PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2016
PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016
PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

NOTICE OF NON-MEETING WITH COUNSEL: THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL HOLD A NON-MEETING WITH COUNSEL AT PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL IN THE PRINCIPAL’S CONFERENCE ROOM, ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RSA 91-A: 3, II (a). THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 6:45 P.M.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC FORUM: THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC FORUM ON THE PROPOSED SCHOOL START TIMES AT PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL IN THE LIBRARY, ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016. THE FORUM WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER
II. ROLL CALL
III. INVOCATION
IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES
   a. OCTOBER 25, REGULAR MEETING
VI. PUBLIC COMMENT
VII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
   a. PHS PRINCIPAL LYONS
VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
   a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
      i. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES, OCTOBER 18, 2016
      ii. BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, NOVEMBER 2016
      iii. FUTURES NEWSLETTER
      iv. DOE NEWS RELEASE
      v. OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP - DENVER, CO
      vi. NESDEC ENROLLMENT REPORT
   b. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT
      i. FINANCIAL REPORT
IX. OLD BUSINESS
   a. SCHOOL START TIMES
b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (2ND READING):
   i. REVENUES FROM LOCAL TAX SOURCES (DEA)
   ii. GIFTS AND DONATIONS (KCD)

X. NEW BUSINESS
   a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (REAFFIRM-SINGLE READING):
      i. SALES AND DISPOSAL OF BOOKS EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES (DN)
   b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (REVISE & REAPPROVE- SINGLE READING):
      i. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND (GBCD)
      ii. TRANSPORTATION/PURPOSES (EEA)
   c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF 2016/2017 TUITION RATES

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES
   a. POLICY

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
   a. STATE OF THE ARTS

XIII. UPCOMING EVENTS
   a. PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CALENDAR MAY BE FOUND ONLINE
      http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/index.htm
      i. PHS PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT- HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL
         NOVEMBER 17-20

XIV. ADJOURNMENT
   • Next meeting: November 29, 2016 at Robert J. Lister Academy
I. **CALL TO ORDER** - School Board Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL** - Chair Leslie Stevens, Ann Walker, Gary Epler, Kristin Jeffrey, Patrick Ellis, Jeff Landry, Nancy Clayburgh, Roseanne Vozella Clark, SAU 50 Representative Ann Mayer, Superintendent Stephen Zadravec, 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. **OCTOBER 11, REGULAR MEETING**
      
      **MOTION:** Motion to accept the public minutes of October 11, 2016 by Ms. Vozella Clark
      
      **SECOND:** Ms. Walker
      
      **DISCUSSION:**
      
      **VOTE:** Unanimously accepted

VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
   a. **SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT** - Director of Pupil Support & Instruction Jeanette Souther gave a PowerPoint presentation focusing on Homeless, ESOL and Special Education. The presentation highlighted the District’s student data (homeless student count - 30, English Speakers Other Languages (ESOL) student count - 88, IEP student count - 421), changes to the McKinney Vento Act, ESOL challenges ahead, ACCESS test, and Special Education areas to monitor, including possibly hiring a Board Certified Behavioral Analyst. Ms. Souther is continuing to build both community connections and parent involvement. Parent involvement includes parent meetings, a parent feedback tool and providing high quality trainings/presentations. There were no particular areas of concerns received from the parent feedback tool, however communication was a theme throughout the feedback tool. Ms. Souther shared information about the innovative program introduced in the Preschool program for students with hearing loss and limited formal sign language training. There are two identified preschool students. However, the whole preschool class is benefitting by receiving exposure to learning a second language. Research has shown that sign language is another language and
strengthens students overall language development. There are many hearing needs, whether they are hearing loss or hearing issues such as central auditory processing disorder.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: The transportation cost varies for homeless students depending on each situation. Last year, the homeless student count was 25 and the transportation cost incurred was approximately $27-29k. The trend is about 6 months plus before permanent housing is obtained for homeless students.
The ACCESS test window is January through March and the test is required for all Special Education students.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
   i. BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, OCTOBER 2016
   ii. CO UPDATE
   iii. AREA REPORT

IX. OLD BUSINESS

a. WORKSHOP: SCHOOL START TIME OPTIONS- Superintendent Zadravec provided an update on the process of the Start Time proposal. There will be two meetings in November. The Board will host a public hearing for the first meeting and at the second meeting the Board will deliberate and vote on the proposal.
Mr. Bartlett has sent Request for Proposals (RFP) for the new bus contracts and hosted an invitational meeting with prospective bus companies. Transportation cost and additional details will be shared at the first November Board meeting.
Forecasting later school start times for the middle school and high school students will be discussed, as well as, the high school schedule. There are some elements of the high school scheduling tasc block that will help mitigate some concerns about changing to a later start time. Superintendent Zadravec provided an update on Oyster River School District (ORSD), which is on a similar timeline and recently hosted a public hearing. There was a 50/50 split in the public feedback. ORSD is looking at moving the middle and high school times, but not moving the elementary times. ORSD own their busses and to help defray the transportation cost, are moving towards multi-level busses.
COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Concern was voiced about providing enough time for the Board to digest the start time options prior to a presentation for the public, as well as, the structure of the public hearing. The start time information will be included in the Board packet to allow time for review. SAU 50 has already added money to their budget in anticipation of the later start times.
   ✮ A Public Hearing will be held on November 15 in the Portsmouth High School Library.

b. CTE UPDATE- Superintendent Zadravec provided 2016-2017 CTE student enrollment numbers, which represent 73% of the student body participating in a CTE course. Essentially, the goal for the CTE Center is to grow and to find ways to create additional pathways to engage more students in CTE Programs. Administrators evaluated the programs and their enrollments to determine what makes the most sense financially to have CTE grow. The Construction Trades Program doesn't have the enrollment numbers for the State to deem a viable two year program.
The recommendation is to close this Program and expand programming with Computer Science, Architecture & Engineering Design and the LNA Training. Administration is exploring ideas to establish viable pathways for students to enter the construction industry. PHS Principal Lyons is presenting at the November 15 Board meeting, with a plan to layout the vision of the pathways and primarily expanding what is already being offered in the Design/Build Program.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: There was discussion of the timeline and the need for more communication regarding the termination of the Construction Trades Program. The public expressed disappointment regarding the termination of the Program. However, the student interest data does not support continuation of the Program. Concerns were shared about maintaining pathways which support the skill set gained in the Program. The barrier will be scheduling, which may prevent a student from attending either Dover or Exeter, should these schools offer a similar Construction Trades Program.

