

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR APRIL 12, 2016

EILEEN DONDERO FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2016

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

- I. **CALL TO ORDER-** School Board Chair Leslie Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL-** Chair Leslie Stevens, Tom Martin, Lennie Mullaney, Gary Epler, Ann Walker, Nancy Clayburgh, Patrick Ellis, Jeff Landry, SAU50 Representative Ann Mayer, Teacher Representative Olin Johannsen, Superintendent Steve Zdravec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, Business Administrator Steve Bartlett
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** Chair Stevens led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
- a. MARCH 22, REGULAR MEETING
- MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of March 22, 2016 by Mr. Epler
- SECOND: Mr. Martin
- DISCUSSION:
- VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT-** None
- Chair Stevens thanked the School Start panel which included Superintendent Zdravec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, School Board Member Mr. Patrick Ellis, PMS Teacher Ms. Erin Bakkom, Athletic Director Mr. Rus Wilson and Dr. Sharp for hosting the public forum and presentation on the proposed School Start Times.
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
- a. PMS PRINCIPAL REPORT- Principal Phil Davis thanked the Board and the community for their continued support and their support of the middle school model. Mr. Davis highlighted some work and events occurring at the middle school. Mr. Davis provided an overview of the Professional Learning Community, examples of the increased flow of communication between school and community and examples of the middle school model in action.
- Some changes for next year: Parent Teacher Conferences, changing to a 4- nine week term schedule are a few examples of changes expected next year and exploring new fundraising opportunities with the possibly of incorporating another community event. Mr. Davis reported the Empty Bowls community event was a huge success and raised over \$10,000 benefiting the Seacoast Family Food Pantry. "The middle school is just a proud place to be!"
- Upcoming Events:
- April 13- Enterprise City- 6th graders
- April 13 & 14- PHS Culinary Experience- 7th graders
- April 18- Project Safety- John Halligan Bullying Presentation
- April 18- Ensemble
- May 7- Gardening Project

May 13- Music Competition
May 26- Spring Showcase
May 27-NAMI Presentation on Teen Suicide
May 31- Spring Concert
June 3- First Variety Show
June 16- 8th Grade Promotion

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: The Board thanked Mr. Davis for the presentation and congratulated him for a successful first year. Questions regarding special education staff needs arose and Mr. Davis described it was rough at times but feels they managed the coverage. The addition of Parent Teacher Conferences and changing to a 4 – nine week term schedule are great ideas. “The Empty Bowls event was outstanding!”

Congratulations to New Height’s Destination Imagination Team Savage Cabbage. The team is competing in the Global Finals in Tennessee. Mr. Ellis commented that New Heights has done an amazing job offering programs to the students. New Heights is a real asset to the community.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- i. SCHOOL BOARD PROPOSED MEETING DATES
- ii. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES, MARCH 23
- iii. APRIL CO UPDATE
- iv. FIELD TRIP- FRANCE
- v. FIELD TRIP- PLYMOUTH STATE UNIVERSITY
- vi. FIELD TRIP- ROBOTICS- LEWISTON, MAINE
- vii. FY17 BUDGET VIEW BOOK
- viii. LETTER TO CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS- DRAFT

b. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES LETTER
- ii. LETTERS OF RESIGNATION, COLLEEN BLANCHARD
- iii. LETTERS OF RESIGNATION, SUZANNE DRYSDALE
- iv. I AM COLLEGE BOUND/I APPLIED CAMPAIGN LETTER

c. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- i. FINANCIAL, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR BARTLETT- Business Administrator Mr. Bartlett provided an overview of the March financial month end report. The budget compared to last year is within a 1/2 %. There was a miscalculation for dental insurance but will be corrected for future years.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (SECOND READING)

- i. PROGRAMS FOR PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES- IHBA

MOTION: Motion to approve IHBA by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Mullaney

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (FIRST READING)**

i. **WELLNESS- JCLF**

MOTION: Motion to approve JCLF by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Mullaney

DISCUSSION: Chair Stevens reported the Policy Committee struggled to condense this policy as the policy encompasses a lot. JCLF is a required policy and is driven by federal guidelines set forth in grants. There are some redundancies with current policies but the policies align. There was a lot of discussion in regards to the length of the policy, definitions of healthy food, physical activity and questions about vending machines. The Policy Committee will continue to work on the policy with the Board's feedback.

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

b. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT**

i. **DRAMA TEACHER- PMS/PHS**

MOTION: Motion to approve Drama Teacher by Mr. Ellis

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES

a. **FARM TO SCHOOL-** Mr. Shea reported there is a main committee and a curriculum subcommittee which is currently in the process of developing units of study lessons to incorporate Farm to School practices in the class room. At the regular meetings, Farm to School Committee will do "garden check ins" to report on the status and development of the gardens. Mr. Bartlett reported Director of School Nutrition Deb Riso and Farm to School Program Coordinator Kate Mitchell were invited to present at the National Farm to School Conference.

b. **ELEMENTARY FACILITIES-** Mr. Bartlett reported the committee met today and was given an update on the LH Phase II and the future projects at Dondero and additional work at New Franklin. The City Council is touring Little Harbour on Thursday, April 14 at 6:00 p.m.

c. **MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES-** Mr. Ellis reported the Mayor met with committee and it brought some new excitement about providing some education to students around recycling.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS- add "Future State of the Arts" (possible presentation by Anna Nuttall in September)

a. **ELECTRONIC TEXT BOOK POLICY**

b. **STEM**

OTHER:

Ben Franklin Painting Update: The painting is on loan for the summer. It will be part of the Warner House 300th Anniversary Exhibit at the Discover Portsmouth Center. Currently, exploring any funding options for restoration of the painting including through the Moose Plate Funding. The intention would be to restore the painting and return the painting to New Franklin.

School Board Members emails are now available on the City of Portsmouth webpage.

Next Meeting is May 10 in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers at City Hall.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted