and City Council is scheduled for April 30th.
 - iii. MARCH 20 SCHOOL BOARD RETREAT NOTES
 - iv. INVITATION TO CLIPPER FOUNDATION AUCTION DINNER – Ms. Boynton, on behalf of student council, reported that all funds will go straight to an endowment fund. A complete list of prizes is now available for viewing on the web.
 - b. DISTRICT REPORTS
 - i. NUTRITION DIRECTOR, DEB RISO – Ms. Riso highlighted the following:
 - The fresh fruits and veggie program at New Franklin Elementary has been renewed for next year
 - New guidelines from the USDA will require that new policies be implemented and staff members receive further training
 - Meetings between Ms. Riso and staff members are conducted monthly to create menus and review recipes
 - Staff members continue to receive training on new food preparation methods and cooking techniques

- The new healthy vending machine at the high school is so successful that the vendor is having difficulty keeping the machine stocked
- The “Chefs In Schools” program is being reviewed
- A UNH program called “Farm to School”, linking local farmers with local schools, is being reviewed. This program will require that all staff members are fully trained on how to properly wash and prepare fresh produce. Ms. Riso is working with a local orchard that will supply local apples next year.

Mr. Martin requested metrics on the number of students purchasing breakfasts and lunches.

ii. FINANCIAL, MR BARTLETT

GENERAL FUND: The focus for the last quarter will continue to be Special Ed out of district, maintenance and transportation expenses. Last year’s offset was accomplished using a few accounts, while this year a freeze to the noncontract portion of the budget was necessary. The milder winter helped with utility costs and snow removal.

During the month of February, the positive variance versus plan nearly doubled and increased an additional 57% during the month of March. Compared to last year, year to date expenditures as a percent of budget are slightly better than last month.

COST CENTER 207: Staffing and benefit levels continue to track as expected. The district is still ahead on Medicaid reimbursement year to date.

VIII. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **DISCUSSION ON APPROACH TO LITTLE HARBOUR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORTS**
Administration asked the Board to support an Assistant Principal position at Little Harbour Elementary. Mr. McDonough met with union representatives and reported that past precedent has been that if a teacher continues to pay union dues while accepting an administrative position within the district, the teacher would not lose seniority if the administrative position was cut and the teacher returned to teaching. The position request was unanimously supported.

IX. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF CUSTODIAL CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF PORTSMOUTH AND AFCME #1386 SCHOOL CUSTODIANS**

MOTION: Motion to accept the contract negotiated between the School Board and custodial unit by Mr. Shuldman

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Roll Call Vote Unanimously Approved (KL, DL absent)

- b. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF TEACHER CONTRACTS**

| Name | Location | Subject |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Katherine Fitzpatrick | PHS | Language Arts |
| Jena Bulger-Judd | DO | Elementary |
| Heather Perigny | LH | Elementary |
| Shanyn Grenier | PHS | Guidance |
| Olin Johannessen | PMS | Choral/Music |
| Christopher Rose | PMS | Science |
| Callie Brinkman-Lilly | LH | Interventionist |

MOTION: Motion to approve above contracts by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

- c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (1st Reading)
 - i. WELLNESS (JLCF)
 - ii. FOOD SERVICE: PROGRAM (EF)
 - iii. SCHOOL NUTRITION (EFE)
 - iv. FUNDRAISING (JJE) – The committee will revisit this policy regarding Booster Club fundraising expectations.

MOTION: Motion to accept first reading of policies JLCF, EF, EFE and JJE as a group by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

- v. ADVERTISING IN THE SCHOOLS (KHB)

MOTION: Motion to accept above first reading of policy KHB by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

- d. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF PATTY WOJNAR AWARD

MOTION: Motion to approve the Patty Wojnar Award by Mr. Shuldman

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

- e. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF GENERATE4SCHOOLS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR CITY LEGAL DEPARTMENT TO CREATE TRUST DOCUMENT – Tabled until further notice.

X. COMMITTEE UPDATE

- a. FACILITIES COMMITTEE UPDATE – The committee has reviewed the final working document. Board members requested that a Public Hearing be scheduled to provide parents/community members the opportunity to comment on the report. The Board will take into consideration any comments from the public hearing and the committee's final recommendation before voting in May or June.

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. APRIL 18, 2012: PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET
- b. APRIL 30, 2012: WORKSHOP SESSION WITH CITY COUNCIL TO REVIEW SCHOOL BUDGET
- c. ELEMENTARY FACILITIES REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS, MAY 8

- XII. ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn by Mr. Martin at 8:30 p.m. and seconded by Ms. Walker. Unanimously approved.