

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MEETING FOR AUGUST 9, 2016

EILEEN DONDERO FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

NOTICE OF NON-MEETING WITH COUNSEL: THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL HOLD A NON-MEETING WITH COUNSEL AT 6:45 P.M., IN ACCORDANCE WITH RSA 91-A:3, I (b) IN THE SCHOOL BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
- II. **ROLL CALL**
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
 - a. JULY 12, REGULAR MEETING
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. SCHOOL NURSE
- VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
 - a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
 - i. *BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, JULY 2016*
 - ii. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES, JULY 20
 - b. CORRESPONDENCE
 - i. THANK YOU LETTER, LYNDA BETTCHER
 - c. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT
 - i. FINANCIAL, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR BARTLETT
- IX. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (SECOND READING)
 - i. PUBLIC SOLICITATIONS IN THE SCHOOLS- KH
 - b. BOARD RETREAT AGENDA
- X. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT
 - i. SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS, PHS (2)
 - ii. MUSIC TEACHER, DO
 - iii. GRADE 4 TEACHER, DO

- b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO COMMIT TO PRIMEX CAP PROGRAM
- c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO POLICIES
 - i. SCHOOL VISITS AND LOITERING- KI
 - ii. PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY LIFE-KC
 - iii. EXTRA AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES- IGD
- d. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO ELIMINATE POLICY:
 - i. PUBLICATIONS, RADIO AND TELEVISION- KJ

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. POLICY
- b. BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE (LH & PMS)
- c. JBC

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

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

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

V.
a.

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR JULY 12, 2016- DRAFT

EILEEN M. FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2016

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

NOTICE: THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL HOLD A NON- PUBLIC MEETING AT 6:15 P.M., IN ACCORDANCE WITH RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) IN THE SCHOOL BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER-** School Board Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL -** Chair Leslie Stevens, Vice Chair Tom Martin, Gary Epler, Ann Walker, Patrick Ellis, Nancy Clayburgh, Roseanne Vozella Clark, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, Business Administrator Stephen Bartlett
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** Chair Stevens led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
 - a. JUNE 14, REGULAR MEETING
 - MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of June 14, 2016 by Ms. Clayburgh
 - SECOND: Ms. Walker
 - DISCUSSION:
 - VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT-** None
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. SMARTER BALANCE & SAT RESULTS- Assistant Superintendent Shea provided an overview on the Smarter Balance & SAT results. The Smarter Balance testing window was April through June 10. Results were received on a staggered basis through the online reporting system. The individual student level results were accurate and student reports were distributed in report cards. However, the State final tallies are still preliminary. Teachers have not had a chance to analyze the results to determine areas of strengths and areas of weaknesses. Once complete, the analysis will be shared with the public.
 - SAT- The SAT test format was new this year. The test focused on two sections with an optional essay. The test aligned with Common Core standards. Every 11th grader was asked to take the test and there was an improved level of student engagement.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Smarter Balanced Proficiency Comparison chart – perhaps build a different graph to compare cohorts moving through (compare apples to apples). Portsmouth remains consistently above the State average. Precipitous drop in math.

The Smarter Balance math section involves a higher level thinking, a lot of writing and requires using different algorithms. It is more than just knowing math facts and skills. Logistically, it was particularly challenging for third graders.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- i. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES, JUNE 20, 2016
- ii. OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP- LOUISVILLE, KY

b. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- i. YEAR END REPORT – Business Administrator Bartlett reported the internal auditing process has begun and he will provide a detailed report in August. This is the third year in a row that the Food Service program had to be supported. Mr. Bartlett believes Special Education will break even and we are in good shape in regards to “energy”. The projects that have been completed so far are contributing to savings.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: There are still some outstanding lunch program bills.

c. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. LETTER OF RESIGNATION, GEORGE HAILS
- ii. LETTER OF RESIGNATION, LAURA GARDOCKI
- iii. LETTER OF RESIGNATION, KATELYN BEACH
- iv. THANK YOU LETTER, BARBARA BRINKHAM
- v. THANK YOU LETTER, JULIE WOODS
- vi. THANK YOU LETTER, JOY BRYAN MARKLEY
- vii. THANK YOU LETTER, LYNN DIELSI (HAND CARRY)

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- a. UPDATE- BOARD RETREAT- Tuesday, August 16- 4:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. in the PMS library. An agenda will be provided at the August 9 SB meeting. Principals will be invited.