X. NEW BUSINESS
   a. NOVEMBER 8 BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGE
      MOTION: A motion to change the November 8 Board meeting to November 15 by Mr. Ellis
      SECOND: Ms. Walker
      DISCUSSION: The library at PHS is available on Tuesday, November 15
      VOTE: Unanimously accepted
   b. LHS ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT
      MOTION: A motion to approve contract adjustments for Erin Lawson & Stacey Weeks by Mr. Epler
      SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh
      DISCUSSION:
      VOTE: Unanimously accepted

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES
   a. POLICY- Chair Stevens provided an update on the Policy Committee.
   b. JBC- Mr. Bartlett reported the JBC voted to accept the tentative agreement.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
   a. HOLIDAY DINNER- The holiday dinner will be held on Thursday, December 8.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT
      MOTION: Motion to adjourn 8:57 p.m. by Mr. Landry
      SECOND: Mr. Ellis
      DISCUSSION:
      VOTE: Unanimously accepted
Portsmouth High School News

I gave a rather detailed report of the happenings at the high school since the start of school during the AREA meeting in October. I believe you received a copy at your last board meeting. Rather than repeating the updates, I have attached the minutes from that meeting to this report. In addition, the following is a summary of the updates since the October AREA meeting and a look ahead at two specific changes we are looking to implement next year.

Highlighted Updates since October 12th AREA Meeting

Performing Arts

The PHS Clipper Band received a Gold Medal rating and overall 3rd place finish in Division 5 at the New England Regional Scholastic Band Competition held in Medford, Massachusetts, on October 30th. Special recognition goes out to the PHS percussion section for achieving the second highest score across all divisions. Their score was the highest ever received by a PHS percussion section at a NESBA Finals Competition.

“High School Musical” will be performed in our auditorium beginning with the in school student preview assembly on November 17 and public performances Thursday-Sunday. The cast features students from all grade levels, an incredible pit band, and an impressive technical crew. We are excited about showcasing the amazing talents of our students. We hope you can all join us for one of the shows. This year, we’ll have matinees both Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 and the evening performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday night begin at 7:00. Tickets are $10 and may be purchased in the PHS front office or at the door.

College Counseling

We have 70 seniors that have already applied to college and have sent records to 235 colleges so far! Our college counselor held an Early College Planning Workshop on November 9th geared toward freshman and sophomore parents.

Teacher Recognition

Last week, I received a letter from Denison College in recognition of Judy Butler one of our very talented English teachers. Denison asks their first-year students to nominate one teacher who inspired them to push themselves beyond limits they had seen previously as insurmountable, led them into the excitement of learning, and who “in the end will be the standard against which all teachers who follow will be measured”. Gilly Cole, one of Judy’s former students nominated her for this recognition.

Laura LaVallee, also a member of the PHS English Department, will be a workshop presenter at the Educational Theatre Collaboratives 22nd Annual Integrated Arts Conference to be held at Plymouth State University on Friday, January 20, 2017. Laura’s workshop is titled “If I Were A Rich Man” Exploring the Tradition of Creative Writing Through Memoirs.

Spirit Week

Students and staff enjoyed an incredible Spirit Week October 17-21st. The theme this year, *We Are PHS*, focused on school unity. The student council did a tremendous job adding events throughout the week that gave staff and students opportunities to show their school spirit together. Besides the typical theme days, students and staff worked together on a fall cleanup to the student memorials in the front of the school and joined together...
for relays, a free-throw competition, Tug of War, and even a pie throwing competition to raise funds for the class of 2020. In addition, Student Council member Michael Gormley organized a relay run fundraiser for Rosie Correll, PHS Senior, to offset some of the expenses during her recent hospitalization, surgeries, and recuperation. Way to go, Michael! It was a fun week!

**Looking ahead to next year**

**TASC Block**

The scheduling committee continues to meet to work out the details for the implementation of the TASC block. We have and will continue to survey staff to get input on school-based decisions. We have also worked with students to get their input. TASC block was on the agenda at the last Student Council Senate meeting. The students voted unanimously to support the implementation of a TASC block model in next year’s schedule.

In order to implement the additional block and work within the time allotted for our current school day, our draft schedules include borrowed time from passing, lunch and our current 90 minute blocks. Passing time will be reduced from 10 minutes to 7. Lunch will be shortened by 3 minutes and our 90-minute block will change to 81 minutes. In addition, those classes currently scheduled as 45-minute skinny blocks will switch to 81-minute classes on alternating days.

Once the School Board makes the decision on the start time, we will send the proposed schedule drafts to the staff to get their final approval on where to put the TASC block within the schedule.

**Honors Program**

As I already reported in the AREA meeting, there will be a change to our honors program for incoming 9th graders next year. We are eliminating 9th grade honors. Classes will still be leveled and structured much the same as they are now. Students will be placed according to teacher recommendations.

There has been some concern voiced by parents about this change, but the staff is confident we will maintain the level of rigor in our courses.

Questions have been posed as to the rationale and the research behind the committee’s decision. The committee researched the practices of comparable high schools and the potential impact at the college level.

Rationale:

- Freshman Honors currently only exists in science and English.
  - The accelerated math class was listed as honors. Math offerings will remain exactly the same. The accelerated class will be listed as level 4.
- We want students to have a more positive entry point as they transition to the PHS.
- Eliminating honors for grade 9 has no impact on the college admission process.
- Our existing honors classes already have a diverse range of abilities.
- Teachers want to get to know students and personalize from there
- Teachers want to allow opportunities for students to get a better understanding of what honors level work is so they can choose better in the future

Discussions continue as teachers explore ways (including the use of the TASC block and summer opportunities offered through Clipper Academy) to allow for additional instructional challenges. The committee will continue to meet to streamline the process for selection of sophomores-seniors and determine best ways to communicate the expectations to staff, students and the community.
AREA School Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 12, 2016
5:00 – 6:00 PM
Conference Room
Portsmouth High School

Agenda

I. Call to Order : 5:01 PM

Members present: Steve Zadra vec, Sandy Teague, Deirdre Link Kate Hillman, Sal Petralia, Teegan von Burn, Anne Mayer, Tom Southworth, Peter Smith, Anne Pinciaro, Randall Lynch, Leslie Stevens, Mary Lyons, Andrea Papoutsy, Kelli Killen

II. Approval of Minutes from May 11, 2016 meeting

Minutes approved from 5/11/16

III. Principal’s Report

Report on Enrollment
Grade 9 – 274
Grade 10 – 289
Grade 11 – 260
Grade 12 – 245
Total Active Enrollment as of today 1068

SAT Data
Class of 2016
210 students took the SAT with Portsmouth students scoring above the national and state average. 29% of our students scored in the top quartile range for reading, 26% in the top range for math and 23% for writing. In addition, our students scored at or above the state and national average in everything.
SAT State Test – March 2, 2016
PHS tested 234 of our then juniors during the school day. 77% of our students met the benchmark* in English Reading/Writing, 10% above the state average
47% of our students met the benchmark* in Math, 6% above the state average

*Benchmark is defined as being able to achieve a C or better in a credit bearing college level course

Portsmouth High School Testing Initiative- For the 2016-2017 school year, Portsmouth High School will be participating in a School-Wide Assessment Day on Wednesday, April 5, 2017. Eleventh graders will take the SAT, 10th graders will take the PSAT 10, and 9th graders will take the PSAT 8/9. More information will be forthcoming about the structure of the day, as well as activities for seniors as they will not be participating in testing.

