

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MEETING FOR OCTOBER 13, 2015

PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

NOTICE: THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL HOLD A WELCOMING RECEPTION FOR NEW TEACHERS AT 6:30 PM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER-** School Board Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL-** Chair Leslie Stevens, Lennie Mullaney, Gary Epler, Ann Walker, Dexter Legg, Nancy Clayburgh, Patrick Ellis, Ann Mayer, Superintendent Stephen Zdravec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, Business Administrator Stephen Bartlett, Teacher Representative Olin Johannesen and, Student Representative Julia Adler
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Stevens led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
 - a. SEPTEMBER 22, REGULAR MEETING
MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of September 22, 2015 by Ms. Walker
SECOND: Mr. Epler
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Unanimously approved
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. INTRODUCTION OF NEW TEACHING STAFF- The new teachers were recognized by the Board. Mr. Shea introduced and gave a brief bio on each new teacher.
 - b. SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS- Mr. Shea gave an overview of the Elementary Summer Camp 2.0 offered at all three elementary schools from mid-July through the first week of August. It provided highly stimulating activities at no cost to students. In regards to the operational aspect, it was inexpensive and simple to run. It is a little early to look at the regression data but data will come in over the next few weeks. Mr. Shea will work on budget numbers for 2016. Discussions/Questions followed: the program needs someone to coordinate, preview of 2016, should there be an increase in funding, possible additional course offerings, possibly offering stipend money for a coordinator in each building.
 - c. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORTS- The elementary school principals collaboratively reported on the elementary wide curriculum focus: writing, math and social curriculum. Ms. Callahan gave a brief overview of the writing curriculum. Over the summer, Mary Ehrenworth came and presented to K-6 teachers. She explained the process the teachers were taking to implement improvements to their practice.
Ms. Simons reported on Everyday Math Program K-5. K-2 teachers are in year two of the implementation of the program. K-2 teachers are going through the program and fine tuning their

practice. Grades 3-5 teachers are in year one of the program. Teaching with fidelity, great conversations and common pacing are a result. Wealth of opportunities are available through the online resources and virtual learning community.

Mr. Grossman reported and gave a brief overview on the social/ emotional curriculum. The Guidance Department is working in a unified manner. October is National Bullying Awareness Month and PHS service learning students are going to elementary schools to give brief lessons on empathy and to raise awareness. All three schools are doing their own variations of monthly school wide meetings creating awareness, prevention of bullying and promoting good behavior/values. Open Circle Social Curriculum continues to be implemented with more teachers being trained. Open Circle uses common vocabulary and allows for more effective student communications. Discussion/Questions followed: would it be helpful to have middle school teachers trained in Open Circle, does Everyday Math align with Common Core, is there a way to measure how effective these social trainings are, transition questions regarding elementary to middle school

VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- i. SCHOOL START TIME COMMITTEE MINUTES, OCTOBER 1, 2015
- ii. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES, OCTOBER 5, 2015
- iii. BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, OCTOBER 2015
- iv. PAST TWO SCHOOL YEAR'S ENROLLMENT NUMBERS
- v. PRESS RELEASE- TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALIST, ART AWARD
- vi. FUTURES NEWLETTER
- vii. PMS POST
- viii. CO UPDATE, OCTOBER

b. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- i. FINANCIAL REPORT- Mr. Bartlett explained the July, August and September reports. July and August didn't have a lot of movement. In September, there were some extra cost in hourly staff areas due to the construction project. There is not a lot of front loading (third page) as it doesn't take place until the kids return to school. It will develop as we move forward. By and large, everything looks reasonable and within the parameters of previous years. It will be a few months for concrete data for trends. Question: clarification made between 112 and 188 object codes

IX. **OLD BUSINESS**

X. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF WILLIAM AND IRENE MORTIMER SCHOLARSHIP FUND #2- Ms. Kathleen Dwyer gave a bio of William Mortimer. This is the second scholarship Bill has generously provided. The scholarship was funded with \$25,000.

MOTION: Motion to accept the Scholarship Fund by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

- b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (1ST READING):- Ms. Dwyer explained the additional language added to the following policies to meet statutory changes.

- i. VIDEO/AUDIO SURVEILLANCE ON SCHOOL PROPERTY AND BUSES (EEAA)-
MOTION: Motion to accept the EEAA First Reading with additional language by Ms.

Walker

SECOND: Ms. Mullaney

DISCUSSION: There was discussion about “tightening” the language and adding additional language regarding the focus on surveillance. Suggestions were made and Mr. Epler will forward additional suggestions.

VOTE: Unanimously approved

- ii. PERSONNEL RECORDS (GBJ)-

MOTION: Motion to accept the GBJ First Reading by Ms. Mullaney

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

XI. **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- a. POLICY- Ms. Stevens reported there are quite a few policies the Committee is working on and will bring forward at a future meeting.
- b. LATE START- Mr. Ellis reported the Committee is meeting again on Thursday, October 15. The committee will focus on alleviating concerns about late start. The Committee will take a look at the survey that was completed 8 years ago. There will be a workshop at the October 27 Board meeting. Discussion/Questions followed. Be mindful about not adding activities for afterschool that extends the day, SAU 50 was invited and is aware of the Committee, SAU 50 kids are impacted the most with the earliest bus times
- c. BUSINESS AND EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE- Ms. Mullaney reported on the Business and Education Collaborative. The Committee meets 3x a year. National Center Construction Education and Research was on the agenda, in particular looking at construction and welding curriculum to earn extended credit, cleaning up the construction classroom, career marketing for construction days, the entrepreneurial program and ways to market the program better for parents.
- d. SAGAMORE CREEK COMMITTEE- Ms. Mullaney reported the committee is working on the details for the land to be used as passive recreation while preserving the natural habitat. i.e. outdoor classrooms, floating dock. The Committee meets a couple more times and then will present to City Council in December.
- e. HOLIDAY DINNER- The holiday dinner will be Thursday, December 3.

XII. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. ELECTRONIC TEXT BOOK POLICY
- b. LATER START

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 8:47 by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Ms. Mullaney

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved