

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

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), ANN WALKER, MITCHELL SHULDMAN, PATRICK ELLIS, MARY OLEA, KENT LAPAGE, CAROL CHELLMAN, ED MCDONOUGH, (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEPHEN BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR) LINDA BRIOLAT (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE), ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REPRESENTATIVE) AND EMILY FREGEAU (STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE)
 - III. **INVOCATION**
 - IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Board members requested a moment of silence, in remembrance of September 11.
 - V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of August 14, 2012 by Mr. Shuldman
SECOND: Ms. Walker
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Unanimously Approved
 - VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None
 - VII. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**
 - a. **DEDICATION OF FACILITIES** – Mr. John Sullivan spoke in favor of rededicating the PHS library in memory of his son, James Michael Sullivan. James was instrumental in bringing media and film to Portsmouth High School and went on to become the first student to cover City Council meetings. James received statewide notoriety after covering a downtown fire in Portsmouth that broke out while filming a council meeting.
 - b. **Introduction of new student representative** – Principal Collins introduced the new student representative, Ms. Emily Fregeau from Newcastle. Ms. Fregeau looks forward to serving on the Board and representing Student Council.
 - c. **COMMUNITY EDUCATION** - None
 - VIII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW TEACHERS** – 24 new staff members were introduced by Assistant Superintendent Stephen Zdravec. Mr. Zdravec thanked Ms. Deb Riso for the appetizers she and her staff prepared.
 - b. **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** – Chancellor Gittell has been with Community College for 8 months and previously with UNH for over 20 years. Mr. Gittell shared his belief that the general public and graduating high school students do not know enough about the

community college system to make an educated decision on whether it is a viable choice and it is his intention to create bridges for people of lower and middle incomes to achieve economic opportunities and gain academic achievements through better utilization of the community college system.

- c. Mr. Will Arvelo, President of Great Bay, reported that Great Bay recently moved to the Pease Tradeport and went through a rebranding process, resulting in 30% growth. More programs have been added, including strong programs in the sciences designed in collaboration with UNH such as nursing and veterinary technology.

Most recently, Great Bay has been involved forming partnerships with several companies training perspective employees.

Board members followed up with questions.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- i. ACT COLLEGE READINESS LETTER FOR DISTRICT 52, PORTSMOUTH
- ii. PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT 2012 PROGRESS REPORT – Board members inquired how the report is shared with the community. The Superintendent reported that the report has been on the districts website, it has been mailed home to all parents and staff in the weekly newsletter for two weeks and is running with the link in the Portsmouth Community Newsletter. Board members asked for clarification as to why resources were available to increase math scores at the elementary schools but not the middle school or high school. Assistant Superintendent Zadravec shared that grant funds had been made available at the elementary levels and through the work of Ms. Ann Mordecai, assessments were crafted that have been extremely beneficial to teachers as they review data and apply it to instruction. Mr. Zadravec reported that the district is now looking at the curriculum from a more K-12 perspective and is finding that higher expectations need to be created for the middle school and high school in math.
- iii. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATOR, AUGUST 2012
- iv. CONCEPT PAPER FROM NH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: ESEA WAIVER
- v. NH STATE MODEL TEACHER EVALUATION SYSTEM
- vi. *A NEW WAY TO PAY: REIMAGINING TEACHER COMPENSATION, EDUCATORS4EXCELLENCE, MARCH 2012*
- vii. SEPTEMBER ENROLLMENT INFORMATION – Board members inquired if first grade classes have paraprofessional support. Mr. McDonough will run the numbers and report back.
- viii. OPENING OF SCHOOLS (VERBAL) - Superintendent McDonough thanked the following individuals for their efforts and hard work as they participated in construction projects and moves at Central Office, Dondero Elementary, Little Harbour Elementary and Portsmouth Middle School over the past summer:
 - Ken Linchey – Facilities Director

- Deb Stokel – Director of Community Child Care Center
- Victor Binder and custodial crew at Little Harbour
- Martini Northern
- Principal Grossman and Little Harbour Kindergarten teachers
- Portsmouth Middle School teachers, Principal Stokel and Assistant Principal Ellis
- Dan Hartrey
- Chad Weathers of Gilbane
- Khalid Wahbi and the Portsmouth Middle School custodial crew

b. CORRESPONDENCE

- LETTER FROM ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY ACTION

c. DISTRICT REPORTS

- FINANCIAL UPDATE, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR BARTLETT – Mr. Bartlett reported that until July and August are complete, historical points have not been set to develop the budget “plan” for FY 13.

II. OLD BUSINESS

a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO DEDICATE PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY: JAMES MICHAEL SULLIVAN MEDIA CENTER

MOTION: Motion to dedicate the Portsmouth High School Library as the James Michael Sullivan Media Center by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. LaPage

DISCUSSION: Mr. LaPage shared that James would have graduated in the same class as himself and that he believes he would have been a man to give Bill Gates and Steve Jobs a run for their money.

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO DEDICATE CONFERENCE ROOM AT CENTRAL OFFICE AS ALICE M. LEE CONFERENCE ROOM

MOTION: Motion to dedicate the new conference room on the fourth floor of City Hall in the New Central Office as the Alice M. Lee Conference Room by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Shuldman

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF CHANGE STATUS OF TWO (2) INFORMATIONAL TECHNOLOGY STAFF TO EXEMPT STATUS AND INCREASE SALARY ALIGNED TO MARKET CONDITIONS

- DATABASE MANAGER
- SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

MOTION: Motion to approve change status of two (2) informational technology staff to exempt status and increase salary aligned to market conditions: Database Manager and System Administrator by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

d. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF FACILITIES USE FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2012-13

MOTION: Motion to approve Facility Use Fee Schedule for 2012-2013 by Mr. Shuldman

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION: A portion of rentals will be set aside in a fund for replacement costs.

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

e. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (2nd READING)

• (JLCG) SPECIAL PHYSICAL HEALTH NEEDS OF STUDENTS

MOTION: Motion to approve policy JLCG, Special Physical Health Needs of Students by Mr. Shuldman

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

• (GBJ) PERSONNEL RECORDS

MOTION: Motion to approve policy GBJ, Personnel Records by Mr. Ellis

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION: Ms. Walker reminded the Board that this policy is required by the State

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

f. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO DISCONTINUE COMMUNITY EDUCATION DIRECTOR POSITION

MOTION: Motion to discontinue Community Education Director Position by Mr. Shuldman

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION: Mr. LaPage asked that the \$8,000 be frozen in hopes that a new director be found and that the funds for this past year not be returned to the General Fund.

VOTE: Roll Call: Yes (8) – No (1) (KL)

III. **NEW BUSINESS** –Mr. LaPage asked for clarification on the meetings scheduled between select School Board members and representatives of the APT. Superintendent McDonough stated that meetings have been set prior to negotiations to ask how to improve the district as a whole and to identify common areas of concern.

IV. **COMMITTEE UPDATES** – The Policy Committee is in the process of consolidating several old policies and will present them when ready.

V. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. SCHOOL BOARD ADVANCEMENT, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- b. FY 14 BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION ON OCTOBER 23, 2012

VI. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Ellis at 9:25 p.m.