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

- i. ESOL TEACHER, LH & PMS
- ii. .5 LITERACY TEACHER, NF
- iii. MATH TEACHER, PMS
- iv. SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, LH

MOTION: Motion to approve employment by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

- b. OTHER- Leslie Stevens announced that member Ms. Lennie Mullaney resigned from the Board. The Board will be moving forward with the correct protocol for a replacement. The Board thanked Ms. Mullaney for her dedication and service.

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

i. PUBLIC SOLICITATIONS IN THE SCHOOLS (KH)

MOTION: Motion to approve first reading of policy KH by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

d. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (REVISED)

i. ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE SCHOOLS (KHB)

MOTION: Motion to revise policy KHB by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Epler

DISCUSSION: The Superintendent determines if the request complies with policies.

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

ii. EXTRA AND CO- CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (IGD)- **TABLED**

e. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE (HAND CARRY)

MOTION: Motion to approve leave of absence by Ms. Clayburgh

SECOND: Ms Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

XI. **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- a. POLICY- The next meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2016.
- b. BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE (LHS & PMS) - Mr. Bartlett reported LH is in their second phase. Sheetrock will probably begin tomorrow. David Desfossess from Public Works is overseeing the water supply project required for the sprinkler system and assisting with the improvement of the bus/parent drop off at NF. The permanent shoring at PMS and the PHS solar array projects are both underway.
- c. FUTURES- Ms. Clayburgh reported the Futures program is supporting twenty eight students (fourteen students attending UNH). A total of \$85k was provided to these students. It is a great organization and Amy Brnger is doing a great job.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

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

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 8:15p.m. by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

- ❖ The Clinton/Sanders event at PHS was a success! Chair Stevens and Assistant Superintendent Shea thanked all of the individuals involved in facilitating the event.

Board & Administrator

FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

July 2016 Vol. 30, No. 3

Editor: Jeff Stratton

Board unprofessionalism will cost the district in an era of competition

Board member bickering and a superintendent's formal complaint against the board dominated the news about the South San Antonio, Texas, Independent School District recently.

Superintendent Abelardo Saavedra's 153-page complaint stated "the district has suffered and become even more divided under the leadership of board president Connie Prado," foxsanantonio.com reported.

Saavedra called his board president "a bully" in the complaint, and he wants outside help to protect himself from Prado's micromanaging, foxsanantonio.com reported.

"I don't need to be spending my energy trying to maintain control over this district due to board interference," Saavedra said, according to foxsanantonio.com.

The board's meeting debate about Saavedra's complaint became heated and lasted late into the night, according to the website.

The district has had several superintendents over the last five years, foxsanantonio.com reported.

Parents and teachers at the meeting stated they were frustrated by the board's behavior.

For information, <http://foxsanantonio.com/news/local/south-san-isd-board-divided-continues-infighting>.

This type of board member vs. the superintendent breakdown always makes me ask:

Why in the world would any parent want their child to attend school in a mess of a school district?

In a competitive environment where public schools are not the only choice in many communities for parents/stakeholders to send their kids, how the board conducts itself becomes something to monitor closely.

A fractured relationship with the superintendent is a sure sign that all is not well on the board and in the district.

It's important that each board member understand the impact his actions and statements have.

A board member needs to ask: "Is what I am saying helping or harming the district and/or the superintendent?" "Am I building confidence in our district?"

This is important because parents and guardians do have choices today about where they send their children to school.

And if your enrollment decreases because the district earns a bad reputation, enrollment and funding decreases will certainly follow.

Board members should understand that they are ambassadors for the school district -- and that this is an important governance responsibility.

If the leadership team is dysfunctional, the public will be aware and the charter or private school across town will start looking pretty good.

Ensure that board members have training in media relations and how to present themselves to the public. If you do this, and the board understands its advocate/ambassador role clearly, there will be no reason for patrons to check out your competition. ■

What's in your governance handbook?

The purpose of a governance handbook is to remind board members and the superintendent about the agreements that have been created to ensure a smooth operating team.

These agreements serve to maintain an effective board-superintendent relationship and lead to a school board that conducts its business in a professional manner.

The governance handbook should contain a set of principles that clearly spell out how the board operates, how board members should interact with each other, and the nature of the board's relationship to the superintendent.

