

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Wedge, at 7:00 PM. The following members were present: Ms. Sylvia Wedge, Chair; Ms. Karen Gleason; Mrs. Marjorie Levesque; Mr. Richard Carpenter.

Absent: Mrs. Terri Cortvriend, Mr. Douglas Wilkey, Mr. David Croston

Also Present: Dr. Lusi, Asst. Supt. Jermain, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Updegrove, Mrs. Cofield

1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**: Ms. Wedge stated that Mr. Wilkey, Mrs. Cortvriend, and Mr. Croston were unable to attend the meeting, and she stated the reasons why.
2. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**: Dr. Lusi reported that she and Mrs. Brown attended a hearing at the Department of Education regarding the issue with the NACTC tuition, and it will continue on July 20th. She reminded the Committee that there will not be a meeting on July 27th because the Administration Building is shutdown that week.

a) **Teaching and Learning**: No Report.

b) **Finance and Operations**: No Report.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held June 8, 2006. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 4-0. The minutes of the June 27, 2006, meeting will be brought back at the next meeting.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Dr. Lusi announced that Item c) is being withdrawn from the agenda. Ms. Gleason requested that Item d) be moved to the Business Agenda.

a) **Teacher Resignation**. The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee accepts with regret the resignation of Shelley P. Coleman from the position of Grade 7 Language Arts Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, effective immediately."

b) **Teacher Resignation**. The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee accepts with regret the resignation of Melinda Colagiovanni from the position of Grade 5 Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, effective immediately."

c) **Teacher Resignation**. The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee accepts with regret the resignation of Rebecca Talaia from the

position of Grade 4 Teacher at Hathaway School, effective immediately.” (This item was withdrawn.)

- d) **Appt. – Guidance Counselor, PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #1-7/11/06, to the position of Guidance Counselor at Portsmouth High School, effective August 28, 2006." (This item was moved to the Business Agenda for discussion.)

A motion was made by Mr. Carpender and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve Items a) and b). So voted 4-0.

5. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

- d) **Appt. – Guidance Counselor, PHS.** This item was moved from the Consent Agenda for discussion. A motion was made by Mr. Carpender and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #1-7/11/06, to the position of Guidance Counselor at Portsmouth High School, effective August 28, 2006. So voted 4-0. Dr. Lusi announced the appointment of Erin Phillips to the position of Guidance Counselor at Portsmouth High School at Step 7 plus Masters.
- a) **Agenda Item Request–Personnel Issue.** Requested by Ms. Gleason. Ms. Gleason made a motion to discuss the personnel issue she submitted on her Agenda Item Request. There was no second to the motion. The item was not addressed.
- b) **Rescission of Teacher Displacements.** Mr. Carpender made a motion to rescind the displacements of Teachers 53-2/14/06 and 55-2/14/06. So voted 3-0-1. Ms. Gleason abstained because she didn't vote on the original displacements.
- c) **Rescission of Teacher Non-Renewal.** A motion was made by Mr. Carpender and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to rescind the teacher non-renewal of Teacher 26-2/14/06. So voted 4-0. Dr. Lusi announced that every school will have its own School Nurse Teacher during the 2006-07 school year.
- d) **Discussion/Action – Nominations for Prudence Island School Working Committee.** Mr. Carpender made a motion that the Committee appoints Allan Bearse, Kim Greene, Kate Hibbard, Robert Marshall, Grace Hall McEntee, Shawen Williams, and Jennifer Young, to the Prudence Island School Working Committee. Mr. Carpender stated that the purpose of this committee is to look at a number of things regarding Prudence Island School, including the immediate maintenance of the school; looking at ways to help the educational process at the school; looking at staffing and volunteers; and also looking at the long-term plan of the school, such as to how to move forward with turning the

building over to an historical organization, etc. The Administration will be appointing Dr. Joanne Olson and Mr. Richard Carpender to this committee. Ms. Gleason brought up her concerns about developing this committee. Dr. Lusi stated that she asked Mrs. Brown to contact The Trust about insurance for the volunteers, and Mrs. Brown reported that they are covered under our liability insurance as long as they are performing work for which they are appropriately qualified. Dr. Lusi stated that she sent this information via email to Mr. Marshall. The motion passed 3-1. Ms. Gleason was opposed.

- e) **Approval of 2005-06 Budget Adjustments.** A motion was made by Mr. Carpender and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the proposed 2005-06 budget adjustments as presented. Mrs. Brown reviewed the highlights. She stated that these are the next to the last adjustments for the 2005-06 school year. Mrs. Brown reported that there are three areas where a revenue shortfall is being projected: Energy Aid \$54,000; Impact Aid \$50,000; and Group Home Aid \$90,000; for a total of \$194,000. On the Expenditure side, she reported that all line items have been adjusted to reflect known and projected expenses through the close of the fiscal year. At the present time, she has identified a projected fund balance of almost \$108,000. As a result of the budget adjustments requested, Mrs. Brown proposed transferring the remaining balances to a single line item to be identified as a projected fund balance. She explained that as purchase orders are closed out and remaining balances identified, they would be added to this line item. Mrs. Brown is hopeful that sufficient fund balances will be identified to cover the revenue shortfalls without utilizing additional Medicaid funds in FY 2006. She stated that until the year is closed out, this fund balance could increase or decrease. She indicated that there are three areas where some significant cost savings could occur: 1) Regional Special Education; 2) Vocational Education; and 3) Out-of-District Tuition. Mrs. Brown anticipates being able to provide the Committee with unaudited closing financial statements prior to the School Department's vacation shutdown period. Mr. Carpender stated that right now, if things hold as they are, we could expect to have \$100,000 in a potential fund balance. The motion passed 4-0.
- f) **Discussion/Action – FY07 Budget Request.** Mr. Carpender made a motion that the Committee approves the reductions to the FY06-07 budget request, as presented, in the amount of \$936,352. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. Ms. Gleason asked the Administration to reconsider reducing the modern language position at the high school. She also asked where the funds were being drawn from to pay Mr. Malafronte, who is temporarily assisting with human resource functions. Dr. Lusi explained that there is \$53,000 from a vacant clerical position at the Administration Building, as well as \$5,000 in the budget request for a clerical upgrade. She stated that these funds would be used during the transition period as we move towards implementing the organizational chart the Committee approved in concept. Ms. Gleason asked when Dr. Lusi would be hiring a person on a full-time basis. Dr. Lusi said there are some contractual issues that have to be worked through before the organizational chart that was approved in concept can be fully implemented. She would like to do it as quickly as possible but can't commit to a

definite date. She added that Mr. Malafronte has an enormous amount of experience in the management of school districts, including human resources. Hiring him is cost-effective, as he is working only two days per week and is not receiving benefits. The motion passed 3-1. Ms. Gleason was opposed because of her concern with the modern language and art positions that were reduced at the high school. Dr. Lusi distributed a legal opinion from Attorney Updegrave regarding the hiring of Mr. Malafronte.

A motion was made by Mr. Carpender and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve an FY06-07 budget of \$32,461,335, as appropriated by the Town Council. So voted 4-0.

6. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) **Finance:** The Financial Town Meeting will be held on August 19th at 10:00 AM.
- b) **Gymnasium Construction Oversight Committee (GCOC):** No Report
- c) **Fundraising:** No Report.

Ms. Wedge announced that our next meeting will be held on August 8th, location tbd. The second meeting will be held on August 22nd.

A motion was made by Mr. Carpender and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to adjourn the meeting. So voted 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Cofield
Recording Secretary for

Douglas Wilkey, Clerk