

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2015

SCHOOL BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015

TIME: 6:30 [or thereafter]

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 6:49 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL** – LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), DEXTER LEGG (VICE-CHAIR), ANN WALKER, TOM MARTIN, PATRICK ELLIS, JEFF LANDRY, LENNIE MULLANEY, GARY EPLER, NANCY CLAYBURGH, EDWARD MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEPHEN BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR) AND OLIN JOHANNESSEN (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE)
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Stevens led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT-NONE**
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - i. **WORKSHOP SESSION ON FY 2016 BUDGET-** Technology Director Tom Lotz updated the Board on the following:
 - The district’s technology vision
 - Virtual Desktop Interface (VDI)
 - Google Apps for Education
 - Increases in student access to technology
 - Growing federal and state requirements in data reporting
 - Recent shifts of technical support staff to better support the district
 - CIP fund usage for FY15 and FY16To view the Technology Director’s PowerPoint presentation, please click [HERE](#).
Board members followed up with the following questions:
 - What are contributing factors leading to the dramatic rise in device usage?
 - How does a virtual environment affect the way that tech support is delivered?
 - Is the district content with Infinite Campus? Are we looking at other capacities within IC?

- How is the district using Google Classroom?
- Could the district save by purchasing books electronically?
- If teachers make homework available on Google Docs, are there students who might be disadvantaged to this type of learning?
- How many classrooms are waiting for overhead projectors?

ii. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ELEMENTARY FACILITIES COMMITTEE – Mr. Legg, who has been appointed to chair a temporary Elementary Facilities Sub Committee, shared a brief history of previous work completed studying the district’s elementary facility’s needs:

Phase I: Mr. Martin led initial efforts in assessing operating structures within each elementary school. Through these efforts, it was determined that the current K-5 structure was appropriate and that neighborhood schools were right for the district and the city.

Phase II: The architectural firm Dore & Whittier was hired to evaluate each school’s structural integrity. The final report, stating that all three buildings were fundamentally sound, presented the Board with three renovating options. The Board took its first step on February 10th, voting to approve D&W’s recommended code upgrades at Little Harbour over a three summer period.

Phase III: The subcommittee of the Board will now revisit the D&W work to assess the appropriate next steps. This process will affirm that future code upgrades can be completed at other schools without requiring work to be undone down the road when further renovations are approved.

Phase IV: –The committee will begin its work in the fall of 2015 focusing first on life safety and code compliance and then turning towards long term strategic planning. As a Board, it will be important to determine what is needed to deliver top notch education in the 21st century. The work of the Elementary Facilities Sub Committee will help the full Board build future requests into CIP funding.

MOTION: Motion to approve an Elementary Facilities Committee by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

iii. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF PROJECT GRADUATION REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

MOTION: Motion to approve Project Graduation request for support by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

VII. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. and seconded by Mr. Ellis.
Unanimously Approved.