National Merit Commended Students
Sarah Bell, Grace Getman, Timothy Kammerer (who graduated after junior year)

NHS
We are inducting 80 members to the National Honors Society after this meeting. It is a beautiful ceremony, run by students and full of tradition.

Updates from our Career Technology Center
We are planning to expand our Computer Science Pathway next year to create a two-year program. Currently we are offering four Great Bay Community College courses as part of the pathways which total 12 college credits.
In partnership with the Edgewood Centre, we are offering an LNA certification course second semester. This is our first step at exploring a Health Science program.
Architecture & Engineering Design will be expanding the program through the use of a maker’s space. This will allow architecture and engineering students to collaboratively design-build-test-redesign-produce a physical project.
Education & Teacher Training has increased its college credits from Southern New Hampshire University to students completing the two-year program to 13 credits.
There was a lengthy discussion at last night’s board meeting about closing the Construction Trades Program. Diane Canada did a great job explaining the 10 year history of low enrollment. We are all, including the board, committed to a vibrant CTE center that continues find pathways for kids to college and careers in areas that meet their interest levels. Speaking of CTE.

Portsmouth High School Monthly News Show
PPMtV Video Production will add a monthly news show to its docket. Clipper News Report will continue to incorporate morning announcements in their weekly bi-weekly broadcasts but once a month will produce a monthly newsletter/magazine style format program for air over PPMtv and use on the school’s website. This format will include
more in-depth story telling of upcoming events, clubs, school news, athletics, performing art and other activities that are being planned. The goal is for the longer format program to air by the last Friday of each month.

**Fall Sports are well underway**
Almost 400 students are participating in fall sports
Varsity Football is 4-1, with a HUGE win at Exeter!
Girls Varsity volleyball- 4-9
Boys Varsity Soccer 4-6-2
Girls Varsity Soccer 9-3
Girls Varsity Field Hockey 10-2
Boys Varsity Golf - Golf came in runner up in the state championship! First plaque in 54 Years!!
Varsity Cross Country –Division 2 championship is October 29 & New England meet is November 12
State tournaments for all other sports begin in a couple of weeks
All sub varsity teams are doing well

**Other Fall Updates in Performing Arts**
**Fall Musical** – “High School Musical” in school student preview assembly on November 17. Performances Thursday-Sunday
**Band competitions** – The PHS Clipper Marching Band traveled to Wakefield, MA on Saturday evening to participate in their first New England Scholastic Band Association competition of the season. They received an overall Silver Medal rating, finishing in 3rd Place in their division.
**The PHS Concert Choir** hosted members from the professional chamber choir Lyricora for an educational workshop on September 24. They will travel to Spaulding High School on October 25 to participate in the annual Seacoast Choral Festival, where they will perform three selections alone, prior to combining with six other area high school choirs for two pieces as a combined festival chorus.
**NEASC Special Progress Report was submitted**- Representatives from math, science, social studies, English and administration formed a steering committee that met weekly during the month of September to facilitate the work needed to complete the special progress report due October 1.
That Steering Committee is now being expanded to include all departments. The steering committee will begin meeting monthly in anticipation for the 5-year report due in two years.

**Our Scheduling Committee** continues to meet. We’ve come up with a tentative schedule that would allow for a TASC block every day. This is an academic block when all students and staff are available. It is modeled after Con Val’s program which has been successfully adopted by over 60 schools in NH. Committee members attended a webinar last week showcasing the Enriching Students software created specifically to manage the logistics of scheduling students each week. We hope to have the whole staff participate in
a training on November 7 and we are inviting Brian Pickering back that day for another Q & A session.

**Student Mentor Program** – Is still running strong this year. They were phenomenal as always with freshman orientation and have helped with the open houses.

**Japanese Visitors** The principal of Nichinan Gakuen Jr./Sr. High School, three staff members and 21 students visited Portsmouth High School this past week. They arrived Wednesday evening around 8:00 pm greeted by excited host families and a number of well-wishers, like Superintendent Zdravec and Assistant Superintendent, George Shea. The students spent Thursday at the high school starting with an absolutely remarkable assembly coordinated by our performing arts team. The concert choir and band gave beautiful performances including a surprise by the band that played the Japanese National Anthem. Our visitors reciprocated with a beautiful traditional Japanese Dance performed by one student dressed in a traditional kimono, and a karate demonstration and songs performed by all of our guests. Former Mayor Bob Lister was also on hand. Many classrooms participated in the assembly and all agreed, it was wonderful.

Many thanks to Laura LaVallee and Kyle Harrison, our Japanese Club advisors, for all their efforts in coordinating this visit. Laura worked endlessly to secure host families, coordinate events and make sure everything went smoothly. As I said during the assembly, this is a huge event for the Japanese. There isn’t a middle or high school student in Japan who doesn’t know Portsmouth, New Hampshire. We are an important part of their history and our sister city and sister school relationship is one we want to continue to honor.

**Early Release and In Service**: Andrew Korman coordinated two after school sessions with teacher volunteers to look at school-wide data and come up with a list of 10 suggested school-wide learning projects. Teachers could then either choose to work as a cross-curriculum team on one of those learning projects or continue to work on SMART goals specific to their department and content areas. In order to find time within their contracted day for these cross-curriculum teams to meet, staff meeting time and Early Release Days have been designated specifically for PLC work.

Lots of good work was happening during our October 7 professional development day. Some PLC teams requested additional time during that day to continue their PLC work. In addition, there was a training in Google Classroom and 504s. Department meetings were also scheduled during and some teachers attended the NEA conference on that day.

**Guidance Updates**

**October is National Bully Prevention Month.** The theme of Spirit Week is around school unity so it fits nicely with the Unity Theme for Bully Prevention. Peer Leadership will be distributing Orange bands to all staff and students on Monday so they can wear them all week. We also have Dr. Hilson scheduled to speak during morning
announcements on Wednesday, which is actually “Unity Day”. His message will be one of hope and support demonstrating that we are united against bullying and united for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

Guidance is also continuing to recognized good citizenship with our Clipper Pride initiative. The premise of this award is to recognize students when we see them acting as responsible citizens. Each student receives a ‘clipper’ candy bar and their names and good deeds are written on gold tickets and displayed on a bulletin board outside the library. Those gold tickets are entered in a raffle at the end of the month. Look at our new “We Set Sail Display” honoring our seniors— it’s beautiful!

Our College Counselor has been busy
Jumpstart College was held in August. This 3 hour workshop was designed to help seniors get a jump start on their college application process. 88 students attended

Five after school work sessions have been scheduled for students to get help on college applications
Wednesdays, Sept 7, 21, Oct 5, 26 2:30pm-4:00pm College Center

Senior College Night was also held prior to the September Open House to educate seniors and their family about the college admission process.

College-Athlete Presentation
Tuesday, November 22, 2016 10:00am Little Theater
This session provides an overview of athlete-specific admissions information. Including: levels of competition, the athletic resume, choosing a campus, meeting with coaches and registering with the NCAA Clearinghouse.

Early College Planning Night on Wednesday, November 9, 2016 6:00pm Little Theater is geared towards 9th and 10th grade parents who want to get a jumpstart on understanding the college process.

Due to the changes in financial aid, we hosted a Financial Aid Night on Thursday, October 6, 2016

A representative from NHHEAF will be in the school counseling office to help students and/or families file their FAFSA on Thursday January 14. Details about setting up an appointment will be available in mid to late December.

Junior College Night is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:00pm Cafeteria This evening session is intended to educate juniors and their family about the college admission process.

Other October happenings
We also celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness in October. The staff is wearing pink in support on Class Color Day during Spirit Week. In addition we are bringing back Bubble
Soccer on November 4. All proceeds from this fund raiser will go to breast cancer research. It was a huge success and a blast last year. We look forward to another good turn-out.

We held Freshman Elections for student council the first week of October, so we have student council representatives at every grade level. Student Council meets weekly by grade level. In addition, the student council senate, which is made up of all students elected to student council, meets all together 3-4 times per year. The purpose of the student council senate is to empower students to have a voice in the governance of the school. The meetings are run by the officers using Roberts Rules. Agenda items are initiated by students to address and concerns raised by their constituents. A good example is the parking issue that was raised last year by students. An ad hoc parking committee was established and new procedures were put in place.

Open Houses - We had our fall open house on September 15.
The students attended the activities fair that day.
With the exception of Karate, all of our clubs and activities are well underway. Tom Pray, owner of Shotokan Karate in Hampton, has volunteered to oversee a new karate club at the high school on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. We thought this would be a great opportunity, particularly for those students who may not be involved with an organized sport. He’s had some challenges getting kids to sign up but was in the foyer today to talk to kids about this opportunity so we’ll see.

Coming up we have the 8th grade Open house the Thursday of Spirit Week (should be interesting!) October 20, 2015. A reminder letter went home this week. It also included preliminary information about Step-Up Day. We replaced student shadow days with Step-Up Days and this was well-received last year. It was great to allow all potential students the chance to come to the high school, experience an academic class and see life at PHS when school is in session, including lunch.

Questions/concerns raised about getting information to Rye and Greenland 8th Grade in a more timely and frequent fashion. Open House at PHS on 10/20 could have been advertised earlier.

Suggestion about making a calendar of events for 8th graders earlier in the year. Putting all events on one calendar.

Mary will be talking to parents during the 8th grade Open House about a change in freshman honors.

An Honors Process Committee has been established.
The goals of the committee are:
To continue to have high expectations and academic demand
To establish a consistent process across curriculums that does not limit student choice.
Freshman honors has been an ongoing challenge.
• Transitioning students to PHS. Want to have a more positive entry point.
• Existing Honors classes already have a diverse range of abilities
• Teachers confident they can reach all levels of freshman regardless of placement
• Teachers want to get to know the students and personalize from there

For these reasons we will be eliminating freshman honors

The committee is also committed to
• Streamlining the upper-classman honors process for selection
• and making sure there are good resources available to parents and students about whether or not honors is a good fit.
• We are looking to finding ways for students to be able to take a broader spectrum of classes. We are committed to making sure the message is the same from all departments.

Questions about the difference between Honors and Level 4 in Freshman Science and English. Due to increasingly diverse classes, the courses are Honors in name only at this point. Suggestion to give out information about Honors changes prior to 8th grade Open House.

Spirit Week – Was rescheduled to week of 10/17. Students from Student Council requested a week later in the year to give them more time to organize and make it truly special. The theme is “We are PHS”
There is a hashtag so social media can capture Clipper Pride and some of the events. The week starts off with Class color day on Monday. Clash day, Tuesday, Pajama Day, Wednesday, Twin day Thursday and School Colors Day on Friday. There are several fundraising events that week including the ice cream social put on by the freshman class after school on Monday, the Clipper Buffet put on by the junior class. This year they are doing it tailgate style, Friday night 5:30-6:30 before the football game. Then the senior class will sponsor the Spirit Week dance. The hours have been adjusted a bit so students can go to the football game and still enjoy time at the dance.
Some adult events have been added to the week. On Tuesday staff will have the opportunity to garden together to tidy up the student memorials in the front of the school. PHS staff are putting on a lunch for support staff on the Wednesday of Spirit week and staff and students will participate in relays, a free throw competition and a pie throwing competition that all culminates during the pep rally on that Friday afternoon. It should be fun!

Apple Crunch Day: 2PM on October 24. In honor of Food Day, millions of people across the country will crunch into an apple in a unifying action to raise awareness about eating better diets for our health and the environment. The Apple Crunch originated in NYC in 2012. In 2013, they set a world record with a million people participating.

PAC -- The Parent Advisory Council was set up to promote open communication between PHS administration and parents/guardians in an effort to support students and staff. They typically meet the
Second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 in the principal’s conference room, but this year they are alternating with some evening meetings in hopes for more people to participate. They met yesterday and their next meeting is November 15 @ 6:30.

**Other**

Discussion of plan for elimination of construction trade programs in PHS CTE. Two year program no longer viable due to low enrollments. Administration is working on a plan to maintain some of the key competencies and experiences from the 2 year program.

Questions about parking issues and students violating parking protocol. Students have formed an action committee to deal with parking violations.

IV. Next Meeting- May 10, 2017

V. Adjournment. 5:57 PM
DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2016

TO: PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: POLICY COMMITTEE

RE: OCTOBER 18, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

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

Others Present: Paulette Rouse and Steve Bartlett

Non-Policies Item Considered:

Election Day

Leslie requested that the School Department put out a general communication to parents reminding them that schools will be closed on November 8, 2016 due to the election. Additionally, given a recent AG advisory stating voters cannot be prevented from voting due to the open carry of weapons, schools will probably be closed in the future for all elections. Steve is going to follow-up with John Bohenko about alternative voting sites other than schools that can be used for voting. Security had been increased during the recent primary and voting went smoothly without incident.