A governance handbook should address the following:

- A statement about the board's unity of purpose for the district, the board's vision and mission statements, and a listing of the board's beliefs about public education.
- A description of the board's roles and responsibilities.
- A statement about the superintendent's role in managing the day-to-day operations of the district.
- A listing of the board's governance norms.
- A section on board meeting management. This should

provide information about placing items on the agenda, preparing for meetings, and seating arrangements at meetings.

- Information about voting.
- Information about closed sessions.
- An agreement about board members visiting schools.
- The board's agreement about how members will respond to email from community members.
- The board's agreement about how members will respond to concerns from community members or school staff.
- Communication commitments that state board members will communicate all concerns they hear from stakeholders to the superintendent and the board and superintendent will practice "no surprises."
- A commitment to maintain confidentiality on sensitive district matters.
- A statement about the board meeting consent agenda, its purpose, and the types of items that can be placed in it. ■

Understand board role during negotiations

As a board member, it is not your job to negotiate directly with the teachers' union. That is a role best performed by a hired professional negotiator or your superintendent.

Board members can sit in on negotiation sessions, and some do, but in your board member role, you should take more of a monitoring, direction-setting position. The board should perform these roles during negotiations:

1. Communicate financial parameters to the negotiating team. For instance, the board should state the district's financial

bottom-line figures for salary and benefits increases.

2. Hear an update after each session. The board should be briefed by a member of the negotiations team once a week during negotiations. This should be an update about any progress or setbacks during the previous week.

3. Maintain the principle of confidentiality. The board has a duty to keep information about negotiations confidential. If board members breach confidentiality, it can harm the district's position during collective bargaining. ■

Superintendent's evaluation and staff input: Here's why it's a bad idea

There are two reasons why asking school personnel to evaluate the superintendent is a poor idea:

1. Board members should evaluate IF the district's goals and objectives were met, not HOW the goals were accomplished. If the board needs to assure itself that staff is "happy," they should review turnover rates, any filed staff grievances, and other evidence of staff contentment.

2. The chain of command disintegrates when employees communicate directly with the board through a superintendent performance evaluation. The board compounds the problem if it invites the staff to anonymously evaluate the administrator. Including employees in this process often opens the door for them to go directly to the board with any issue. ■

The board's 10 important governance tasks

1. Define and approve the district's vision and mission.
2. Hire a superintendent.
3. Evaluate and support the superintendent.
4. Ensure the district has adequate resources.
5. Monitor the district's finances.
6. Plan strategically to give the district a successful future.
7. Approve curriculum and monitor the effectiveness of the district's instructional programs.
8. Act as an ambassador for the district.
9. Ensure that the district operates legally and ethically, in an accountable and transparent fashion.
10. Assess the board's performance. ■

VIII.
a.
11.

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH
LEGAL DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 20, 2016
PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD
FROM: POLICY COMMITTEE
RE: JUNE 20, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Leslie Stevens, Ann Walker, Steve Zadavec and Kathleen Dwyer

Others Present: Barbara Pamboukas and Cindy Hart

Non-Policies Item Considered:

Nursing Guidelines

Barbara and Cindy discussed the draft of Nursing Guidelines and explained that the school nurses have been working on since 2012 with the assistance of Dr. Dixon Turner. It was an undertaking to provide consistency across the school district, particularly with respect to assessment and treatment. They also consulted with the New Hampshire School Nurses Association and the National Association. The State has recently re-hired the position of nurse consultant through the Department of Education. Barbara also explained that this is not a static document and will/should be reviewed at least every other year.

Kathleen explained that the document encompasses School Board policies on health, but that the document itself is not really a policy. The nurses had been invited to the Policy Committee to make them aware of this endeavor. Barbara requested that it be some official action and Steve suggested that the nurses give a presentation to the School Board after which he will sign the document. The nurses will be given time for this presentation at the August 9th meeting of the Board.

Narcan

Barbara explained to the Committee that Narcan is included in the School Nurse bags at each school. They all have been trained on its use and will be attending additional training. In addition, she explained that a lot of non-nursing staff have attended training offered by the Public Health Network. She indicated that it would be very useful for the School Department to have a policy. She and Kathleen will work together to find policy resources of Narcan and its use.

Police MOU

The discussion concerning Narcan led to a discussion regarding the MOU with the police department that dates back to 2006. It is need of updating and Leslie suggested that it would be a good time to reach out to the Acting Chief for that purpose.

Policies Considered:

Extra-Curricular Activities (IGD)

Leslie explained that the School Board had tabled this policy in light of recent input from Mary Lyons. Kathleen explained that a quorum provision has been added. Mary had also asked whether the referral to the drug and alcohol counsellor would be available for all students who face game/activity suspensions.

