

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 26, 2013

DONDERO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2013

TIME: 7:00 [or thereafter]

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), TOM MARTIN (VICE CHAIR), ANN WALKER, KENT LAPAGE, MITCH SHULDMAN, CAROL CHELLMAN, PATRICK ELLIS, DEXTER LEGG, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT) AND JAMES SULLIVAN (STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE)

III. INVOCATION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a. NOVEMBER 12, 2013

VI. MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of November 12, 2013 by Mr. Martin

VII. SECOND: Ms. Walker

VIII. DISCUSSION: None

IX. VOTE: Unanimously Approved

X. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

XI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

a. **RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION MODEL AT DONDERO ELEMENTARY-** Principal Kate Callahan shared an article with the Board from Educational Leadership Magazine titled *The Why Behind RTI*. Ms. Alex Clithero, Dondero's Special Ed. Case Manager, shared a PowerPoint focusing on Dondero's implementation of Response to Intervention. Board members followed up with questions and comments including: check-in meetings and what they consist of, measurable goals and how they are tracked through graduation, how RTI is applied to coded and non-coded students, who identifies a student in need, what is "progress monitoring", and how do teachers use monitoring tools? Board members requested that administration track Dondero's refinement process and apply the program across the district if proven successful.

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

i. **BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, NOVEMBER 2013**

ii. **SUPERINTENDENTS UPDATE, NOVEMBER 2013**

iii. **FY 2015 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE**

iv. **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR FY 2015**

v. **NHDOE STUDENT ASSESSMENT DATA FAQ'S**

vi. **UPDATE ON PMS WATER BREAK –** Mr. McDonough reported that water from a broken pipe traveled from the third floor down into the new office on the main floor. The Superintendent commended the Portsmouth Fire Department on their quick response. Gilbane has taken full responsibility for the leak and will conduct an infrared test to make sure all wet areas are identified and fixed.

b. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- i. FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT FROM USDA – Ms. Deb Riso will be briefing the Board at the next meeting and will elaborate on program details.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. WORKSHOP SESSION: PHS OPEN CAMPUS – Principal Collins opened the workshop by highlighting the history of Open Campus and explaining the criteria and procedures each student must satisfy and complete to receive open campus privileges. Board members followed up with the following questions and comments: What is the benefit to students? What is the benefit to the school? Is a 2.0 GPA criteria too low? Board members commended Principal Collins on the execution and management of off-campus privileges and stated that it is evident that these privileges are part of the Portsmouth High School culture. Is the district liable in any way if a student is involved in an accident? Board members requested that the superintendent consult with legal regarding students traveling in other students' cars.
- b. DISCUSSION OF SCHOOL BOARD PRIORITIES TO GUIDE FY 2015 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT – Superintendent McDonough stated that administration is in the beginning process of budget development. Superintendent McDonough also stated that health insurance is a guaranteed rate of 2.6%. The intent of the workshop is to provide opportunity for Board members to identify areas they would like to address during the budget process. Various members suggested performing arts, equipment, a need to track utilities, the impact of teacher negotiations and the desire to use the same creativity as the energy efficiency upgrade in the upcoming CIP projects.

In order to meet the requirement of submitting a budget by March 15th, the Superintendent suggested that the Board meet every Tuesday during the months of January, February and March until submitted. Board members agreed.

I. COMMITTEE UPDATE

- a. JBC – Gilbane's construction manager reported that a shipment of structural steel has been delayed. Given this information, the project will now be completed in February.

II. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. UPDATE ON SOLAR PROJECT AT PHS, TBD
- b. ADVANCEMENT: EXTENDED MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 28TH

III. ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Legg at 8:54 p.m.