

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by the Chairman, Mr. Carpenter, and the following members were present:

Mr. Richard Carpenter, Chair	Ms. Sylvia Wedge, V. Chair	Mr. Michael Buddemeyer
Mrs. Marge Levesque, Clerk	Mrs. Marilyn King	Mrs. Cynthia Perrotti (6:08 PM)

Also Present: Dr. Lusi, Asst. Supt. Jermain, and Patti Cofield

Absent: Ms. Angela Volpicelli, Daniel Klemmer

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Law 42-46-5, Exceptions (a)(1) Job Performance/Personnel Matters. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 5-0.

Public Session recessed at 6:05 PM and resumed at 7:15 PM.

#### 1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- An Executive Session was held tonight at 6:05 PM. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to enter into Executive Session under R.I. Law 42-46-5, Exceptions (a)(1) Job Performance/Personnel Matters. So voted 5-0. The purpose was to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the evaluation. So voted 6-0. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to adjourn to Public Session. So voted 6-0. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. So voted 6-0. Mr. Carpenter stated that it was the feeling of the Committee that Dr. Lusi had another outstanding year. Despite many obstacles and difficulties, she met and exceeded expectations.
- A Joint School Committee Meeting with the Middletown and Newport School Committees will be held on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the PMS Little Theatre. The Town Councils are also invited to attend, as well as the Tiverton, Little Compton, and Jamestown School Committees. Deputy Commissioner David Abbott will present the new Basic Education Plan (BEP) that goes into effect July 1.

#### 2. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

- Mr. Dunham is away with a personal commitment this evening.
- Announced a number of successes for several of our PHS athletic teams.
- Read an update from the Prudence Island Foundation
- Distributed the Commissioner's Advisory on Full Day K
  - Strategic plan called for "develop[ing] a funding formula to support all-day Kindergarten. Consider parent funding for the second half of the day and scholarship options." While advisory does not address scholarship options, it appears that we will need to revisit that portion of our plan given this advisory.

- Acknowledged the retirements approved at the last meeting: Mrs. Anne Jenkins (25 years); Mrs. Mary Dufour (23 years); Dr. Christina Martin (10 years).
  - Dr. Lusi distributed information on the Necessity of School Construction - Information and Instructions. She wanted to clarify comments that were made at the last meeting regarding a letter she sent in October to Mr. DaSilva at RIDE. The confusion was around the fact that the process has two terms “letters of intent.” The Step 1 Letter of Intent is to be signed by the Superintendent of Schools. The second letter of intent, which has not been sent in, is on Page 6, Step 6. It is called the Stage 1 application. That letter of intent from the Superintendent is to be signed and certified by the School Committee chair and a municipal representative.
- a) Teaching and Learning:
- The Strategic Planning committees are busy at work on the objectives for this year. We are forming online groups. We are creating a document for all objectives so that we can post it and put it online so that the public can see where we are in the Strategic Plan. We hope to have it out sometime in the beginning of March.
- b) Finance and Operations: No Report.
- c) High School Liaison. Absent

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the meetings held February 2, 2010, and February 9, 2010, was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0.

### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Request for Leave of Absence.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee approves the request for Family and Medical Leave in accordance with the backup information."

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. So voted 7-0.

### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

### 6. BUSINESS AGENDA

Mr. Carpender announced that he received a request to move Item c) to before Item b). There were no objections.

- a) **Agenda Item Request – Formation of PMS Athletic Boosters Club.** This item was requested by Mr. Kirk Volk. Mr. Volk handed out an updated copy of his PowerPoint presentation. He and Mr. Ted Clement explained that they would like to form an athletic boosters club for the middle school modeled after the high school boosters, although they would also fund athletic programs that are not currently funded in the school budget. The initial goal is to community fund girls' and boys' soccer teams for play this fall. No additional funds would be required in the school budget. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the formation of the Portsmouth Middle School Athletic Boosters Club with the initial goal to fund a girls and boys soccer team at the middle school. This approval is with the understanding that the teams will be guided and administered under the policies and procedures of the Portsmouth School Department and that the Portsmouth School Department will not have any financial responsibility. So voted 6-0.
  
- c) **Presentation on the Dana Initiative.** Assistant Superintendent Jermain distributed her PowerPoint presentation on the Dana Initiative. She introduced the team members that were present at the meeting: Dr. Olson, Mr. Amaral, Lisa Mello, Kristen Borges, Patricia McCarthy, Joanne Quinn, and Mr. Littlefield. She explained who the Dana Center is, what its purpose is, and what Portsmouth's involvement is. Its purpose is to increase student achievement in the areas of math and science and increase coherence at all levels of the system by aligning curriculum, instruction, and assessment to each and the state standards. She described the benefits of the work, some examples of what they have done so far, and what the next steps are.
  
- b) **Approval of High School Program of Studies.** Mr. Littlefield distributed his presentation and explained the proposed changes to the Program of Studies. He stated that the goal is to set up a Program of Studies that will allow 100 percent of our students to graduate from PHS in accordance with the Strategic Plan. The changes are: changing the name of "Advanced Math" to "Pre-Calculus," and adding four new courses – Advanced Television Production, Renewable Energy, Child Development II, and Personal Fitness. He explained the rationale behind the changes, and said they will not impact staffing. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to approve the PHS Program of Studies. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0.
  
- d) **Approval of January Financials.** This item was tabled until the next meeting.

## 7. SUBCOMMITTEE AGENDA

- a) **Facilities.** Mr. Buddemeyer stated that they are in the process of getting on the Town Council agenda to make their presentation.
  
- b) **Finance.** Mr. Buddemeyer stated that the next Finance Subcommittee meeting will be held tomorrow at 5:00 PM at the PHS Library.

- c) **Health and Wellness.** No report.
- d) **Policy.** No report.

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to adjourn the meeting. So voted 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield  
Recording Secretary for:

Mrs. Marjorie Levesque, Clerk