

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR AUGUST 14, 2012

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2012

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

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- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.
 - II. **ROLL CALL** - LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), ANN WALKER, MITCHELL SHULDMAN, PATRICK ELLIS, MARY OLEA, DEXTER LEGG, KENT LAPAGE, CAROL CHELLMAN, ED MCDONOUGH, (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEPHEN BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR) ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REPRESENTATIVE) AND ELIZABETH BOYNTON (STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE)
 - III. **INVOCATION** – Ms. Walker requested a moment of remembrance for Mr. Al Young and Mr. Peter Steucek, both Portsmouth educators who recently passed away.
 - IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Stevens led in the pledge of allegiance.
 - V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
 - a. JUNE 12, 2012
MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of June 12, 2012 by Mr. Shuldman
SECOND: Ms. Walker
DISCUSSION: Correction in spelling of Mr. Schefer’s name
VOTE: Unanimously approved, pending above correction
 - b. JULY 10, 2012
MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of July 10, 2012 by Mr. Shuldman
SECOND: Mr. Ellis
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Unanimously Approved
 - VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
 - VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: RECOGNITION OF MS. BOYNTON, PHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE** – Chair Stevens recognized Ms. Boynton with a gift and stated how much of a pleasure it has been to have her serve on the Board representing the students of Portsmouth.
 - VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
 - a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
 - i. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATOR, JULY 2012
 - ii. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR JULY 12, 2012
 - iii. SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE, AUGUST 2012 – Mr. McDonough highlighted district events designed to help new teachers. Mr. McDonough also discussed Phase 1 of the evaluation process and how it dovetails nicely with the state’s anticipated NCLB waiver request.

- iv. *'MET' MADE SIMPLE*, THE NEW TEACHER PROJECT, JANUARY 2012 – Board members encouraged administration to maintain as much flexibility as possible with the new processes being set in place by the Department of Education regarding the recent waiver surrounding No Child Left Behind. Mr. McDonough will report back to the Board with up to date information.
- v. *BUILDING A TEACHING PROFESSION THAT RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE: REIMAGINING THE STEP-AND-LANE PAY SCALE*, TEACH+PLUS, SPRING 2011
- vi. *CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING THE SUCCESS OF INTEREST BASED BARGAINING*, NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL NEGOTIATORS, JUNE 2012
- vii. CALENDAR OF APT DINNER MEETINGS

b. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO MAYOR AND CITY MGR RE CENTRAL OFFICE MOVE TO CITY HALL
- ii. LETTERS RE CLOSING OF CTE MEDIA PROGRAM AT PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL
 MOTION: Motion to keep the above referenced letter on file by Mr. LaPage
 SECOND: Ms. Walker
 DISCUSSION:
 VOTE: Unanimously Approved
- iii. MEMORANDA TO SCHOOL BOARD:
 - 1. REDEDICATING FACILITIES
 - 2. GPA, CLASS RANK, CLASS LEVELS, GRADING SCALE
 - 3. CTE WEIGHTING HISTORY AND SY 12-13 UPDATE
- iv. RESIGNATIONS
 - 1. JANA GOLDSTEIN, DONDERO – GRADE TWO

c. DISTRICT REPORTS

- i. FINANCIAL UPDATE, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR BARTLETT

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- a. WORKSHOP SESSION ON WEIGHTING OF GRADES AT PHS – Chair Stevens introduced Ms. Canada and Principal Collins who highlighted memos regarding class weighting. Board members asked Mr. Collins the following questions:
 - Who decides what level of class a student takes and if a student is eligible for an AP class?
 - How does Portsmouth High School's educational scale equate with college scales?
 - Is there a limit of honor classes that a student can take?

- Are we confident that all colleges have the ability to convert our system of weighting to fairly evaluate our students who are trying to enter their college?
- Are the rubrics created by students and teachers or strictly by teachers?
- When are parents notified of class rank?

