

**PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR JUNE 10, 2014**

PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL, LIBRARY

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014

TIME: 7:00 [or thereafter]

---

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL** – LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), DEXTER LEGG (CO-CHAIR) ANN WALKER, TOM MARTIN, PATRICK ELLIS, JEFF LANDRY, LENNIE MULLANEY, GARY EPLER, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR) AND JAMES SULLIVAN (STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE)
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Chair Stevens led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**  
MOTION: Motion to accept the regular meeting minutes of May 28 2014 by Mr. Martin  
SECOND: Ms. Walker  
DISCUSSION:  
VOTE: Unanimously Approved
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT- NONE**
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**
  - a. **RETIREE RECOGNITION** – Board members thanked the 2013/2014 retirees for their many years of service and wished them well in their retirement. Chair Stevens also thanked Mr. James Sullivan, student representative, for his faithful attendance and acting role in sharing interests with the Board. Board members wished him well as he heads off to study medicine this fall.
  - b. **INTRODUCTION OF MS. MARY LYONS, INTERIM PRINCIPAL, PHS** – Superintendent McDonough introduced interim high school principal Ms. Mary Lyons, stating that the district was very fortunate to hire such a capable and knowledgeable administrator.
  - c. **OPEN STREETS** – Mr. Peter Newbury shared a PowerPoint explaining the Open Streets concept and timeline for the event scheduled early September as students arrive back. Information about the event will be shared with parent organizations and staff members.
- VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
  - a. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**
    - i. **POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES – MAY 30, 2014** – Committee members discussed changes in “Opt-Out” policies surrounding parents who object to a portion of curriculum. The State Board of Education has made it clear that opt-out policies do not pertain to state testing.
    - ii. **CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN FOR PHS ENTRANCE IMPROVEMENTS** Superintendent McDonough reported that there will be changes to the entrance and exit of Portsmouth High School for the opening of school. Changes will allow traffic to move quicker and reduce congestion in the area.
    - iii. **PHS SENIOR GRADUATION WEEK ACTIVITES CALENDAR**
    - iv. **RETREAT ON JULY 8, 2014, 5:30 PM, SCHOOL BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM**
    - v. **FOLLOW-UP RESPONSES TO CITY COUNCIL MAY 27 BUDGET WORKSHOP**

- vi. PSD INDUCTION COHORTS –Superintendent McDonough reported that 46 new teachers have been hired over the last three years, many in their first or second year of teaching. Through attrition, the district has lost three.
- b. CORRESPONDENCE
  - i. LETTER TO CITY TRAFFIC AND SAFETY REQUESTING IMPROVEMENTS AT FRANKLIN AND WOODBURY – While board members welcomed changes to the front entrance of New Franklin, Mr. Ellis expressed concern with the project not being completed before the opening of school.
  - ii. THANK YOU FROM DONDERO GRADE 5 TEACHERS (STUDENT LETTERS SHARED AT MEETING)
- c. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS
  - i. FINANCIAL REPORT, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR BARTLETT –Mr. Bartlett continues to maximize alternative revenue resources to offset overages in other areas. Medicaid reimbursement is well over projection and will help offset cost centers running over budget.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL REVISING EXISTING POLICIES: (SECOND READING)
  - i. GBEC – GIFTS TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL
  - ii. BNC – PUBLICITY
  - iii. IHAL – TEACHING ABOUT RELIGION

MOTION: Motion to approve GBEC, BNC AND IHAL as a whole by Mr. Ellis  
 SECOND: Ms. Walker  
 DISCUSSION:  
 VOTE: Unanimously Approved
- b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL ELIMINATING EXISTING POLICIES:
  - i. JIHE – SEARCH AND SEIZURE – Tabled until JIH is approved.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ONE YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION TO ASSOCIATION OF PORTSMOUTH ADMINISTRATORS – The Administrative group (11) has agreed to move to a consumer driven health plan. In return to shifting to the plan, administrators will receive a one year extension to the current contract.
 

MOTION: Motion to approve a one year contract extension to the Association of Portsmouth Administrators by Ms. Mullaney  
 SECOND: Mr. Ellis  
 DISCUSSION:  
 VOTE: Unanimously Approved
- b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (1<sup>ST</sup> READING):
  - i. JIH - SEARCHES AND SEIZURES OF STUDENTS AND PROPERTY

ii. IGE – PARENTAL OBJECTIONS TO SPECIFIC COURSE MATERIAL

MOTION: Motion to approve first reading of policies JIH and IGE by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION: Strike first sentence of IGE, and Mr. Elpler requested a minor change in JIH; the word “may” be added before *reasonable be believed to be destructive*.

VOTE: Pending above changes unanimously approved.

c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT TO HIRE PROFESSIONAL STAFF DURING THE SUMMER

MOTION: Motion to approve the superintendent to hire professional staff during the summer by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

d. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT, ELL TEACHER 2014/2015

MOTION: Motion to approve Ms. Ann Morin as the ELL teacher by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

XI. **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- a. JBC – Cafeteria furniture is now in place. Courtyard is now being used for classes and people are in line waiting to use the area for classroom space.

XII. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FACILITIES REPORTS AND ASSESSMENT, TBD
- b. ELEMENTARY/PMS GUIDANCE UPDATE, FALL 2014
- c. ART, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION, K-12 PROGRAM, TBD
- d. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMMING, TBD
- e. RE-EXAMINING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGE, TBD
- f. STRENGTHENING STEM INITIATIVES, TBD

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn at 8:01 p.m. by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Ellis. Unanimously approved.