There also was a question regarding references to percentage reductions vs. actual number of games. Kathleen asked that Steve double check to be sure that they are correct.

Mary also questioned whether the approach could be taken requiring a breath test for students caught at underage drinking parties. Kathleen explained that, in reviewing this issue, she was not sure that it would withstand legal challenges, but would involve change to the Drug and Alcohol Use policy. There was a general discussion that the approach taken by administrators seems to be generally effective when investigating these cases. Instead of asking students to identify classmates that have been drinking, they ask if there were any students that had not been drinking. This is useful in trying to ascertain who has violated the policy.

Participation in Community Life (KC)

The Committee reviewed this policy that is designed to encourage personnel to actively participate in the community. The Committee made some word revisions and recommended re-approval.

Publications, Radio and Television (KJ)

The Committee reviewed this outdated policy and concluded that Website policy has replaced the need for this policy. The Committee recommended that it be eliminated.

Advertising in the Schools (KHB)

This policy was considered by the School Board at its last meeting and a question arose regarding commercial advertising. The Committee reviewed the policy and determined that the policy adequately limits and regulates commercial advertising in the schools. It was recommended to have the School Board reapprove this policy.

Recommended Board Action:

School Visits and Loitering (KI)
Participation in Community Life (KC)
Extra and Co-Curricular Activities (IGD)

Revise and reapprove
Revise and reapprove
Revise and reapprove

Advertising and Promotion Activities in the Schools (KHB)

Reapprove

Publications, Radio and Television (KJ)

Eliminate

Policies for Review at Next Meeting:

Grants, Gifts and Bequests (KCD)
Extended Learning Opportunities (IHBH)

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:00 a.m.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

VIII. Dear Steve,

b.
i.

Please extend my
thanks to the School
Board for the lovely
retirement reception
and lovely clock.

I have enjoyed my
years in the school
department and have
always appreciated
your support!

Best, Lynda Bethel

You made
my heart
so happy!

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

14
a.

Public Solicitations in the Schools

KH

As a general policy, solicitation within the schools for any purpose whatsoever is not authorized. No commercial enterprise may be represented in the schools and sale of goods and/or services on the premises is not authorized.

Any request for the exception to this policy must be submitted in writing to the School Board or through Superintendent of Schools for approval prior to the requested activity. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to grant approval after notice to the School Board.

The Portsmouth Board of Education reserves the right to grant exceptions.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

1X.
b.

School Board and Administration Retreat

August 16, 2016

Portsmouth Middle School, Media Center

4:00 PM

Agenda

I. Introductions

II. Review of 2015-2016 goals

III. Update on TQP- Model Teacher

IV. Discussion of 2016-2017 goals- Lead NH Indicators

V. Developing an action plan

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD GOALS 2016-17

Student Achievement

- Increase percentage of students achieving established benchmarks for career and college readiness, including but not limited to SBAC, SAT, Math course beyond Algebra II, etc.
- Reduce gaps of opportunity or achievement between socio economic groups, including but not limited to experiences with the arts, enrollment in rigorous coursework, and achievement on established benchmarks for career and college readiness.
- Establish viable college and career pathways for *all* students to achieve post-secondary success.
- Increase core and enrichment opportunities in STEAM-related activities accessible to all students.

Teacher Effectiveness

- Monitor plan for Model Teacher implementation and determine indicators of success.
- Embed 21st century skills and competencies into core PLC expectations.
- Strengthen systems for intervention, including dedicated time during the school day for intervention supports.
- Support and increase 1:1 student/teacher technology practices and infrastructure.

Accountability

- Establish a baseline for “Model NH” metrics, including post-secondary success, college and career readiness, and opportunity/achievement gaps between socio-economic groups.
- Review school level systems of internal accountability for student growth on student achievement goals.

Stewardship of resources

- Communicate a plan for the final phases of elementary facilities upgrades (Dondero, New Franklin)
- Continue to track energy efficiency measures towards greater efficiency and long term savings
- Determine any change in school start times, and communicate a clear plan to the community.
- Fully integrate sustainable practices, school gardens and farm to school models in all schools.