Ms. Canada highlighted her memo, highlighting that 80% of all students are now electing to take a CTE class. School Board members asked the following questions:

- Portsmouth High School's CTE classes are weighted level 3, what does it mean that other districts do not weight CTE classes?
- Over the years, classes have evolved, gone away and even been revived like welding. Have there been discussions with the DOE stating that our students are applying skills learned in CTE classes that could fulfill basic class requirements such as math?

b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICY (JKAA) USE OF RESTRAINTS (2ND READING)

MOTION: Motion to approve policy JKAA, Use of Restraints by Mr. Shuldman

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

c. UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

- PEEP @ DONDERO – Mr. Linchey has been directing the project at Dondero and is expected to be completed on schedule, pending inspection from the state. The contracted portion will be complete by end of the week, coming in on budget.
- KINDERGARTEN @ LITTLE HARBOUR – Mr. Bartlett expects the project to finish on time. The removal of stubborn tile glue is the last obstacle and new tile is currently being installed.
- MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRESS – Four tractor trailers of cabinetry and furniture have arrived and will be installed. In between deliveries, custodians have been moving supplies to different floors and several city and state agency inspectors have completed and signed off on building inspections. Mr. Bartlett commended the custodial staff for giving 110% and Principal Stokel for being creative working with the design team and Gilbane to keep the project on schedule. Superintendent McDonough looks forward to a successful opening day.

d. COMMUNITY EDUCATION UPDATE – Chair Stevens opened the work session stating that the Board had two issues to address: 1) Where does community education live? With the school department or somewhere else? 2) If the school department decides that community education belongs with the school department, what is the next step?

Mr. LaPage recognized that the program has continued to lose momentum over the last 8 years. Mr. LaPage recently took a close look at the City of Chelmsford and how it runs its community education program. He encouraged the Board to continue to earmark the \$8,000 for community education and to find 5 to 12 types of classes over the next 16 months that community members have great interest in. It was decided that the Board

would hold a public hearing at the next board meeting in order for the public to weigh in before a final voted was taken.

II. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT**

- ESOL TEACHER, ELEMENTARY – JULIA GHOTING
- VISUAL ARTS TEACHER, NEW FRANKLIN – JOSEPH PETERSON
- GRADE 2 TEACHER, DONDERO ELEMENTARY – AISTA KAZLAUSKAS
- FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE, PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL – RUTH HOUSER
- MATH/SCIENCE, PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL – WILLIAM MCELROY
- BUSINESS/COMPUTER TEACHER, PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL – TIFFANY D'AMOUR
- SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL – BRYAN ROGERS
- SCIENCE TEACHER, LISTER ACADEMY – JACQUES BERIAU

MOTION: Motion to accept the above nominees as a whole by Mr. Legg

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

- ### b. **REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF FACILITIES USE AND FEE SCHEDULE – Mr. McDonough and Mr. Bartlett reassessed the district's fee schedule to better align with the city's and now request that the Board vote to approve at the next meeting. Mr. LaPage requests that legal review prior a vote. Mr. McDonough stated that he is working with the city manager to set aside a percentage of all rental fees in order to maintain a revenue stream, usable for replacement costs of equipment and damaged property.**

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

- (JKLGC) SPECIAL PHYSICAL HEALTH NEEDS OF STUDENTS
- (GBJ) PERSONNEL RECORDS

MOTION: Motion to accept first reading of above policies JKLGC and GBJ by Mr. Legg

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

III. **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- ### a. **POLICY – Next meeting to be held on September 5th.**
- ### b. **JBC – Brief given earlier in meeting.**

IV. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Presentation on Collaboration between High School and Community College, Great Bay Community College President Will Arvelo And Community Colleges Chancellor Ros Gittell, September 11, 2012.
- b. School Board Advancement, Saturday, September 22, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- c. FY 14 Budget Workshop Session on October 23, 2012

- V. **ADJOURNMENT** - Motion to adjourn by Ms. Chellman and seconded by Mr. Ellis at 9:50 p.m.