

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR MARCH 22, 2016

ROBERT J. LISTER ACADEMY

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2016

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

NOTICE OF NON- PUBLIC MEETING: THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL HOLD A NON- PUBLIC MEETING AT 6:45 P.M., IN ACCORDANCE WITH RSA 91-A: 3, II (b), IN A CLASSROOM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - School Board Chair Leslie Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL**- Chair Leslie Stevens, Tom Martin, Jeff Landry, Lennie Mullaney, Gary Epler, Ann Walker, Nancy Clayburgh, Patrick Ellis, Roseann Vozella Clark, Superintendent Steve Zadavec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, Business Administrator Steve Bartlett, Teacher Representative Olin Johannesen
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**- Chair Stevens led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
 - a. **MARCH 8, REGULAR MEETING**

MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of March 8, 2016 by Mr. Epler

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**- None
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. **EMPTY BOWLS**- Middle School Music Teacher Katelyn Beach gave an overview of the after school program she runs called Community Builders. The program empowers students to become active citizens in their community through various outreach opportunity. *Empty Bowls* is a grassroots initiative focused on raising hunger awareness in the community. Community Builders has been working all year towards this first annual event. Over thirty local businesses donated food, auction items and advertisement services. As well as over forty students participated and created 250 bowls for the fundraising event scheduled on Thursday, March 31 from 5:30- 8:00. Tickets are available at the door. All the proceeds will be donated to the Seacoast Family Food Pantry for their Meals 4 Kids Program.

Katelyn shared some statistics with the Board.

73% of the Seacoast Family Food Pantry (SFFP) clients live in Portsmouth.

35% are children. Roughly 20% of children qualify for free & reduced breakfast/lunch.

Comments/ Discussion:

“What an amazing project!” “Very impressed with the initiative!” The Board thanked Kateyln for her time and effort organizing this event. Clarification was provided on some statistical numbers provided. Katelyn is looking at further opportunities to partner with elementary and high school students as well as the high school culinary program. It was suggested that SFFP hand out flyers during the event with information about their pending location change.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
 - i. BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR
 - ii. COSTA RICA SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
 - iii. WIZARDS BASKETBALL INVITE- Not included in the packet. The event is April 1, 2016.
 - iv. CLIPPER FOUNDATION INVITE- Not included in the packet. Celebration of 2016 Grant Award Recipients on March 23, 2016 at the Service Credit Union Headquarters.
- b. CORRESPONDENCE- None
- c. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT
 - i. FINANCIAL, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR BARTLETT- Mr. Bartlett provided a detailed overview of the February month end statement.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF 2016-2017 SCHOOL CALENDAR (REVISED) – Superintendent Zadravec went over the changes in the revised calendar. In addition, due to the Phase II construction at Little Harbour, LH students will have a delayed school opening until after Labor Day.

MOTION: Motion to approve the revised 2016-2017 school calendar by Mr. Ellis

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- b. APRIL 12 SCHOOL START FORUM PLANNING- Superintendent Zadravec and Mr. Ellis spoke in regards to the forum scheduled on April 12 at 6:00 in Council Chambers, City Hall. Dr. Erin Sharpe from UNH will be present to give the research and rationale behind the earlier start times. The forum will provide a high level overview on the two options. It provides an opportunity for public opinion. The forum will be advertised. There will be a more formal public hearing closer to making a decision. It will be relatively early to allow for plenty of time for the Board to deliberate and still meet SAU 50’s budget timeline.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF TEACHER CONTRACTS

MOTION: Motion to approve teacher contracts by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Epler

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTS

MOTION: Motion to approve administrator contracts by Ms. Clayburgh

SECOND: Mr. Ellis

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF TEACHER SABBATICALS

MOTION: Motion to approve teacher sabbaticals by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION: Mr. Shea gave a detailed overview of the two teacher sabbaticals being requested. The committee was presented three proposals but only felt these two proposals met the criteria and attributes to move forward. Mr. Shea explained the process behind sabbatical requests.

Comments: "Very impressed with the proposals!" It was suggested that it be part of the discussion, that the school department would own the finished product (i.e. book).

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. JBC- The committee has not met. However, Mr. Bartlett did give an update that City Council approved the request for funding to complete the permanent shoring on the middle school.
- b. ELEMENTARY FACILITIES- Mr. Bartlett reported the committee met today and the discussion topics were Phase II at Little Harbour and the committee is looking towards the future for Dondero. In both cases, there are plans and drawing they have been working on. The committee is in the process of scope review now as there is a lot to be done.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. ELECTRONIC TEXT BOOK POLICY
- b. STEM

OTHER:

1. Add Farm to School as a future agenda item.
2. There was a letter to the editor about the content of lead in the water. Mr. Bartlett reported there is a meeting scheduled tomorrow to discuss a plan to address additional testing requirements.
3. Once the school board email addresses are finalized through the city website, the link will be advertised to the public.

4. Update: Hockey Agreement- Hockey agreement was approved/ Football Agreement was delayed.
5. Olin Johannesen reported on the success of the collaborated special event between the PHS Choir and the Worcester Youth Orchestra.
6. Portsmouth Public Library K-12 SPLASH Exhibition- a must see, great event!
7. The Boys Basketball won the State Championships. Congratulations!
8. Congratulations to the Varsity Track Team for winning their 2nd straight Division II State Championship!

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Mr. Landry

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted