

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR MAY 24, 2016

PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL, LIBRARY

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2016

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**- School Board Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL**- Chair Leslie Stevens, Vice Chair Martin (telephone), Lennie Mullaney, Gary Epler, Ann Walker, Patrick Ellis, Roseann Vozella Clark, Superintendent Steve Zdravec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, 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. **MAY 10, REGULAR MEETING**

MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of May 10, 2016 by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**- Harold Whitehouse (58 Humphrey Court, Portsmouth), Beth Ricci (181 Aldrich Road, Portsmouth), Arthur Clough (431 Pleasant Street, Portsmouth), Karen Ecker (875 Banfield Road, Portsmouth), David Ecker (875 Banfield Road, Portsmouth).
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. **PORTSMOUTH- NICHINAN EXCHANGE CLUB**- PHS Principal Mary Lyons introduced the some of the students that participated in the recent PHS Japan trip. The students presented a slideshow of over 200 pictures and gave a narrative of their itinerary. Many thanks to Laura Lavallee, Stephanie Seacord and the chaperones.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: The first five days students stayed with host families in Nichinan. After the five days, students stayed in hotels. Most students did not have any Japanese experience prior to the trip and reported the trip was "life changing". A few students shared the "most adventurous" food they tried. It is exciting to see the effort of the partnership of the Portsmouth -Nichinan Exchange Club.
- VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
 - a. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**
 - i. *BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, MAY 2016*
 - ii. **PHS AREA REPORT**
 - iii. **PHS GRADUATION WEEK ACTIVITIES**
 - iv. **CO UPDATE**
 - b. **CORRESPONDENCE**
 - c. **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

COMMENTS: There was a reference made during public comment about the mascot changing. Superintendent Zdravec reported that PHS Social Studies Teacher Samuel Tombarelli and students were awarded a Clipper Foundation grant to redo the foyer of PHS. During research, the students discovered a discrepancy in the start date of school. They are looking at redesigning the seal in the foyer which is the survey that was referenced earlier. There will be a presentation at a future school board meeting.

Chair Stevens commented on the timeliness of the information published in the *Board & Administrator*.

Ms. Mullaney inquired about the process of responding to tonight's public comments. Superintendent Zdravec will follow up with Ms. Ricci's questions.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES

MOTION: Motion to approve 2016/2017 School Board Meeting Dates by Ms. Mullaney

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION: The November 22 meeting will be moved to November 29.

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

b. NEW CASTLE STUDENTS

MOTION: Motion to approve the New Castle agreement by Ms. Mullaney

SECOND: Ms Walker

DISCUSSION: There are three families that will be offered the choice for their students (beginning in 7th grade) to attend PMS on an agreed tuition agreement. There is a small number of students and will have not have any negative impact.

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. PHS SOLAR PROJECT PPA- Superintendent Zdravec reported that PSD received a grant from the Public Utilities Commission in partnership with the City of Portsmouth. This will allow a further solar presence at PHS. A memo was included in the packet from Deputy City Attorney Suzanne Woodland detailing the solar power agreements.

MOTION: Motion to accept PHS Solar Project made by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION: The \$450,000 grant will help cover the initial cost. The location of the solar panels were discussed.

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

b. 1ST NH INDICATORS-Superintendent Zdravec provided a summary from the staff survey on what leadership role Portsmouth Schools should play in the state. Responses have been categorized against established School Board goals.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: Chair Stevens would like to include students in the survey. Student exit surveys could also be used for potential feedback. Idea: use Portsmouth High School's core values of Excellence, Community, Commitment and Leadership. This will be discussed further at the retreat.

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. BEC- Business Education Collaborative- Ms. Mullaney gave a thorough overview of the BEC final meeting of the year on May 11. Ms. Mullaney shared a very detailed email from Diane Canada outlining CTE program changes.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: Mr. Shea reported that Diane’s mission is to adapt the program to the labor market. Periodic adjustments to the program can be expected. The new LNA Training Program and the Computer Science Pathway program are being advertised in the PSD newsletter. Any ideas of marketing the programs are welcomed. It would be great to incorporate a piece of the CTE Award ceremony into a whole school award ceremony.

- b. FARM TO SCHOOL- No report

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. ELECTRONIC TEXT BOOK POLICY
- b. STEM
- c. FUTURE STATE OF ARTS

Upcoming Events:

May 25- JBC Meeting

May 26- PMS Spring Showcase

May 26- Chasing the Dragon at PHS

June 3- Penn State –Math Team

- ❖ Congratulations to PHS Culinary student Carson Crisp. Carson will participate in the Skills USA National Convention.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting by Ms. Vozella Clark at 8:30 p.m.

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted