

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES FOR MAY 25, 2010

CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Shuldman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: MITCHELL SHULDMAN (CHAIR), ANN WALKER (VICE CHAIR), ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), CAROL CHELLMAN, KENT LAPAGE, DEXTER LEGG, REBECCA EMERSON, TOM MARTIN, LESLIE STEVENS, LISA SWEET AND PHILIP BOYNTON (STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE)

Absent: LINDA BRIOLAT (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE)

III. INVOCATION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Shuldman led in the pledge of allegiance.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a. MAY 4, 2010 SPECIAL MEETING

MOTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 4, 2010 BY MR. LAPAGE

SECOND: MS. WALKER

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

b. MAY 12, 2010 REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

MOTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 12, 2010 BY MR. LEGG

SECOND: MS. WALKER

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – Ms. Sweet stated that the Project Safety conference at Southern New Hampshire University was a great success. Grade 7 visited SNHU to talk about drug prevention, bullying and etc. Parents also were invited to attend and learn how to better communicate with their teenagers about such difficult topics.

VII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

a. RECOGNITION OF 2010 PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT RETIREES - All retirees were recognized, along with years of service.

b. PRESENTATIONS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL PHASING PLAN – GILBANE CONSTRUCTION. Mr. Chad Weathers from Gilbane Construction presented the Portsmouth Middle School construction plan broken down into three phases.

MOTION: Motion to approve phases one and two as presented by Mr. Chad Weathers was made by Mr. Martin. Phase three will appear before the board at a later date.

SECOND: Ms. Emerson

DISCUSSION: Board members discussed how dust and noise would be contained and the different safety measures that would be in place during construction to assure all students are kept safe.

VOTE: Unanimously approved

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- i. *BOARD AND ADMINISTRATOR*
- ii. MAY SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE
- iii. NH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ADVISORY ON REQUIRED SUBJECT AND CREDITS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION
- iv. EXCERPTS FROM 2010-11 PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES
 1. COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS
 2. PORTSMOUTH HIGH GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – It was noted that Portsmouth High School not only meets state requirements, but exceeds them by 4 credits.
 3. REQUIRED COURSES IN SOCIAL STUDIES

b. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MEMO RE: FOCUSED MONITORING PROCESS
- ii. TITLE I ON-SITE REVIEWS – In all schools, reviews went well and many strengths were identified. The Commissioner of Education had high praise for the Title I program and Director Joanne Simons.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF DELAYED STARTS FOR 2010-11 CALENDAR – 400 responses were received from the parent survey sent out and a little over 50% approved of delayed starts. Results of student learning are already being noticed from the first year of PLC work. A more comprehensive view of “Smart Goals” will be presented on June 8th. An unexpected result of delayed starts was found in the Food Service program, which reported an increase of \$18,000 by serving 9 extra lunches. Teachers discussed with administration some obstacles that were making delayed starts difficult and Mr. Zdravec believes steps can be made to address many of the teachers concerns. Mr. Zdravec also reported that certain community members and businesses have been interested in approaching student organizations and doing focused projects with students on delayed start days. This may someday result in elective credits for students.

MOTION: Motion to approve the delayed starts for the 2010-2011 calendar year by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. LaPage

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF 2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR

MOTION: Motion to approve the 2011-2012 school calendar year by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Legg

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously approved

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF JBC PHASING PLAN OF THE PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL – Motion to approve stated above.

b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE RENEWAL –

MOTION: Motion to approve the property and casualty insurance renewal by Mr. LaPage

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION: Board members asked for clarification on how the Primex Pool conducted business and how often did they request new proposals from insurance carriers. Mr. Bartlett stated that a 5% discount rate would be gained if the Board committed to a longer contract and that he was satisfied with the reaction to the market and economy that Primex had displayed.

VOTE: Unanimously approved

c. OTHER – Mr. LaPage stated that the Recreation Board will meet with City Council within the next ten days and will request a work session with the School Board afterwards.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Stevens and seconded by Ms. Walker. Unanimously approved at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Ed McDonough
Superintendent of Schools