

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 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, V. Chair	Mr. Michael Buddemeyer	Ms. Angela Volpicelli

Also Present: Dr. Lusi, Asst. Supt. Jermain, Mr. Mark Dunham, and Mrs. Patti Cofield

Absent: Mrs. Cynthia Perrotti

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Law 42-46-5, Exceptions (a)(1) Job Performance/Personnel Matters; (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and/or Litigation; or (a)(8) Student Discipline. So voted 6-0.

The Public Session recessed at 6:05 PM and resumed at 6:25 PM.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Mr. Carpender announced that an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting on a motion made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0. No motions were made, and no votes were taken. The meeting adjourned on a motion made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0. A motion to seal the minutes was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0.
2. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Lusi acknowledged that Rhode Island was named as one of the 18 finalists for Race to the Top today.
 - a) **Teaching and Learning:** No report
 - b) **Finance and Operations:** No report.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - a) **Appt. – Math Teacher, PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #1-7/27/10, to the position of Math Teacher at Portsmouth High School, for the 2010-11 school year."
 - b) **Appt. – Math Teacher, PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #2-7/27/10, to the position of Math Teacher at Portsmouth High School, for the 2010-11 school year."

- c) **Appt. – Senior Project Coordinator, PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #3-7/27/10, to the position of Senior Project Coordinator at Portsmouth High School, for the 2010-11 school year."
- d) **Appt. – PE/Health Teacher, PMS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #4-7/27/10, to the position of PE/Health Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, for the 2010-11 school year."
- e) **Appt. – Grade 4 Teacher, PMS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #5-7/27/10, to the position of Grade 4 Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, for the 2010-11 school year."

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. So voted 6-0. Dr. Lusi announced the following appointments:

- a) Kimberly Rosander, Math Teacher, PHS, Step 5
 - b) Jessica Washburn, Math Teacher, PHS, Step 1
 - c) Camille Frankel, Senior Project Coordinator, PHS
 - d) Tara McCarthy, PE/Health Teacher, PMS, Step 1
 - e) Nicole Klimek, Grade 4 Teacher, PMS, Step 1-2
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
5. **BUSINESS AGENDA**
- a) **Teacher Displacement.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge that the teaching contract of Teacher 39 be eliminated immediately. The specific reason for this recommendation is that the current program in which this teacher is teaching may be reconstituted and/or eliminated beginning with the 2010-11 academic year to improve the educational efficacy of programmatic offerings for Portsmouth students. As a result of this reconstitution or elimination, this teacher will be displaced and will be placed on the involuntary transfer list to retain rights to his/her current position. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0.
 - b) **Discussion/Action – 2010-11 Budget.** Mr. Carpender made clear that our budget is very lean, a 1.5 percent increase over last year. He stated that Dr. Lusi came forward at one of the last meetings with recommendations on how we would close the gap. \$350,000 is identified in additional areas where the Committee could take some action to decrease the expenditures. None of them are things that we agree are necessarily good, but we think

we can do them. Mr. Dunham distributed the Summary of Proposed Budget Reductions to Date (7/27/10) spreadsheet. He stated that the Additional Reductions/Changes column had been added. The Gap closing amount of (\$583,089) and the new (\$350,000) result in a revised budget of \$3,293,021. He listed the description of reductions. Mr. Carpender read part of a memo that Mrs. Perrotti asked him to read in her absence. He read Items 1 and 2, but not 3 because it pertains to negotiations. He stated that the first item is something, in his opinion, that we have been doing over the last 6 or 7 months. We have a budget that addresses the needs of the students in this district. Nothing is supplemental or nice to have. He doesn't disagree with the curriculum statement regarding the new BEP; however, we are in the process of trying to get the budget in place for the coming year. He doesn't believe we have time right now to scrub the curriculum in light of the new BEP. He stated that we can update the new 3-year forecast, but that has no impact on what we are trying to do tonight.

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to revise our budget to \$36,293,021 for the 2010-11 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0.

Dr. Lusi informed the Committee that we still do not have a budget. In last night's Town Council discussion, if the complete \$500,000+ that would've been over the cap had been taken from the schools, it would end up being over \$200,000 below the current budget. The cuts the Committee just voted do not affect sports, arts, music, or student activities. Those are very important to our students, administration, community, and this Committee. However, the new BEP no longer states that there needs to be interscholastic sports. It lists intramurals or interscholastic. For art and music, you have to offer it at all levels K-12, but it is not clear that you need to offer a full year. Consequently, not knowing our budget at this point, Dr. Lusi directed each elementary principal to schedule their programs for students to have a half year of art and a half year of music. If the budget gets to the number that the Committee just voted, then full compliments of these programs will be offered, but she can't guarantee that the Town Council vote will go that way. She stated that she met with Mr. Lunney last week to discuss athletics. She stated that if we start the fall season, we need to appoint coaches at the August 10th meeting. The only coach we have appointed so far is football, which happened months ago. She informed the Committee that our total athletic budget is roughly \$350,000, including the salary and benefits of our Athletic Director. Fall sports are just over \$100,000, not including the salary. Gate receipts are approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000. A substantial portion of our athletic budget will be expended if we commit to fall sports. Sports are no longer a requirement in the new BEP; and law, regulation, and/or contract don't require it. Dr. Lusi sought direction from the School Committee as to whether or not to move forward with fall sports and student activities in the face of this budget uncertainty. The dilemma is that if our students do not begin the fall season, fall sports cannot be reinstated in a month or two because interscholastic schedules have already been set. Mr. Carpender said that is opinion is that we move forward with fall sports. He doesn't want to punish the kids because the adults can't get their act together. Mrs. Levesque asked if

we don't have fall sports, if we are not allowed to have it for three years because of the interscholastic rules. Dr. Lusi stated that she is not aware of that, but she will look into it. Mr. Buddemeyer wants to move forward with fall sports. Ms. Wedge stated that she won't vote to reduce fall sports, music, or arts. Dr. Lusi stated that if we didn't continue with fall sports, we couldn't have the band travel either. Ms. Volpicelli stated that it is very important to move forward with the sports. Mr. Carpender stated that depending on what happens with the budget, there are two actions available: having a referendum or filing Caruolo action. Caruolo action requires that we work with the budget as adopted.

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque to adjourn the meeting. So voted 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield
Recording Secretary for:

Mrs. Marjorie Levesque, Clerk