

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR MAY 23, 2017

DONDERO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

NOTICE OF NON-PUBLIC MEETING: THE SCHOOL BOARD HELD A NON-PUBLIC MEETING AT DONDERO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE LIBRARY ON TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RSA 91-A: 3, II (b). THE MEETING BEGAN AT APPROXIMATELY 6:45 P.M.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER-** Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL-** Chair Leslie Stevens, Tom Martin (8:15 p.m.) Jeff Landry, Kristin Jeffrey, Gary Epler, Ann Walker, Nancy Clayburgh, Patrick Ellis, Roseann Vozella Clark, SAU 50 Representative Randy Bunnell, 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.
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
 - a. **MAY 9, REGULAR MEETING**

MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of May 9, 2017, by Mr. Epler

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT-** None
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. **PHS STUDENT TRIPS-** PHS International Language Teacher Nancy Wheaton Modern thanked Superintendent Zdravec and the Board for their continued support of the program. Also, Ms. Modern acknowledged the many PHS teachers that organized and facilitated the various student trips. The trips included Costa Rica, Montreal, Puerto Rico, France, and Peru. Spanish Teacher Helene Wemple, Latin Teacher Joseph Marquette, French Teacher Jeannette MacDonald, and Spanish Teacher Tara Hebert introduced each student trip. Several PHS students shared their personal experiences and connections gained through their travel experience along with the benefits of being immersed into another culture. Students shared several photos from their trips.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: It was explained how the host families were chosen in Costa Rica. Some students shared their insight on the teaching aspect of the language classes offered at PHS.

This is the first year offering the Montreal trip and three students participated. Ten students travelled to Puerto Rico. Currently, there are forty applicants for next year's Peru trip.

- b. **SCHOOL NUTRITION**- School Nutrition Director Deb Riso reported the Nutrition Services Department has made it a priority to incorporate locally-produced food into the everyday operation of the school kitchens, including the PHS salad bar, Try It Days & Smoothie Tuesdays at the elementary schools, PMS & PHS Juicing Days, local burgers at LH & PMS, local fish at LH, and Farm Fresh Fridays.

Farm to School Program Manager Kate Mitchell reported they are continuing to insure that the Farm to School work is in alignment with the PSD goals, while continuing to implement their set plan. Ms. Mitchell reported on their integration and program sustainability efforts.

Garlic farmer, small business co-owner, and Portsmouth parent Margaret Witham shared her experience with building the Little Harbour School garden and her observations of the efforts observed as a result of the implementation of the Farm to School Program.

USDA Farm to School Regional Lead Danielle Fleury supports the integration of local foods into school nutrition programs. Ms. Fleury shared USDA and Farm to School data and reported Portsmouth School District is leading nationally in the Farm to School movement.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

Burlington, Vermont and Cambridge, Massachusetts are both model districts in the Farm to School movement.

Ms. Fleury provided a status update of the USDA grant program. A memo was sent to the school districts regarding new school nutrition government regulations.

An update was provided as to the status of the PMS rooftop garden.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**
 - i. **BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, MAY 2017**
 - ii. **CENTRAL OFFICE UPDATE, MAY 2017**
 - iii. **FUTURES NEWS**
 - iv. **AREA REPORT**
 - v. **PHS JUNE EVENT CALENDAR**
 - vi. **OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP, LAKE GEORGE, NY**
- b. **CORRESPONDENCE**
 - i. **LETTER OF RETIREMENT, PATRICIA CARR**
 - ii. **LETTER OF RESIGNATION, LIZ PHILLIPS**

IX. OLD BUSINESS

a. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (2ND READING):**

i. **MEAL CHARGING (EFA)**

MOTION: Motion to approve policy EFA by Mr. Landry

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION: Meal charging is being minimized.

VOTE: Unanimously approved

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT (REHIRE)**

i. **ELEMENTARY TEACHER, DO**

MOTION: Motion to approve employment, by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

b. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LEAVE OF ABSENCES**

MOTION: Motion to approve leave of absences, by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

c. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF PARAPROFESSIONAL AGREEMENT**

MOTION: Motion to approve Paraprofessional Agreement, by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES

a. **POLICY-** No report given.

b. **PRESCHOOL COMMITTEE-** Ms. Jeffrey reported on the last Committee meeting. The Committee is in the information gathering stage.

c. **ELEMENTARY FOREIGN LANGUAGE-** Ms. Jeffrey reported the Committee had their second meeting and discussed language delivery methods.

d. **WORLD AWARENESS WEEK-** Ms. McGlinchey provided an outline of the events taking place at PHS as part of World Awareness Week.

- e. STUDENT COUNCIL- Andrew Rodgers reported on the Council election results.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. RJLA
- b. SPECIAL EDUCATION

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 meeting at 9:14 p.m., by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Epler

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted