

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by the Chairman, Mr. Carpender, and the following members were present:

Mr. Richard Carpender, Chair	Mrs. Marge Levesque, Clerk	Mrs. Marilyn King
Ms. Sylvia Wedge, Vice Chair	Mrs. Angela Volpicelli	Mrs. Cynthia Perrotti
	Mr. Michael Buddemeyer	

Also Present: Dr. Lusi, Mark Dunham, and Patti Cofield

Absent: Asst. Supt. Jermain

1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- A budget workshop was held at 6:00 PM.
- The joint meeting between Portsmouth, Middletown, and Newport is going to be delayed because a number of subcommittees couldn't get together over the holidays. The proposed date is February 22nd at 7:00 PM at Oliphant School.
- Attended last night's Town Council meeting for the Educational Benefit Analysis. We made a motion to contribute \$5,000, contingent on all the School Committees and Town Councils making the same commitment. On a vote of 4-3, our request was denied by the Town Council. It was the Council's position that the School Department should fund it. It's an embarrassment. He doesn't think it is fair for the School Department to pay when it is really a community effort and has to do with saving tax dollars.

2. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- A budget workshop was held at 6:00 PM.
- R2TT
 - Attended a review session at RIDE this morning. Began reading the application.
 - Had a productive meeting with leadership of NEA Portsmouth on R2TT yesterday, however, received word from Cynthia Perry shortly before the meeting that the Union will not sign the MOU because NEARI has not endorsed the MOU between parties
 - Our MOU will remain as signed by Mr. Carpender and Dr. Lusi.
- **H1N1 – 2nd Round Clinics**
 - Tomorrow night – Elmhurst, Hathaway, and AICA @ PMS
 - January 28th – Melville and Pennfield Clinic @ Melville
- **In the Schools**
 - **Erin Escher** – 6th grade science teacher has been nominated for The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and will be pursuing the application process
 - **Robotics** – Attended a demonstration by our new middle school robotics team last week as they prepared for an upcoming competition. Introduced robotics at PMS this year and hope to expand program.

- **World Geography –**
 - Attended World Geography event at PHS on January 11 from 10:30 to 12:30. A Portsmouth Public Education Foundation grant enabled us to purchase books and other materials. The World Geography teachers, the library staff, and Kimberly Hancock (reading specialist) have been working on the various components and logistics of this project since September.
 - **Art – Silver and Gold key winners –** There were a number of Gold and Silver Key winners in the RI Scholastic Art competition this past weekend. Will bring the students and their teachers forward for recognition at an upcoming meeting.
- **Leadership**
 - Next ALT walkthrough will be held next week.
 - Attending DMC meeting on January 20-22 (Innovation in Education: Developing and Scaling Effective Strategies)
- a) **Teaching and Learning:** No report.
- b) **Finance and Operations:** Mr. Dunham will report out on the Business Agenda.
- c) **High School Liaison:** Mr. Carpender read an update provided by Daniel Klemmer.
 - PHS' first ever Winter Snowball Dance will be held on Saturday, January 16th.
 - The home basketball game against Tiverton will be held on Wednesday, January 20th. Everyone is welcome to attend.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the minutes of the meetings held December 8, 2009, and January 5, 2010. So voted 7-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Coaching Appts. – PMS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee affirms the coaching appointments at Portsmouth Middle School for the 2009-10 school year as presented.” A motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 7-0. Dr. Lusi announced the appointment of Benjamin Goldberg as Chess Coach, and Michael Keeling as Track and Field Assistant Coach.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathy Melvin would like a report given on the high school's drug enforcement policy.

6. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

- a) **Presentation of Facilities Plan.** The plan was presented by Mr. Buddemeyer and Mr. Hughes of RGB. Mr. Buddemeyer stated that there would not be a vote tonight. The Executive Summary was distributed to the Committee so they could review it over the next two weeks and vote on it at the next School Committee meeting. He stated that RGB was asked to prepare an updated cost proposal because it's a new year and because some capital items were added to it in order to be in compliance with our Strategic Plan, such as provisions for having full-day Kindergarten. The Facilities Subcommittee is recommending Option 2. There were 26 items added that were not in the original report from a year ago. Mr. Hughes will be at the next meeting to answer questions. Mr. Buddemeyer stated that he will be looking for the unanimous support from the School Committee as we approach the Town Council. Once the Committee votes, he will request to be on the Town Council agenda.
- b) **Approval of October Financials.** Mr. Dunham answered questions regarding the October financials. Mrs. Perrotti had several detailed questions, so she asked if in the future, she could send them to Mr. Dunham in advance of the meetings. Mr. Carpender agreed, as long as he and Dr. Lusi received copies, as well. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the October financials. So voted 7-0.
- c) **Report on November Financials.** Mr. Mark Dunham distributed the Revenue and Expenditure reports through November 30th. Potential line item variances are beginning to emerge as the trend data becomes more meaningful. Variances are still included in the report due to the recently implemented Uniform Chart of Accounts. These items are being reviewed and researched and should be resolved by the January Expenditure report.
- d) **Ratification of In\$ite Report.** Mr. Dunham reviewed the In\$ite Report, summarizing fiscal year ending 2009 expenditure data. This report has been a RIDE requirement for more than ten years. The RIDE's new Uniform Chart of Accounts will be used to phase out this report over the next two years. Once compiled, this data is used by RIDE and the General Assembly to compare district spending by expenditure category throughout the State. 2009 Statewide data will be available on the RIDE website in the spring. Ms. Wedge made a motion to ratify the In\$ite Report. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 7-0.
- e) **Budget Transfer.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to approve the budget transfer in accordance with the backup information. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 7-0.
- f) **Discussion/Action – Legislative Agenda.** Dr. Lusi stated that a proposed 2010 legislative agenda and additional information was distributed in the packets in preparation for tonight's discussion. She asked the Committee to review the proposed agenda and think

about what they would like to include in preparation for their meeting with the delegates. In previous years, the Committee has approved its legislative agenda "in concept," and she recommended that they continue this practice. This has been done to indicate that these are issues of importance to the Committee, but that the Committee would want to review any specific pieces of legislation in these areas prior to endorsing them. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to accept the Legislative Agenda in concept. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 7-0. Dr. Lusi will invite the delegates to attend a workshop with the Committee.

7. **SUBCOMMITTEE AGENDA**

- a) **Facilities.** Mr. Buddemeyer stated that the January 14th meeting will be postponed until next week.
- b) **Finance.** Mr. Buddemeyer stated that the meetings will begin in the near future.
- c) **Health and Wellness.** No report.
- d) **Policy.** No report.

Mrs. Perrotti stated that she would be adding an addendum to the minutes of this meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to adjourn the meeting. So voted 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield
Recording Secretary for:

Mrs. Marjorie Levesque, Clerk