Minutes of Policy Committee Meeting

Leslie said that it would be helpful if the minutes were included in the same packet as policies that are going to be considered by the School Board. Often the minutes are included in the packet at a separate meeting. Paulette said that she would make this change as well as giving Leslie the minutes separately for use at the meetings as she is the one who reports on the policy committee items.

Policies Considered:

Transportation/Purposes (EEA)

Steve Bartlett explained that the state law requires that students be bussed in grades 1-8 if they live farther than 2 miles from school. Districts may elect to transport kindergarten and high school students. He further reported that students can be required to walk one mile to a school bus stop.
In practice, Portsmouth offers bus transportation to all students K-12. Stops for Kindergarten students are close to their homes. Bus stops are generally within a half a mile radius of students assigned to a stop. Stops are dictated by student safety. For instance, by New Franklin School there are closer and more frequent stops. Lack of adequate sidewalks is another factor in designing routes.

He reported that the RFP for bus service is currently out and due back by November 3, 2016. We currently contract for 13 busses and 4 busses to transport students with special needs, home schoolers, Lister Academy and preschoolers.

The Committee then reviewed the policy and recommended inclusion of the statutory reference to RSA 189:6 and to add a sentence regarding conduct on busses. Steve Zadravec reported that students who take the bus do sign a separate document concerning proper bus conduct.

Recommended that language be added regarding the application of School Board policies for those being transported.

Outside Funding (DO)

Leslie reported that, when this policy was considered for deletion at the last school Board meeting, Board member Patrick Ellis wasn’t sure that the contents were adequately covered by the proposed adoption of the new Revenues from Local Tax Resources (DEA). The last line of that policy authorizes the Board to accept revenues on a case by case basis. This language is in addition to the policy’s authorization to accept State and Federal Funds (i.e. outside funding). This would seem to address the contents of the Outside Funding (DO) policy, but if the School Board would want to make the language more clear in DEA it could be amended.

Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies (DN)

The Committee discussed the contents of this policy that categorizes the value of property for disposal by value. The Superintendent is authorized by this policy to dispose of property less than $500 by sale. Property valued in excess of $500 requires notice to the Board prior to disposal by sale. Property considered to have no value can be disposed of by the Superintendent in any manner convenient and appropriate. Steve indicated that property in this category is often donated rather than thrown away.

The Committee recommended that the School Board reaffirm this policy without any changes.

Background Investigation and Criminal History Records Check (GBCD)

The Committee did not recommend any changes to this policy. As was discussed last month, the Committee felt that following the state law regarding criminal convictions, along with notice on employment applications that failure to disclose any criminal
conviction would be cause for dismissal, was sufficient. This language was added to the policy.

This policy will be recommended to be revised and reapproved by the Board.

**Recommended Board Actions:**

**Reaffirm:** (No changes recommended to the policy) (Single reading)

Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies (DN)

**Revise and Reapprove:** (Single reading)

Background Investigation and Criminal History Records Check (GBCD)
Transportation/Purpose(s) (EEA)

**Policies Recommended for Deletion:** (Single action)

Outside Funding (DO)

**Policies for Review at Next Meeting:**

First Aid and Emergency Medical Care (EBBC)
Public Complaint about School Personnel, Employees, Students or Administration (KEB)
Public Complaints (KE)

**Next meeting:** Thursday, November 17, 2016 9:00 a.m. Central Office
Rumors have no place in the superintendent’s evaluation

Washington state school board consultant Bob Hughes would like to change the paradigm on one key issue with superintendent evaluation: communicating board concerns directly to the superintendent when trustees have heard a rumor.

Many successful people who run organizations may have difficult-to-work-for personalities, Hughes said, which can ruffle feathers and lead to sniping and backbiting.

“When I worked at Boeing, I evaluated plenty of professionals,” Hughes said. “They all liked to hear firsthand about any problems with their performance.”

The same principle should apply to trustee’s negative comments about the superintendent’s performance, as well as scuttlebutt that board members may hear about how she interacts with others, Hughes said. “If you can’t say what you are hearing in front of other board members, don’t say it,” he said. “If the superintendent is not there to hear the board members’ comments on her performance, they are rumors.”

Sharpen up your board meetings

Long meetings are the bane of school boards. They crush enthusiasm, drain energy, and create boredom.

That’s why a board and its president need to learn ways to manage discussion and move school business along efficiently. Here are some tips:

1. Keep the discussion flowing. If Jim gets stuck on a topic, the president can say “Thanks, Jim. We know where you stand. I’d like to hear from Cindy now.”

2. Be aware of the non-verbal indicators of boredom. When the president notices them, it’s time to move the issue under discussion along.

3. If consensus comes early, it’s time for the vote.

4. Post-meeting debriefings can prevent future problems. When you have a dominant-personality board member or even one with great passion for board service, she can monopolize meetings. The president can meet with this individual after the meeting, thank her for her input, and ask for her assistance in keeping meetings to a reasonable length.

5. Consider a timed agenda. Persistent problems in the area of meeting length are an issue that cries out for resolution. By estimating time lengths for each agenda item, the board puts itself on notice that time must be used productively. Ask your superintendent and board president to work out times allotted to each agenda item when they create the agenda. This time-monitoring tool will also give the president the ammunition she needs to end discussion and call for a vote.
‘Wander around in the weeds’ and expect some pushback from the superintendent

When a board member tries to do the staff’s job, he is telling the superintendent: “I don’t trust you.”

This mindset will always damage the working relationship a board member has with the administrator.

This is why it is vital that board members respect the principle of board oversight. In a nutshell, this means the full board is the only entity that can issue directives to the superintendent, not an individual trustee.

If the individual board member doesn’t have the votes on an issue, he doesn’t have the authority to take an end-run around the full board to the superintendent so that he can get his way.

Trying to interfere in such a way is classic micromanagement. Think of it like this: When you as a board member have agreed not to do something and then you step in and do it anyway after the board and superintendent have discussed roles, you are heading into the weeds.

---

Retreat activity: Board team writes a member job description

Too many board members come to school board service with very little understanding of the requirements of the job. This leads to questions: Do I hire teachers? Do board members give instructional advice to teachers? Do I approve spending decisions?

An effective way to clarify the board’s job (and the responsibilities of the individual school board member) is to write a job description for the board.

This way, the board can define, for itself and all future school board members, exactly what the board should be doing.

As a full-board activity in a retreat setting with your superintendent, try to write a school board job description for your own board. Alternatively, the board might ask a committee to come up with a draft job description for board review.

Set down your board’s responsibilities under these categories:

- Legal.
- Duties.
- Roles.
- Time commitments (meetings, committee service, district event attendance, continuing education requirements).

The board does itself and the community a great service when it gives thought to these issues, because it not only commits itself to operating effectively but creates a tool that will assist future board members in mastering the position when they are elected for the first time.

