

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR MARCH 25, 2014

LITTLE HARBOUR SCHOOL, TBD
DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2014

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

I. CALL TO ORDER 7:07

II. ROLL CALL LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), DEXTER LEGG (VICE CHAIR), ANN WALKER, TOM MARTIN, PATRICK ELLIS, NANCY NOVELLINE-CLAYBURGH, LENNIE MULLANEY, JEFF LANDRY, GARY EPLER, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), OLIN JOHANNESSEN (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE) AND ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REPRESENTATIVE)

III. INVOCATION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Stevens led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a. **MARCH 11, 2104**

MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of March 11, 2014 by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – Ms. Angela Pont of 133 Miller Avenue, Ms. Claire Prout of 108 Spearhawk Street and Ms. Kathy Baker of 127 Gates Street.

VII. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: LHS 1st & 3rd GRADE TEACHERS: IMPLEMENTING NH'S COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS STANDARDS – Principal Grossman introduced Grade 1 teachers Jill Fast, Nicole Hopley, Kate Modisette, and Heidi White and Grade 3 teachers Hannah Eldridge, Heather Perigny, Kate Arruda and Charlotte Berndtson. The Grade 1 and Grade 3 teams shared PowerPoint presentations outlining current teaching units and how these units have changed since Common Core Standards have been introduced. Teachers shared their process over the past year of reading the standards, comparing them to the current teaching units and noting what revisions were needed. School Board members followed up comments and questions.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

i. *PARENT'S GUIDE TO NEW ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENTS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE*, NATIONAL PTA, 2013.

ii. *UNDERSTANDING THE COMMON CORE STANDARDS: WHAT THEY ARE – WHAT THEY ARE NOT*, NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION CENTER FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION, OCTOBER 2013.

iii. *PORTSMOUTH SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PLAN EXCERPT*, ALTA ENGINEERING, FEBRARY 2010

iv. SCHOOL BOARD ACCEPTED MEETING DATES/PROPOSED MEETING DATES

b. CORRESPONDENCE

i. LETTER OF RESIGNATION, TRISH COX, OUT OF DISTRICT TRANSITION COORDINATOR

ii. MEMO RE SAFETY CONCERN AT DONDERRO ELEMENTARY

IX. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **WORKSHOP SESSION: COMMON CORE STANDARDS** – Assistant Superintendent Zadavec, through a PowerPoint, outlined the implementation of Common Core standards and how the district assesses progress. Board members reviewed a grade 11 task to better understand what work students are being asked to show and the thought process in which they arrive to an answer. Ms. Zadavec stated that standards are prioritized in a way that teachers are finding helpful to track a student's progress and build off work being done in other classrooms.

X. **NEW BUSINESS**

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF COOPERATIVE HOCKEY TEAM WITH NEWMARKET –Assistant Athletic Director Tom Kozikowski requested approval to enter into a cooperative high school ice hockey agreement with Newmarket High School. Portsmouth High School will benefit by increasing its team numbers and receiving a per pupil athlete fee while Newmarket students will now have an opportunity to play at the high school level. Academic eligibility and discipline of Newmarket players will be the responsibility of Newmarket.

MOTION: Motion to approve a cooperative hockey team with Newmarket by Mr. Legg

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

- a. **DISCUSSION OF SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AT DONDERO ELEMENTARY** – Board member Ellis raised safety concerns surrounding the Van Buren area and students that walk to school. A Safe Routes To Schools grant funded consultant made safety recommendations to all three elementary schools, the middle school and Saint Patricks. Ms. Juliet Walker from Planning and Transportation is working to implement these safety recommendations into the city's biking master plan where possible and Mr. Peter Rice, Director of Public Works, along with work being done by the Tool Group, is auditing the city's signage inventory. Final recommendations will be made to Traffic and Safety for CIP funding in 2016.

XI. **Committees**

- a. **JBC** – Vice Chair Legg thanked Assistant City Attorney Suzanne Woodland, Dan Hartrey and Steve Bartlett for their extraordinary work in drafting the now signed agreement with Gilbane Construction, Inc. This signed agreement gives the committee certainty that the project will remain on schedule and completed within budget. Students will return from April break to begin using the new music and performing arts complex as well as the multipurpose and courtyard areas.
- b. **FUTURES** – Board member Clayburgh reported that all participating students have been accepted into colleges and Futures recently received a generous contribution of \$500,000.

XII. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. **ELEMENTARY/PMS GUIDANCE UPDATE, RESCHEDULED TO FALL, 2014**
- b. **CAREER & TECHNICAL PROGRAMMING, APRIL 22, 2014**
- c. **PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES AT PHS, MAY 27, 2014**
- d. **ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FACILITIES REPORTS AND ASSESSMENT, MAY 27, 2014**
- e. **ART, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION, K-12 PROGRAM, TBD**
- f. **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMMING, TBD**

- g. RE-EXAMINING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGE, TBD
 - h. UPDATE ON SOLAR PROJECT @ PHS, TBD
 - i. STRENGTHENING STEM INITIATIVES, TBD
 - j. REVISITING RESEARCH ON SCHOOL START TIMES, TBD
- XIII. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn at 9:43 p.m. by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Ellis.