

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair, Jonathan Harris, at 6:30 PM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jonathan Harris, Vice Chair; Marilyn King, Clerk; David Croston; Thomas Vadney; Angela Volpicelli, Sylvia Wedge, and Cynthia Perrotti, Chair (6:35 PM)

Also Present: Dr. Krizic, Superintendent; Colleen Jermain, Assistant Superintendent; Mark Dunham, Director of Finance and Administration; and Patti Cofield, Administrative Assistant

**ABSENT:** None.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris 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 Mr. Croston. So voted 6-0.

The Public Session recessed at 6:30 PM and resumed at 7:15 PM.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

2. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Mrs. Perrotti reported on the following:

- Shared that the collective bargaining agreements with NEA Portsmouth and Council 94 are both expired, and negotiations continue. The School Committee will have a special meeting on Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m., at which time they are expected to take action on a new collective bargaining agreement with NEA Portsmouth.
- The School Committee was asked to begin thinking about the performance goals for Superintendent Lynn Krizic, as they need to be finalized by mid-October. The School Committee retreat scheduled in September would provide the opportunity to develop these performance goals.
- Shared that amicus briefs were submitted by both the Rhode Island School Committee Association and the Rhode Island School Superintendents Association in support of the Portsmouth School Committee's pending case on seniority.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Mrs. Melvin stated that she wants to hear the rationale for the Family and Consumer Science position on the Consent Agenda and content of the position.
- Ms. Wedge stated that she is deeply saddened that our Town Administrator, Bob Driscoll, has left us. Ms. Volpicelli agreed.

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION:**

- A. **FY12 Enrollment:** Dr. Krizic stated that student enrollment continues to change every day as the first day of school approaches. As of August 23<sup>rd</sup>, there were 2,670 students enrolled. This reflects a slight increase in enrollment compared to the last day of attendance

enrollment in June 2011 (2,664). Of notable concern were the class enrollments in Kindergarten and Grade 3. Solutions to address enrollments exceeding class size limits at either Melville or Hathaway include transporting students to the school with openings and/or opening new sections if all class size limits are reached.

- B. Facility Report Warrant Update:** Dr. Krizic reported that for the past several years, the Town's Budget included a \$350,000 Facility Repair Warrant for the Portsmouth School Department. The number of projects identified in the 5-year facility plan significantly exceeds the annual \$350,000 Facility Repair Warrant allocation; however, the existing School Department budget currently does not have the fiscal resources to address all of the necessary and preventative maintenance projects identified.

Due to the moratorium on the 30% reimbursement for school construction-related projects, Town administrators had asked the School Department to delay any facility and/or maintenance repair projects. However, after meeting to discuss the magnitude of the work to be done, it was necessary for the School Department to go forward with identified and prioritized safety and security projects. Understanding that prior warrants had received the 30% reimbursements, the School Department would modify the facility work to 30% less of the \$350,000 Facility Warrant or \$245,000 for FY11 and FY12. In the event that the 30% reimbursement became available, projects totaling \$105,000 for FY11 and FY12 would be submitted. Mark Dunham shared that the items scheduled for repair and/or replacement were primarily code compliance, safety, and security projects.

- C. New High School Course Approval Process and Timelines:** Dr. Krizic reported that she met with High School Principal Bob Littlefield; Asst. Principals Lori McEwen, Jeff Goss, and Mike Monahan; and Assistant Superintendent Colleen Jermain, to review the course proposal and approval process used at the school, district, and Board levels. In order to further enhance the consistency and rigor in the course development and approval process, a revised format and process was finalized. Additionally, identifying timelines for the approval process were finalized, as there may be human resource and fiscal cost impacts to any proposal presented to the School Committee for approval.

The course approval form will include a variety of variables including, but not limited to, the following: alignment of state, national, college readiness, and common core standards; staff requirements; facility requirements; textbook recommendations; impact on other courses; multi-year implications; anticipated impact on student achievement; and type of course.