---

8 rules for avoiding board meeting conflict

1. Be informed. It’s the only way to argue your views professionally.
2. Don’t give rumors the same weight as facts and data.
3. Don’t try to do the staff’s job.
5. Listen; seek first to understand.
6. Use a recess to calm tempers and soothe frayed nerves.
7. Stay on topic. The agenda has been prepared with board members' time in mind.
8. Mind your manners. Board members who monopolize the meeting can sap the board’s energy. The chair should ensure all board member views are heard.
Futures Seniors Welcome Futures Freshmen

September 29th, six Futures seniors welcomed our newest six Futures freshmen to Portsmouth High School. Our gracious and welcoming seniors interviewed the freshmen prior to the evening ceremony and then introduced them to our community. I’d like to thank Mariah Davis, Paul Fitzgerald, Hannah Jean, Dylan King, Maddy Quellet, and Christian Peete for making PHS an even friendlier place by taking an interest in each freshman student.

Welcomed into the fold: Niolla Broekbrouh, Ethan Cherry, Jessica Drew, Lizzie Hart, Soraida Lopez, and Ian dos Reis.

I’m looking forward to working with all of my new and returning students. Here’s looking at a new, great year with Futures and PHS!

-Amy Brnger, Coordinator
Futures Alumni Profile: Mark Pearl, Interviewed by Futures Senior Paul Fitzgerald

“Networking and making friends at the college level is a huge help, not only while you are in school but they can also play a part in your career after school. I still communicate with my friends from UNH on a regular basis and we all have given each other advice and in some cases helped each other to get jobs.”

Mark Pearl, Futures Alumnus.

Futures Senior, Paul Fitzgerald, recently interviewed former Futures graduate, Mark Pearl.

Paul: When did you begin the Futures program?
Mark: I believe I was accepted into the Futures program in the spring of '95 when I was in 8th grade.

Paul: When did you graduate from high school?
Mark: I graduated from Portsmouth High School in 1999.

Paul: Where did you attend college?
Mark: I attended University of New Hampshire for two years and I have been taking classes at Southern New Hampshire University (S.N.H.U.) for the past 3 years as my schedule allows.

Paul: What did you study?
Mark: At UNH I was undeclared, but I focused on Computer Science courses. At S.N.H.U I am majoring in Business Administration.

Paul: What do you do for work now?
Mark: I currently work for Lightower Fiber Networks in a sales role. I sell dedicated Internet access, dark fiber, wave-lengths, Ethernet and colocation to large companies across the United States. I have been with Lightower for the past two-and-a-half years. Prior to Lightower, for six years I worked for Comcast Business Services selling internet and voice services to small and medium businesses.

Paul: How did Futures help you with the college search process?
Mark: Futures was a great resource, helping me identify what schools would be a good fit for me without having to make a decision based on what I could afford. Sally Vaughn was always there to help me with any questions I had about the application process. She also spent a lot of time with me searching for scholarships that I qualified for and reminding me of all the different deadlines for each of the applications that needed to be submitted.

Paul: Do you have any advice for Futures students, both in high school and in college?
Mark: My advice would be to stay focused and work hard. Make sure you stay in touch with Amy on a regular basis to discuss your goals and anything you may need help with as you start applying to schools. Futures is such a great opportunity for you in advancing your education and it is extremely important that you make the most of it. I would also recommend attending social events and joining some clubs at school. Networking and making friends at the college level is a huge help, not only while you are in school but they can also play a part in your career after school. I still communicate with my friends from UNH on a regular basis and we all have given each other advice and in some cases helped each other to get jobs.

Paul: Did you like UNH as a school?
Mark: I loved going to school at UNH. Two of my older brothers also attended UNH as well as many of my friends and I don’t recall any one of them disliking their experience there. I recommend taking a tour of the campus in the fall, or reach out to a PHS graduate who is attending to see the dorms and maybe sit in on a class.

By Paul Fitzgerald

Paul Fitzgerald ’17 is a PHS senior and is interested in studying life sciences and medicine when he goes to college. Currently, Paul is involved with FCCIA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) and Spanish Club. Someday, Paul hopes to travel abroad to a Spanish-speaking country.
Schedule of Upcoming Meetings and Activities

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, October 15th</td>
<td>PSATs, juniors. Report to PHS by 7:40. Two pencils, calculator, snack and drink.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 20th</td>
<td>Sophomore Futures Meeting, 10:40</td>
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<td>Thursday, October 27th</td>
<td>Freshman Futures Meeting, 10:40</td>
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<td>November 3rd</td>
<td>December SAT Registration Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 4th</td>
<td>Seniors, Discover UNH Field Trip, 8:30-1:30</td>
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<td>Saturday, November 5th</td>
<td>SATs (Dover, Exeter)</td>
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<td>Monday, November 7th</td>
<td>Seniors Futures Meeting, 10:40</td>
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<td>Wednesday, November 9th</td>
<td>Early College Planning Night (9th and 10th grade) 6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, November 14th</td>
<td>I Am College Bound College Application Day at PHS (apply to one school for free!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 15th</td>
<td>Juniors Futures Meeting, 10:40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 15th</td>
<td>UNH Early Action Admission Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, November 21st</td>
<td>Sophomores Futures Meeting, 10:40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 22nd</td>
<td>College Athlete Presentation, 10:40, Little Theater</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, November 28th</td>
<td>Freshman Futures Meeting, 10:40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 30th</td>
<td>Early College Search, 10:40, Little Theater/Juniors</td>
</tr>
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Juniors: SAT/ACT Preparation

Juniors took the PSAT on October 15th. When results come out, juniors will receive a code that can be entered at Khan Academy, via collegeboard.org. This code will enable students to receive targeted (and free!) test preparation based on your PSAT results.

Regardless of which test you prefer, here are a few study tips prior to taking the SAT in April 2017 and other tests in the future:

- Study a few vocabulary words every day. Don’t cram right before the test; it doesn’t work!
- Review math problems, a few at a time. Again, don’t cram! Prepping a little bit at a time beats a single, long test prep.
- Consider attending a test preparation session. See me for suggestions.
Futures News

Futures' Mission is to provide mentoring, encouragement and financial assistance to selected students who show the ability, desire and motivation to attend college, but lack the necessary resources.

For information or questions about Futures, contact:
Amy Brnger, coordinator
abrnger@portsmouth.k12.nh.us
436-7100 x 2924

**Do you know of an alumni who might like to reconnect with Futures? Please pass this newsletter on and let them know we would love to hear what they are doing.

Futures Seniors Attend Discover UNH Day

Futures seniors Paul Fitzgerald, Emily Jaime, Mariah Davis, and Dylan King attended the annual fall Discover UNH day on Friday, November 4th. Seniors attended workshops devoted to reviewing the college application process, the Common Application, took a student tour, and listened to student-led discussions about life as a college student and at UNH.

