

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR MARCH 28, 2017

NEW FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY LIBRARY

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

NOTICE OF NON- PUBLIC MEETING: THE SCHOOL BOARD HELD A NON- PUBLIC MEETING AT 6:30 P.M., IN ACCORDANCE WITH RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) IN A CLASSROOM.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER-** Board Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL-** Chair Leslie Stevens, Vice-Chair Tom Martin, Jeff Landry, Kristin Jeffrey, Gary Epler, Ann Walker, Nancy Clayburgh, Patrick Ellis, Roseanne Vozella Clark, SAU50 Representative Ann Mayer, Teacher Representative Kimberly McGlinchey, Student Representative Andrew Rodgers, Superintendent Stephen Zdravec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, Business Administrator Stephen Bartlett
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** Chair Stevens led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ❖ Chair Stevens thanked SAU 50 Representative Ann Mayer for her 20 years of service and dedication to the Portsmouth School Board.
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
- a. FEBRUARY 14, REGULAR MEETING
- MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of February 14, 2017, by Ms. Walker
- SECOND: Mr. Ellis
- DISCUSSION:
- VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- b. FEBRUARY 21, BUDGET MEETING
- MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of February 21, 2017, by Ms. Walker
- SECOND: Mr. Ellis
- DISCUSSION:
- VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- c. MARCH 7, BUDGET MEETING
- MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of March 7, 2017, by Mr. Epler
- SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh
- DISCUSSION:
- VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT-** None

VII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- a. GROWTH MINDSET- New Franklin Principal Joanne Simons introduced Library Media Specialist Sara Zoe Patterson, Grade 1 Teacher Erin Lane, Music Teacher Karen Marceau, and Reading Specialist Donna Turco. The group shared a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of Growth Mindset, which included the following information:

- Definition of Growth Mindset
- Five Stances of Growth Mindset
- Why is Growth Mindset Important?
- Action Steps Taken to Explore Growth Mindset Learning
- How is Growth Mindset being implemented?

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: “This sounds like a really great program.”

- b. MATH THINK TANK- New Franklin Teacher Ian Fleischer announced the First Annual Portsmouth School District Math Night will be April 19, 2017, at Stokel Commons, Portsmouth Middle School. Leading up to the Math Night are four weeks of “math puzzlers” for students to solve. The first puzzler was last week, in which a large number of students participated.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Mr. Fleischer is currently on sabbatical leave and forming the Math Think Tank group was part of his sabbatical work.

- c. PHS PRINCIPAL REPORT- Principal Mary Lyons shared a written report providing highlights of what’s happening at Portsmouth High School, including the many successes of students and end-of-the-year activities. In addition, Principal Lyons shared some upcoming changes, including the implementation of TASC Block. The TASC Block Committee was formed to examine and explore scheduling possibilities to optimize the potential of the school day.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Every teacher will be available during TASC Block, and the high school will use the “schedule and stay” model for scheduling.

A clarification was provided on how Freshman Honors classes will be weighted.

Student Council and the Parent Advisory Committee are both utilized as venues of communicating information. There is also now an online newspaper at the high school which may be used as an additional communication piece.

An explanation was provided on how the skinny blocks will be managed.

The Italian Immersion Program is a semester-long class taught entirely in Italian. The class is immersing students in the language, and culture, and students will travel to Italy in April.

- d. CTE REPORT- CTE Director Diane Canada shared a written report providing information about the various competitions CTE students are participating in, and provided an update on a few CTE programs.

Ms. Canada invited the Board to attend the 9th Annual CTE Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 18.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Chef Perrin Long is retiring. His absence will be a loss to the Culinary Arts Program.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- i. CENTRAL OFFICE UPDATE
- ii. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES, MARCH 3, 2017
- iii. OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP, MONTREAL
- iv. OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP, BARTLETT, NH
- v. CLIPPER FOUNDATION- Assistant Superintendent Shea reported that last week Portsmouth Schools received 4 Clipper Fund grants.
- vi. BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, MARCH 2017
- vii. DONDERO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLANS
- viii. DONDERO CITY COUNCIL TOUR- Thursday, March 30, at 6:00 p.m.
- ix. WEBSITE DESIGN- Assistant Superintendent Shea provided an update of the School Department website from Bowst Designs.
- x. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Is the Little Harbour Steam Program going to visit all three schools?

b. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- i. FINANCIAL REPORT- Business Administrator Stephen Bartlett provided the month-end February report. Expenses are following a similar year-to-date pattern compared to that of last year. Mr. Bartlett announced there will be an upcoming press release for the solar project.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Ms. McGlinchey commented that students have been using the software to monitor solar usage and the software is very user friendly.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE FY 18 BUDGET**

MOTION: Motion to approve the FY 18 Budget, by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION: City Manager John Bohenko offered to cover the increase in transportation costs due to the change in school start times through the Parking and Transportation portion of the City's budget. The School Department will gradually assume the transportation cost into the School Department's budget over the next three fiscal years.

Mr. Epler complimented Administration for a smooth budget process.

VOTE: Roll Call- Unanimously approved

b. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF JUNE 9, 2017, GRADUATION DATE**

MOTION: Motion to approve June 9, 2017, Graduation date, by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

c. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF TEACHER SABBATICAL**

MOTION: Motion to approve teacher sabbatical, by Ms. Clayburgh

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION: Mr. Shea is brought forth one of the four sabbaticals requested. This sabbatical request for Middle School Teacher Christine Kwesell is for the purpose of enhancing the current mathematics intervention model and will be conducted during the second semester next year.

VOTE: Unanimously approved

d. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (1ST READING):**

i. **FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE (EBBC)**

MOTION: Motion to approve Policy EBBC, by Mr. Ellis.

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION: This is strictly a first aid policy; therefore, Narcan is not included in this policy.

VOTE: Unanimously approved

e. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF TEACHER CONTRACTS**

MOTION: Motion to approve teacher contracts, by Mr. Landry

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

f. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTS**

MOTION: Motion to approve administrator contracts, by Mr. Landry

SECOND: Ms. Ellis

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. **POLICY-** Chair Stevens reported that the Policy Committee met on Tuesday, March 21, and the minutes and two polices will be included on the April 11 School Board agenda.
- b. **RECREATIONAL BOARD-** Ms. Clayburgh reported that Rus Wilson has conveyed he is happy with the collaborative relationship between the School Department and the Recreation Department.
- c. **BUSINESS EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE-** Ms. Vozella Clark provided a summary of the recent BEC meeting, including a partnership with Steve Jones, the Maker Space renovation, and information regarding items that will be funded by a Perkins Grant.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. **MODEL NH METRICS DISCUSSION**
- b. **SCHOOL NUTRITION**
- c. **CHINESE PROGRAM**
- d. **21ST CENTURY SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES**

XIII. UPCOMING EVENTS

- a. **PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CALENDAR MAY BE FOUND ONLINE AT**
<http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/index.htm>

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted