

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 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, 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, and (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and/or Litigation. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 7-0.

Public Session recessed at 6:20 PM and resumed at 7:00 PM.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Mr. Carpender reported on the following:

- An Executive Session was held prior to this meeting under RIGL (a)(1) and (a)(1) on a motion by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque and approved 7-0. Two votes were taken on personnel matters. The motions were made by Ms. Wedge, were seconded by Mrs. Levesque, and were approved 7-0. A motion on an issue involving litigation was made by Ms. Wedge, was seconded by Mrs. Levesque, and was approved 7-0. A motion to adjourn the Executive Session was made by Ms. Wedge, was seconded by Mrs. Levesque, and was approved 7-0. A motion to seal the minutes was made by Ms. Wedge, was seconded by Mrs. Levesque, and was approved 7-0.
- Mr. Carpender read a statement rebutting some comments made by Mrs. Perrotti at the February 9, 2010, meeting regarding the RGB Report. Mrs. Perrotti asked Mr. Carpender for a copy of his statement. Mr. Carpender agreed. As it was part of the Chairman's Report Mr. Carpender accepted no comment on his remarks.

2. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Lusi reported on the following:

- Mrs. Jermain is out with a personal commitment today.
- Dr. Lusi announced a number of athletic achievements.
- The School Committee met with the Legislative Delegation on Monday, March 22nd, to discuss the Committee's legislative agenda.
- An Art and Music Festival will be held at PMS on Thursday, March 25th, at 7:00 PM.
- A meeting of the Special House Commission, chaired by Representative Amy Rice, will be held on Thursday, March 25th, at 7:00 PM, at Gaudet School in Middletown, to discuss regionalizing and/or combining administrative and other functions of the Newport, Middletown, and Portsmouth School Systems.

- a) Teaching and Learning: No report.
- b) Finance and Operations: No report.
- c) High School Liaison: Absent.

3. **SPOTLIGHT**

- a) **ModelUN 09-10 - PHS.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to commend Mr. Joseph Cassady and the following Portsmouth High School students for their participation as delegates of the 2010 Boston University Model United Nations Conference in February: Kelsey Shanklin, James Boyadjian, Katie Schultz, Grace Banks, Rachel Yates-Berg, Hannah Petrie, Katie Struckman, Adam Whalley, Mary Duckett, Rebecca Mutty, and Joseph Futoma. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 7-0. Dr. Lusi welcomed Mr. Cassady. Kelsey Shanklin presented her senior project on the Model UN.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to approve the minutes of the meeting held March 9, 2010. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 5-0-2. Ms. Volpicelli and Mrs. King abstained due to their absence from that meeting.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

6. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

- a) **Discussion/Approval – FY 2010-11 Budget Request.** Mr. Buddemeyer described the budget building process. Seven Finance Subcommittee meetings were held over the past two months. All schools presented their needs, and all requested level funding. The overall figure is a 2.5 percent increase over the 2009-10 budget. Mr. Dunham stated that there are several unknown items at this time. State aid is very vague, and we have estimated a 5 percent reduction. Much discussion took place. Mrs. Perrotti stated that she cannot support this budget. Ms. Volpicelli stated that she needed to abstain from voting as she was unable to attend the Finance Subcommittee meetings and had just received the information. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to approve the 2010-11 budget at \$36,643,021. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 5-1-1. Mrs. Perrotti was opposed. Ms. Volpicelli abstained.
- b) **Acceptance of 2009 Audit.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to accept the June 30, 2009, audit performed by the Braver Accounting Firm. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 7-0.

- c) **Report on February Financials.** Mr. Dunham gave a brief review of the February financials.
- d) **Approval – 2010-11 School Calendar.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to approve the proposed calendar for the 2010-11 school year as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 7-0.
- e) **Funding Formula Committee Resolution.** Mrs. Levesque read a resolution she drafted regarding grave concerns about the proposed Rhode Island Department of Education’s funding formula. Mr. Carpender suggested adding “The Portsmouth School Committee wishes” to the beginning of the resolution. Mrs. Levesque made a motion to approve the resolution to the RIDE funding formula and to send it to the rest of the School Committees and Town Councils in Rhode Island, as well as the General Assembly. So voted 7-0.

7. **SUBCOMMITTEE AGENDA**

- a) **Facilities.** No report.
- b) **Finance.** No report.
- c) **Health and Wellness.** No report.
- d) **Policy.** No report.

Mrs. Perrotti asked to make an addendum to the minutes regarding Mr. Carpender’s remarks about her statement “jumbo size kindergarten room” when the actual room is a pre-k room.

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to adjourn the meeting. So voted 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield
Recording Secretary for:

Mrs. Marjorie Levesque, Clerk