Our seniors chose to stay late (everyone else left for the day!) and asked UNH students all kinds of questions about majors, life at UNH, making the transition from high school to college, and how to access support when in need. They were very engaged and, I'm sure, left a positive impression of Portsmouth High School students. It was a great day and I was proud to be with them!
New Hampshire Students score at the top on the National Assessment of Educational Progress Science Assessment

As with the release of Grades 4 and 8 Mathematics and Reading results for the 2015 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), often referred to as “the Nation's Report Card,” administered in the winter of 2015, New Hampshire students demonstrated their proficiency in the subject of Science. Along with Virginia, Vermont and Department of Defense students, New Hampshire grade 4 students, on average, continue to have the highest performance compared to grade 4 students in all other states and jurisdictions throughout the nation on the NAEP Science assessment. For grade 8, New Hampshire students shared the top spot with Utah, Vermont and Department of Defense students. "I am encouraged by the impressive results of the 2015 National Assessment of Educational Progress and proud to see Granite State students, particularly those who experience disabilities, leading the nation in the important subject of science," Governor Maggie Hassan commented. "These results remind us that in order to ensure that our young people are prepared to compete for jobs in the 21st century innovation economy, we must continue working together to equip them with the necessary skills and innovative thinking for such jobs, including modernizing education in the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and math."

New Hampshire students saw Average Scale Score and At-or-Above Proficient improve in 2015 compared to the previous NAEP assessments in 2011 and 2009. For grade 4, there was a scale score increase of two points from 163 to 165 and a four-percent increase in the percentage of New Hampshire students reaching an achievement level of at-or-above proficient compared to the 2009 NAEP Science assessment. For grade 8, New Hampshire students saw a significant average scale score increase in Science, improving from 162 in 2011 to 165 in 2015, with a four percentage point increase in students
achieving at-or-above proficient. The achievement of New Hampshire students with a disability was also commendable. For grade 4, New Hampshire students with a disability shared the highest proficiency achievement with Massachusetts, Kentucky and Department of Defense students while grade 8 New Hampshire students with a disability had higher achievement than all participating states throughout the nation. “These assessment results are further affirmation that New Hampshire schools, our students, our parents and especially our teachers are dedicated to the excellence in education we continue to promote,” New Hampshire Commissioner of Education Virginia Barry added. “Most notable is the success demonstrated by our students with a disability. Having the highest level of proficiency of all states is evidence of our state’s dedication to all children.” For complete NAEP 2015 Science sub-group results and trend analysis, visit the NH Department of Education NAEP webpage: www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/naep/index.htm.

The National Assessment of Educational Progress is conducted at both the state and the national level. For both grades, 4 and 8, the Scale Scores were set ranging from 0 to 300. With respect to achievement levels for the assessment, the Proficient level represents solid academic performance with a demonstration of competency of challenging subject matter. For the NAEP 2015 Science assessment, nearly 111,000 grade 4 students and 107,000 grade 8 students were assessed nationwide. In New Hampshire, approximately 2,200 grade 4 students and 2,300 grade 8 students were assessed. The New Hampshire students selected from both grades resembled the actual demographics of the entire New Hampshire student population for both grades.

For questions regarding New Hampshire’s NAEP 2015 Science results, contact Tim Eccleston, New Hampshire’s NAEP Program Administrator at (603) 271-2298 or Timothy.Eccleston@doe.nh.gov. Additional NAEP information can be found at the Nation’s Report Card website, http://www.nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard.
Portsmouth School Department
Out of State/Overnight Student Trip Checklist

Destination: Denver, CO
Dates of travel: 11-4 - 11-6 - 11-9
Sponsor Group: FCCLA
Lead Advisor/Chaperone: Carla Frank
Date submitted: 10/25/16
Date of meeting with Superintendent of Schools
List of other chaperones
List of students, home phone numbers, parents names attached: Yes
Number of Students: 3
Staff to Student Ratio: 1:3
Principal Approval Date

Supt. Approval Date: 10/27/16
Insurance
On File?
Do all Students Have Passports?
Fundraisers students have participated in
Method of travel to Destination: airplane/shuttles
Are Home stays involved in this trip? If yes, describe: No
Names of chaperones with first Aid/CPR Training: Carla Frank

Is there a Phone Tree established with parents? Yes Yes No
(If yes, a copy should be attached)
Cost for each student to participate: $500.00
Educational Goals for trip: Leadership, networking, organizational skills, team building skills
Date of parent meeting and location held prior to departure: 10/31 am 11:7
Has this trip been taken before by this group? Yes Yes No
different location
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

✓ Itinerary
✓ Phone Tree
✓ Student Permission Slips

(ser-vic-e (will give Dane copies)

___Student Medical Forms- (Knowledge of seizures, food allergies, asthma etc.) ___Educational Goal(s)

___Student Emergency Medical Cards

___Plan for Presentation to the School Board (attach outline)

If issues arise during your trip, please contact your building principal as soon as possible.

In the event of an emergency, you must contact your building principal and Superintendent McDonough immediately. Mr. McDonough can be reached at 603-988-5121.

You may be invited to appear before the School Board upon return on a quarterly basis to provide a brief presentation of your trip.

ALN 2009

[Signature]
### Historical Enrollment By Grade

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### Historical Percentage Changes

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# Portsmouth, NH - SAU #52 Projected Enrollment

## Enrollment Projections By Grade*

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</table>

*Projections should be updated on an annual basis in order to reflect changes in births, real estate sales, in-migration of families, and housing construction. Based on estimate of births Based on children already born Based on students already enrolled

## Projected Enrollment in Grade Combinations*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>PK-5</th>
<th>K-5</th>
<th>K-6</th>
<th>K-7</th>
<th>S-8</th>
<th>S-9</th>
<th>S-10</th>
<th>S-11</th>
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<td>1144</td>
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<td>509</td>
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## Projected Percentage Changes

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<th>Diff.</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
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</tr>
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<td>-1.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2024-25</td>
<td>2533</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>2025-26</td>
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<td>2026-27</td>
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Change: -48 -1.9%
Portsmouth, NH - SAU #52 Additional Data

Building Permits Issued

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Single-Family</th>
<th>Multi-Units</th>
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<tr>
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<td>36</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>9 to Aug 31</td>
<td>2 to Aug 31</td>
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Source: HUD and Building Department

Enrollment History

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<th>Non-Public K-12 Total</th>
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<td>2005-06</td>
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<td>2012-13</td>
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Residents in Non-Public Independent and Parochial Schools (General Education)

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<th>Enrollments as of Oct. 1</th>
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<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
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<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
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<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>136</td>
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K-12 Home-Schooled Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>59</td>
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K-12 Residents "Choiced-out" or In Charter or Magnet Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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</table>

K-12 Special Education Outplaced Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>13</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

K-12 Choiced-In, Tuitioned-In, & Other Non-Residents

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2</td>
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The above data were used to assist in the preparation of the enrollment projections. If additional demographic work is needed, please contact our office.
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Revenues from Local Tax Sources

The major share of all financial support for the Portsmouth School Department is raised by the municipality taxing property. Most of the financial support of public education in Portsmouth, therefore, is subject to appropriation by vote of the Portsmouth City Council.