New Hire:

Name: Marissa Brawn **Bachelors –** Sociology, Anthropology, Women’s Studies, Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois 2009

Address: 29 Highland Street **Experience:**
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Position: Special Education Teacher

Location: PHS

Replacing: Laura Gardocki - Resigned

Effective: July 1, 2016

Interval: 1

Salary: **\$45,439** Base \$42,723 + degree Track B1 \$2,716

Funding Source: General Fund

Certification: In the process of becoming New Hampshire Certified General Special Education

New Hire:

Name: Abigail Keller **In the Process of Masters** –Integrated Teaching through the Arts, Lesley University, Raymond, New Hampshire

Address: PO Box 351 **Bachelors** – Music Education, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire 2014
Barrington, NH 03825

Position: Music Teacher **Experience:**
2014 – present Music Teacher, Valley View Community School, Farmington, New Hampshire

Location: DO

Replacing: Maria Sheppard – Transfer to PMS to replace Katie Beach, resigned

Effective: July 1, 2016

Interval: 3

Salary: **\$45,325** Base \$45,325

Funding Source: General Fund

Certification: New Hampshire Certified #1200 Music Education

New Hire:

Name: Lydia Macdonald **Masters** –Elementary Education, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire 2011

Address: 36 Lake Road **Bachelors** – Family Studies, Young Child, Brentwood, NH 03833 University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire 2010

Position: Grade 4 Teacher **Experience:**
2014 – present Multi age 4/5 Teacher, Barnard School, South Hampton, NH

Location: DO **2011 – 2013** 4th Grade Teacher, Dubai American Academy, Dubai, UAE

Replacing: Amanda Nault - Resigned

Effective: July 1, 2016

Interval: 5

Salary: **\$54,720** Base \$48,085 + Masters 6,635

Funding Source: General Fund

Certification: New Hampshire Certified #1811 Elementary Education

Visitors to Schools ~~Visits and Loitering~~

The School Board and staff of the school district welcome members of the community and other interested persons to visit the schools. ~~School improvement often comes from suggestions originating in such visits.~~

All visitors shall:

1. Arrive through the main entrance.
2. Report immediately to the main office.
3. Obtain visitor's identification.
4. Get prior approval from the principal for visits to specific classrooms
- 3,5. Not disrupt the school day

The Superintendent is authorized to establish regulations to ensure a safe and production educational environment for students and staff during school visits.~~that will:~~

4. ~~Encourage visitors to observe the schools.~~
5. ~~Provide appropriate hospitality for visitors.~~
6. Ensure a safe and productive educational environment for students and staff.

Any person who is not a member of the school staff or student body and who loiters on or about any school building or grounds or who causes disturbances will be directed to leave the school grounds.

Participation in Community Life

See Also: IJO

School personnel are urged encouraged to participate in community activities. Administrative personnel should not accept community responsibilities if such duties interfere with their regular work.

The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent are expected to participate in public, civic, social and professional affairs to become active members of the community. ~~enhance public relations and open channels of communication.~~

X.
C.
III.

Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities

IGD

The School Board recognizes the importance of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities in student life and that they are an integral part of high school life. Extra-curricular and co-curricular activities require as much careful planning and supervision as academic subjects, and while extra-curricular activities provide an opportunity for student to develop other skills and knowledge outside the classroom, they are a supplement to, and do not take precedence over academics. Extra-curricular and co-curricular activities are also a privilege and in order for students to participate they are expected to be good citizens in their school community.

Supervision:

All activities conducted in the name of the Portsmouth School Department shall be under the general supervision of school authorities and student participants are subject to the discipline policies of the School Board.

Eligibility:

High School students will be required to meet academic standards established by this policy for participation in extra-curricular activities as follows:

Student participants shall maintain good citizenship.

Student participants must be passing all classes in which they are enrolled and have no more than one grade of D based upon the latest term grades.

In the case of all extra-curricular activities, unless otherwise mandated by New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) for athletics, students academically ineligible due to grades from the latest quarter may regain eligibility based upon a progress report that meets the eligibility standards.

All extra-curricular activities will be open to all students with open tryouts.

Intramural sports shall be encouraged so that all students may have the opportunity to participate.

Ineligibility from Participation:

Portsmouth High School students who violate Federal, State or Municipal statutes and ordinances or Portsmouth School Board policies may be determined ineligible from participation in extra-curricular activities. Violations will be considered as of the first date of enrollment at Portsmouth High School or the first date of participation in the extracurricular activity, whichever occurs first, through graduation or discontinued enrollment.

