

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 12, 2010

LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2010

TIME: 7:00PM [or thereafter]

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Shuldman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. ROLL CALL** – MITCH SHULDMAN (CHAIR), ANN WALKER (VICE CHAIR), LESLIE STEVENS, DEXTER LEGG, KENT LAPAGE, REBECCA EMERSON, TOM MARTIN, CAROL CHELLMAN, CLAY HAYWARD, ED MCDONOUGH, (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEPHEN BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REPRESENTATIVE) AND LINDA BRIOLAT (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE)
- III. INVOCATION** –Mr. LaPage requested that the Board remember Ms. Anita Freedman, a past School Board member who recently passed away.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: SCHOOL BOARD GOALS FOR 2010-2011**- Superintendent McDonough and Assistant Superintendent Zdravec outlined the critical work captured for the 2010-2011 school year. Please click [here](#) to view Mr. McDonough’s PowerPoint in full. Mr. Zdravec explained in detail exactly what a Professional Learning Community is. Important work for this year will not be identifying what students need to learn or how they learn, but how to shift resources and utilize time effectively in order to help struggling students master core content. Interventions available to students and how to access them need to be communicated clearly to parents. Board members followed up with questions and comments.
- VII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
 - a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
 - i. PUPIL ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2010- Pre-K through 12 enrollment is up 24 students this year to 2,670 pupils.
 - ii. INVITATION FLYER TO HEAR DR. ROGERS OCTOBER 27, 2010 –Superintendent McDonough encouraged Board Members to attend.
 - iii. PRESS RELEASE ON SMALLER LEARNING COMMUNITIES GRANT –PHS was not selected as a grant recipient.
 - iv. NH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FY 2010 FINANCIAL REPORTS
 - v. EDUCATIONAL FUNDING SESSION, MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010
 - vi. EDUCATION FUNDING TALKING POINTS FOR PORTSMOUTH
 - vii. OCTOBER 6, 2010 MINUTES OF POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE
 - viii. OCTOBER 6, 2010 MINUTES OF FACILITIES SUB-COMMITTEE
 - b. CORRESPONDENCE
 - i. FIRST STUDENT TRANSPORTATION – Mr. LaPage raised concern regarding a letter he received by mail.
 - ii. UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP SESSIONS FROM NHSBA

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- iii. FACILITIES DIRECTOR UPDATE ON RECYCLING – Questions rose on whether the city handles the school department’s recycling or another contract exist. Mr. Bartlett stated that most of the recycled material from the school department is cardboard. The city does not have a large capacity truck and this service is contracted out separately by the school department.

c. DISTRICT REPORTS

- i. FINANCIAL REPORT - STEVE BARTLETT – Mr. Bartlett reinstated the *plan* and *comparison to plan* columns. Salary and benefit sections in the plan are based on estimated salary expense per payroll multiplied by the number of pay periods issued each month. As a result of additional summer services salaries are showing a variance.

There are still nine months to make adjustments to spending requests to manage the budget appropriately, so a negative in one month may be offset by less spending in subsequent months.

Ms. Wensley will report out on different service providers in the near future.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. DISCUSSION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2010-2017

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- a. FIRST READING OF THE FOLLOWING POLICIES: Rebecca, Tom, Roll Call Vote – Unanimous.
 - i. (IJOC) – VOLUNTEERS – Mr. LaPage requested that the word “seasonal” be added to #3.
 - ii. (GBCD) – BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION AND CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK
 - iii. (JICK) – PUPIL SAFETY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT – BULLYING –A draft form of the policy will be published on-line to all parents. Principals will connect with all parents and a community forum night will be scheduled. Ms. Emerson requested a history of bullying over the past five years.

MOTION: Motion to accept the first reading of policies IJOC, GBCD and JICK as a block by Ms. Emerson

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimous

X. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. JBC-Mr. Legg reported that the Granite Street Softball field hazard abatement had been completed and the old building had been removed. State approvals were delayed, resulting in the field not being completed before cold weather. Provisions have been made to play early games at PHS until the field is completed. The JBC is working with the city in their efforts to improve drainage issues to align efficiently with middle school renovations.
- b. FACILITIES-Mr. Martin reported that the turf field has been completed and line sections of the track were repainted. A number of schools have qualified as Energy Star Schools. Facilities Director, Ken Linchey, is working with Kim Linchey and the high school Eco Club in writing a grant that would purchase solar hot water panels for the high school.

- c. POLICY-Ms. Stevens reported that the committee continues to work on the new bullying policy by getting feedback from the community. A public input session has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 9th.

XI. ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn by Mr. Martin and seconded by Vice Chair Walker at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed. McDonough". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ed McDonough
Superintendent of Schools

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SCHOOL BOARD GOALS FOR 2010-11

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Realizing the District's Mission

***"Educating all students
by challenging them
to become thinking,
responsible,
contributing citizens
who continue to
learn throughout
their lives."***

**Professional Learning
Communities**

***"Our school improvement
model"***

Celebrate Success

Take Stock of Where We Are

Next Level of Work

**PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES
MODEL:
STRONGLY ALIGNED WITH CHARACTERISTICS
OF HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOLS / DISTRICTS.**

Big three (3) resource strategies

Key elements of PLC model

**Organize to continuously improve
Teacher Quality: professional
development, collaborative planning
time, data analysis**

**Teacher teams, SMART goals, job-
embedded PD, expert support,
delayed openings**

**Use Student Time strategically;
extended learning time**

**Focus on results; shift from teaching to
learning**

**Create targeted individual attention and
personal learning environment for
students.**

Pyramid of Interventions

SMART Goal

"90% of staff will respond that most, if not all, elements are working effectively in their school."

Survey Question		Survey Question	
We are already there	15.1%	I am highly invested in this work	65.4%
Most elements are in place	65.4%	I am highly invested with some concerns	28.6%
We've started, but have a long way to go	19.0%	I am somewhat invested with many concerns	5.5%
We've not started in any significant way	0.6%	I am not invested	0.5%

School Board Support for Strategy

Beliefs

- All children can learn
- Build system
- We can all learn from one another

Desired Behaviors

- Move from isolated teacher, build a systemic process to replicate success
- Focus on intervention blocks
- Provide time for collaboration and interventions

Key Actions

- Develop and make broadly known interventions
- Align professional development, supervision, etc. to strategy.

Key Take Away Point

- We are going in the right direction. Persevere. Focus on results. It's a process.

GOAL # 1

SUPPORT PSD MISSION TO EDUCATE ALL

- **Supporting Year # 2 of PLC initiative**
 - Literacy and Math Goals at all buildings
- **Monitoring efforts of school sites to develop effective interventions**
 - Publish opportunities to parents
 - Determine what are most effective
- **Examining K-12 technology work**
 - K-5 integration/digital portfolio
 - 21st Century classroom grant - CMath
 - Explore on-line opportunities at high school level
 - Technology Professional Learning Project in Math

SUSTAINING STRONG READING IMPROVING MATH PERFORMANCE

Reading Proficiency 2010		Responding to Math
3 rd Grade	84%	K-5: Math Grant: Lesson Study
4 th Grade	78%	Expert Support: Every Day Math Program
5 th Grade	83%	Focused Monitoring: 2 year NHDOE process to close gap between regular education and special needs students in math
6 th Grade	73%	
7 th Grade	77%	
8 th Grade	78%	6-8: Technology
11 th Grade	74%	9-12: Math PLP

**GOAL # 2
IMPROVE ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS &
STRUCTURES**

- **Implementing Supervision & Evaluation Process examining aggregate data**
 - Examining aggregate data collected
- **Monitoring Administrative Team SMART goal to reduce substitute line by 10%**
- **Completing Blue Ribbon Committee on operational efficiencies**
- **Completing a K-5 facilities assessment review**

**GOAL # 3
IMPROVE COMMUNICATION &
COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

- **Publishing and more widely disseminating Annual District Progress Report, Metrics, Proposed Budget Booklet and “good news” of the PSD.**
- **Developing, tracking and reporting the district’s performance against a peer cohort group.**

GOAL # 4
EXAMINE BEST PRACTICE & ENSURE DISTRICT
ALIGNMENT

- **Studying staff utilization and scheduling practices to provide students expanded learning time.**
- **Investing in teacher quality by linking professional development, common planning time, data analysis and student performance.**

QUESTIONS TO ASK

- **Has the school created an intervention block?**
- **What interventions are working best?**
- **How have you already and/or how might you provide students extended learning time with core academics?**
- **SMART Goals and Progress**
- **A question about the technology goal**
- **Share supervision and evaluation efforts to date.**

Kudos
Questions
Concerns