It is the responsibility of the Board to explain the objectives and needs of the schools to appropriate community bodies that have a role in school budget adoption by the Portsmouth City Council.

The Board may:

Accept available state funds to which the School Department is entitled by law or through rules of the State Board of Education, and

Accept federal funds which are available providing there is a specific need for them and that matching funds required are available.

The Board may accept revenues on a case-by-case basis consistent with the goals, policies and programs of the School Department.

Legal References:
RSA 198:20-b, Appropriation for Unanticipated Funds Made Available During
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Grants, Gifts, and Bequests

The Board may accept on behalf of and for the School Department any bequest or gift or donation of money or property for a purpose deemed by the Board to be suitable, and to utilize such money or property so designated.

The superintendent of schools shall determine criteria for the acceptance of gifts, and the procedure for examining and evaluating offers of gifts to the district.

Individuals or groups contemplating presenting a gift or donation to the School Department shall be encouraged to discuss it in advance with the Building Principal or the Superintendent of Schools to determine that the gift or donation is appropriate and needed. Final acceptance of gifts or donations shall be by the School Board.

Any gift or donation shall become the property of the School Department and may not be returned without the approval of the School Board and shall be subject to the same controls and regulations as is other property of the School Department.

The School Board will make every effort to honor the intent of the donor in its use of the gift or donation, but reserves the right to utilize any gift or donation it accepts in the best interest of the educational program of the School Department. In no case shall the acceptance of a gift or donation be considered to be an endorsement by the Board of a commercial product or business enterprise or institution of learning.
Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies

The superintendent shall be authorized to dispose of obsolete books, equipment and supplies with residual value by offering their sale consistent with the City Policy and ordinance on disposal of assets. If it is determined there is no value, the superintendent may dispose of books, equipment and supplies as in any manner convenient and appropriate, including by donation.

A. Property Valued at less than $500

The superintendent shall conduct a sale of any books, equipment, and supplies valued at less than $500 and no longer required by the schools.

B. Property Valued at $500 or more

The superintendent shall notify the Board of any books, equipment, and supplies valued at $500 or more prior to sale.

Legal References: CFR 34, Sec. 80.32

Approved by Portsmouth School Board: September 13, 2001
Background Investigation and Criminal History Records Check

Background Investigation:
The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall conduct a thorough investigation into the past employment history, and other applicable background, of any person considered for employment with the Portsmouth School Department. The background check shall be completed prior to making an offer of employment.

As part of the application process, each applicant for a position shall be asked whether he/she has ever been convicted of a crime that has not been annulled, and whether there are any criminal charges pending against him/her at the time of the application including driving under the influence. The falsification or omission of any information on a job application or in a job interview, including, but not limited to, information concerning criminal convictions or pending criminal charges, shall be grounds for disqualification for consideration for employment or immediate discharge from employment.

Criminal Records Check:
Each person considered for employment by the Portsmouth School Department must undergo a criminal records check, as described in RSA 189:13-a, prior to any final offer of employment. The Superintendent is responsible for establishing all necessary internal procedures relative to the initiation and completion of the State and FBI Criminal Records Check. All fees and costs associated with the fingerprinting process and/or the submission or processing of the Criminal Records Check shall be borne by the applicant.

Volunteers:
Designated Volunteers are subject to a background investigation / criminal records check and the provisions of this policy. Volunteers not categorized as "Designated Volunteers" per Policy IJOC will not be subject to a background investigation or criminal records check.

Conditional and Final Offers of Employment:
Persons who have been selected for employment may be hired on a conditional basis, but only upon completion of a background investigation and having initiated the Criminal Records Check process. A final offer of employment may be extended upon successful completion of a Criminal Records Check which is satisfactory to the Portsmouth School Department.

No person with a conditional offer of employment shall be extended a final offer of employment if such person has charges pending or has been convicted of offenses referenced in RSA 189:13-a, V. In addition to the felonies listed in RSA 189:13-a, V, a person may be denied a final offer of employment if he/she has charges pending or has been convicted of any felony.

When the district receives notification of a felony conviction from the State Police on a particular person which it finds unsatisfactory, the Superintendent shall dismiss said person within twenty-four (24) hours of the receipt of such report, excluding Saturdays, Sundays or legally recognized holidays.

Additionally, a person may be denied a final offer of employment if the Superintendent becomes aware of criminal convictions that were not disclosed by the applicant or other conduct that he/she determines would render the person unsuitable to perform the responsibilities of the position involved.

Approved by Portsmouth School Board:      December 13 2010
**Additional Criminal Records Check:**
The Board may require a Criminal Records Check of any employee at any time.

**Legal Reference:**
*RSA 189:13-a, School Employee and Volunteer Background Investigations*
*Technical Advisory: School Employee Criminal History Records Check, NH Department of Education and NH Department of Safety, Revised September 2010.*
Transportation/Purpose(s)

The school district shall provide transportation for pupils to and from school in accordance with state law. (RSA 189:6) The School Board may authorize the superintendent to approve transportation for shorter distances than required by state law for safety reasons and other extenuating circumstances.

In cases where transportation is needed but is not considered feasible to furnish bus transportation, contracts, also in accordance with state law, may be established with parents or private carriers for furnishing transportation.

Bus drivers have the responsibility to maintain orderly behavior of students on school buses and will report, in writing, misconduct to the student’s Principal. Parents of children whose conduct on school busses endangers the health, safety and welfare of other riders will be notified that their student faces the loss of school bus riding privileges in accordance with the School Department policies. School principals will have the authority to suspend the riding privileges of students failing to conform to bus rules and regulations. The Board must approve suspensions of riding privileges that continue beyond twenty (20) days.
Based on completion of the DOE 25, I have calculated the tuition rates for FY 2016 / 17 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Area Tuition Rates</th>
<th>14 / 15</th>
<th>15 / 16</th>
<th>16 / 17*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary School</td>
<td>$15,803</td>
<td>$16,520</td>
<td>$17,268</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>$15,903</td>
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<td>$17,382</td>
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<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>$15,588</td>
<td>$16,338</td>
<td>$16,906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>$15,736</td>
<td>$16,491</td>
<td>$17,141</td>
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<table>
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<th>SAU 50-Area Tuition Rates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
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<td>$16,970</td>
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<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>$14,823</td>
<td>$15,755</td>
<td>$16,094</td>
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*Unaudited results