Prior to a student becoming ineligible from participation, the matter will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. The Committee shall consider violations as follows:

Disciplinary Committee:

The Disciplinary Committee will review any violation of that might result in a student being determined ineligible from participation in extracurricular activities. The Committee will be chaired by the Principal of the High School, or the Principal's designee. The remainder of the Committee shall consist of the following individuals:

In the case of athletics:

Athletic Director

Designated Head Coach, selected by the Principal for a one year term

~~In the~~ case of non-athletic clubs and extra-curricular activities:

A designated faculty advisor for non-athletic clubs and extracurricular activities, selected by the Principal for a one-year term

A designated member of the faculty from co-curricular activities selected by the principal for a one year term.

A quorum shall consist of two members.

~~The~~ Committee is free to consider input from the student or his/her representative, the student's coach or faculty advisory, assistants or team captains in the case of athletics, or any other source the Committee deems appropriate.

A student may waive his/her opportunity to appear before the Disciplinary Committee, but in waiving this right, they are subject to the determination made by the Committee.

Form

Form

Form

First Offense – Extracurricular activities:

Students found to have consumed alcohol, been determined to have internal possession of alcohol or in the possession of alcohol shall be ineligible for 50% (fifty percent) of regular season and tournament games.

Students found to have hosted a party or event for the consumption of alcohol or drugs or who have been found to be in the possession of drugs or under the influence of drugs shall be ineligible for 75% (seventy-five percent) of regular season and tournament games.

Students found to have violated other school rules shall be determined to be ineligible for up to three regular season and tournament games.

Students completing 10 (ten) hours of community service may have a one game reduction in their determination of ineligibility upon completion of 10 (ten) hours of community service of 6% of their suspension. All community services shall be preapproved by the Conduct Committee and completion documented in writing.

Students participating in sports or activities that have 8 or more games or performances may have an additional reduction in their determination of ineligibility upon attendance at a session with the Student Counselling Services Alcohol/Drug counsellor as part of a restorative path of 6% of their suspension.

First Offense – Co-curricular activities:

Although band, percussion and chorus are co-curricular activities, they are subject to this policy. Students may be determined to be ineligible from participation in performances. Students may not have their grades affected if they are ineligible for performances. The director of the activity shall determine the alternative to performance to be included in the grading process.

In the case of athletics:

Athletic Director

Designated Head Coach, selected by the Principal for a one year term

~~In the~~ case of non-athletic clubs and extra-curricular activities:

A designated faculty advisor for non-athletic clubs and extracurricular activities, selected by the Principal for a one-year term

A designated member of the faculty from co-curricular activities selected by the principal for a one year term.

A quorum shall consist of two members.

~~The~~ Committee is free to consider input from the student or his/her representative, the student's coach or faculty advisory, assistants or team captains in the case of athletics, or any other source the Committee deems appropriate.

A student may waive his/her opportunity to appear before the Disciplinary Committee, but in waiving this right, they are subject to the determination made by the Committee.

Form

Form

Form

First Offense – Extracurricular activities:

Students found to have consumed alcohol, been determined to have internal possession of alcohol or in the possession of alcohol shall be ineligible for 50% (fifty percent) of regular season and tournament games.

Students found to have hosted a party or event for the consumption of alcohol or drugs or who have been found to be in the possession of drugs or under the influence of drugs shall be ineligible for 75% (seventy-five percent) of regular season and tournament games.

Students found to have violated other school rules shall be determined to be ineligible for up to three regular season and tournament games.

Students completing 10 (ten) hours of community service may have a one game reduction in their determination of ineligibility upon completion of 10 (ten) hours of community service of 6% of their suspension. All community services shall be preapproved by the Conduct Committee and completion documented in writing.

Students participating in sports or activities that have 8 or more games or performances may have an additional reduction in their determination of ineligibility upon attendance at a session with the Student Counselling Services Alcohol/Drug counsellor as part of a restorative path of 6% of their suspension.

First Offense – Co-curricular activities:

Although band, percussion and chorus are co-curricular activities, they are subject to this policy. Students may be determined to be ineligible from participation in performances. Students may not have their grades affected if they are ineligible for performances. The director of the activity shall determine the alternative to performance to be included in the grading process.

Publications, Radio and Television

The Board invites and welcomes the active participation of the media in promoting quality education in our district and elsewhere.

Newscasts, spot announcements, sports and other activities dealing with the schools are presented in the public interest. No endorsement by the schools with the promotion of any commercial or political enterprise will be permitted.

The superintendent of schools or his/her designee shall approve all such public interest statements.