

**PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR MAY 12, 2015**

EILEEN FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

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- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL** LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), DEXTER LEGG (VICE CHAIR), ANN WALKER, PATRICK ELLIS, LENNIE MULLANEY, NANCY NOVELLINE-CLAYBURGH, GARY EPLER, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT) AND OLIN JOHANNESSEN (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE)
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Chair Stevens led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
  - a. APRIL 14, 2015 NON PUBLIC  
MOTION: Motion to accept the non-public minutes of April 14, 2015 by Ms. Mullaney  
SECOND: Ms. Novelline-Clayburgh  
DISCUSSION:  
VOTE: Unanimously Approved
  - b. APRIL 14, 2015 REGULAR MEETING  
MOTION: Motion to accept the regular meeting minutes of April 14, 2015 by Mr. Epler  
SECOND: Ms. Walker  
DISCUSSION:  
VOTE: Unanimously Approved
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – NONE
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**
  - a. ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS – PI DAY – NFS Principal Shea and Mr. Tony Coviello introduced the winners from each elementary school and presented each with a Pi Gift card in the amount of \$31.14 in recognition of all their hard work. Winners were: LHS: Louisa Morgan, 10, Molly Grocki, 10 and Maxwell Barker, 9; Dondero: Jason Yeaton, 10 and Katie Yeaton, 8; New Franklin Sydney Pettis, 8, Morgan Ruhnke, 7 and Madelyn Pettis, 11.
- VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
  - a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
    - i. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES, APRIL 8 & MAY 6, 2015
    - ii. SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE, MAY 2015
    - iii. PHS CLASS OF 2015 SENIOR WEEK CALENDAR
    - iv. *BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR* APRIL, 2015
    - v. ASSOCIATION OF PORTSMOUTH TEACHERS YEAR END CELEBRATION INVITATION
    - vi. CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION AWARDS CEREMONY INVITATION

vii. CLIPPER FOUNDATION AWARDS CEREMONY INVITATION- Assistant Superintendent Zdravec announced the awarded projects for the upcoming school year. Winners were: Mr. Steve Berry (Robotics Team @ PHS), Linda Beal (Growing Readers, Growing Minds @ NFS). Sam Tombarelli and Kate Brunelle (Who We Are @ PHS) and Lindsay Bouzakine (Greenhouse @ PMS). This is the second cycle of grant requests completed by the Clipper Foundation. Mr. Zdravec thanked all teachers who took the time to submit proposals, as well as the many volunteers from the Clipper organization who volunteered their time to review all proposals submitted. The Board requested that each group provide updates throughout the school year.

viii. RJLA FIELD TRIP – NYC

b. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. LETTER OF RESIGNATION, KAREN WISBEY (OT) - Ms. Novelline-Clayburgh personally thanked Ms. Wisbey for her many years of service to the students of Portsmouth, her son being one of them.
- ii. LETTER FROM PHS SOPHOMORE RE SCHOOL START TIME – Superintendent McDonough stated that his office has responded to the student’s letter. Mr. Ellis offered to chair a committee to review school start time.

c. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- i. FINANCIAL, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR BARTLETT – Superintendent McDonough provided an update on the financial report in Mr. Bartlett’s absence. The budget is tracking “tightly, but positively” after ten months.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

a. NEW FRANKLIN PRINCIPAL SEARCH UPDATE- 18 applications were received in which 8 candidates were selected to interview. The committee will present their final choices on May 27<sup>th</sup> for students, teachers and the public to meet. A final candidate will be presented to the Board at the first meeting in June.

b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF PMS STUDENT COMMONS DEDICATION

MOTION: Motion to name the new common area at Portsmouth Middle School the John M. Stokel Commons in honor of Principal John Stokel by Ms. Novelline-Clayburgh

SECOND: Ms. Novelline-Clayburgh

DISCUSSION:

ROLL CALL VOTE: 7 YES, 2 ABSENT (TM, JL)

c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (SECOND READING):

i. EARLY GRADUATION (IKFA)

MOTION: Motion to approve policy IKFA, Early Graduation by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

ii. SCHOOL FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (KA)

MOTION: Motion to approve policy KA, Family and Community Partnerships by Ms. Novelline-Clayburgh

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

iii. AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT (IKG)

MOTION: Motion to approve policy IKG, Awards for Achievement, by Ms. Mullaney

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

iv. PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM (KDA)

MOTION: Motion to approve policy KDA, Public Information Program, by Ms. Novelline-Clayburgh

SECOND: Ms. Mullaney

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MOTION: Motion to approve a one year leave of absence for Ms. Maria Gubellini by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR WELLNESS COORDINATOR

MOTION: Motion to approve Ms. Laura Burbine, as Wellness Coordinator for the 2015-2016 school year by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Ms. Novelline-Clayburgh

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT-ELECT CONTRACT

MOTION: Motion to approve the Superintendent-Elect contract, as presented, by Ms. Novelline-Clayburgh

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

ROLL CALL VOTE: 7 YES, 2 ABSENT (TM, JL)

**XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

a. JBC – Vice Chair Legg invited all to the Open House scheduled for this Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. Vice-Chair Legg called attention to the program highlighting the many individuals who played part in the project over the years. The Open House will provide an opportunity to publicly thank each one.

b. POLICY – The committee continues to add new policies required by law and update old policies.

c. SAGAMORE CREEK – The Committee's second meeting was held May 7<sup>th</sup> where vision and guidelines were finalized. The committee has decided that athletic fields are not a good fit for the property. The committee will strongly urge the city to address the issue of athletic fields when they submit their final recommendations for the property. Board members discussed meeting with Recreation Board members to better align mutual interests before approaching the city.

d. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACILITIES – The Elementary Schools Facility Sub Committee held their first meeting where previous studies and reports were reviewed. Now that renovations are under way at Little Harbour, the committee will begin to discuss what should be completed next. The committee will present their final recommendation to the full Board in the fall.

- XII. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** – Late start time, athletic fields, a new policy for use of electronic techbooks in the classroom, strengths and deficiencies of PHS block scheduling, and a leadership retreat in with new administrators in the fall.
- XIII. **ADJOURNMENT** - Motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Ms. Walker.  
Unanimously Approved.