

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR MAY 26, 2015

LITTLE HARBOUR ELEMENTARY AMPITHEATRE

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL** LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), DEXTER LEGG (VICE CHAIR), ANN WALKER, TOM MARTIN, PATRICK ELLIS, LENNIE MULLANEY, JEFF LANDRY, NANCY NOVELLINE-CLAYBURGH, GARY EPLER, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), OLIN JOHANNESSEN (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE), JULIA ADLER (STUDENT 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. MAY 12, 2015
- MOTION: Motion to approve the minutes of May 12, 2015 by Mr. Epler
SECOND: Ms. Walker
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: Unanimously Approved
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:** SABBATICAL REPORT, TESS HALL – Principal Grossman introduced Ms. Hall, stating that the district is fortunate to have a School Board with vision. Ms. Hall is a compelling example of how a district can benefit from sabbaticals.
- Ms. Hall is a reading specialist, primarily with kindergarten and first grade, who spent an entire year studying oral language. After sharing her expectations and accomplishments, Board members followed up with comments and questions. As Ms. Hall reflected back, were there ways for her experience to benefit others? Could she identify ways for others to shorten start up times or expenditures before entering their sabbatical phase? What could be launched/completed before beginning? From a department perspective, is it beneficial to set aside monies for transcription?
- VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
- a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
- i. *BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR* MAY, 2015
- ii. CLIPPER ACADEMY SUMMER ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM
- b. CORRESPONDENCE
- i. LETTER OF RESIGNATION – JULIE THURBER (LHS)
- c. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT
- i. PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **PMS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SEARCH UPDATE** – Assistant Superintendent Zdravec stated that New Franklin has identified three finalists who will spend time with staff, students and parents on May 27. The three finalists are Kathleen Crosby, Kathryn Bates and Joanne Simons. A final recommendation will be presented to the Board on June 9.

The search for an assistant principal at the middle school is approximately one week behind schedule but Ms. Zdravec is hopeful that the Board will be presented a final recommendation on June 9 as well.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **SET DATE FOR LEADERSHIP RETREAT WITH SCHOOL BOARD AND ADMINISTRATORS** –August 18th the meeting will be at Portsmouth Middle School, from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. **JBC- Vice-Chair Legg** reported the Grand Opening to be a huge success. Parents, staff and the community attended in large numbers and the dedication of the John M. Stokel Commons was greatly celebrated throughout the day.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. **ELECTRONIC TEXT BOOK POLICY**
- b. **PHS BLOCK SCHEDULE**
- c. **LEADERSHIP RETREAT WITH SCHOOL BOARD AND ADMINISTRATORS**

- XIII. ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Ellis. Unanimously Approved.