- D. Feasibility of Requesting Change to School Budget Deadline Date in Town Charter.** Dr. Krizic reported that a member of the Charter Review Committee contacted both Mark Dunham and Cynthia Perrotti to seek input from the School Committee on the issue of requesting a change to the Town Charter's budget deadlines for the School Department Budget.

Currently, the Charter requires that the school budget be submitted to the Town by March 25<sup>th</sup>. At the time the budget is submitted on March 25<sup>th</sup>, the school district's budget is partially based on assumptions with regards to certain costs (e.g., health care, utility, state aid, number of personnel, etc). In the event that the deadline is moved to the end of April, the additional month would allow for the district to receive more specifics with regards to some anticipated costs. Thus, the proposed budget would contain fewer assumptions and more concrete budget information. The only adverse impact on requesting the budget date move from March 25<sup>th</sup> to April 25<sup>th</sup> is the length of time the Town has to develop its provisional budget for the community review and Town Council deliberation.

The School Committee unanimously expressed verbal support for a budget submission date change to the Town Charter. If approved by the Town, the change would affect the 2012-13 budget process.

5. **APPROVAL OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Harris and was seconded by Mr. Croston to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 21, 2011. Mrs. King and Ms. Volpicelli abstained due to their absence from that meeting. So voted 5-0.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mr. Croston to move Items 5 and 9 to the Business Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Harris. So voted 7-0.

A. **Personnel**

1. **Teacher Resignation.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the School Committee accepts the resignation of Susana Louro, Portuguese and Spanish Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, as presented."
2. **Teacher Resignation.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the School Committee accepts the resignation of Bethany Gorter, Library Media Specialist at Melville School, as presented."
3. **Teacher Resignation.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the School Committee accepts the resignation of Ruth F. Donahue, Library Media Specialist at Portsmouth Middle School, as presented."
4. **Appt. – Science Teacher, PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #1-8/23/11, to the position of Science Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective August 30, 2011."

5. **Appt. – Family/Consumer Science Teacher, PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #2-8/23/11, to the position of Family/Consumer Science Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective August 30, 2011." (Moved to Business Agenda)
  6. **Appt. – Grade 8 Spanish Teacher, Time, PMS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #3-8/23/11, to the position of Grade 8 Spanish Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, effective August 30, 2011."
  7. **Appt. – Grade 7 Math Teacher, .4 Time, PMS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #4-8/23/11, to the position of Grade 7 Math Teacher, .4 time, at Portsmouth Middle School, for the 2011-12 school year."
  8. **Appt. – Music Teacher, .2 Time, Melville.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #5-8/23/11, to the position of Music Teacher, .2 time, at Melville School, for the 2011-12 school year."
  9. **Appt. – School Clerk, Category B, Hathaway.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #6-8/23/11, to the position of School Clerk, Category B, at Hathaway School, effective August 23, 2011." (Moved to Business Agenda)
  10. **Appt. – Part-time Clerical Assistant, Nurse's Office/ISS, PMS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #7-8/23/11, to the position of Part-time Clerical Assistant, at Portsmouth Middle School, effective August 23, 2011"
  11. **Coaching Appts. – PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the coaching appointments at Portsmouth High School for the 2011-12 fall season, as presented."
- B. Approval of Requests for Permission to Home School.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee approves the requests to provide home schooling for the 2011-12 school year for students HS #1 through #15-8/11, as listed in the confidential memo dated August 15, 2011, in accordance with the provisions of R.I. Law 16-19-2."

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda with the exclusion of Items 5 and 9. Seconded by Mrs. King. So voted 7-0. Dr. Krizic announced the following appointments:

Madeline Chisholm	Science Teacher, PHS, Step 5 BA
Sara King	Grade 8 Spanish, PMS, Step 2 BA
Kristen Pacheco	.4 Grade 7 Math Teacher, PMS, Step 1 BA
Shawna Gleason	.2 Music Teacher, Melville, Step 6 BA
Kirsten Pacheco	Part-Time Clerk, Nurse's Office/ISS, PMS

Coaching Appointments:

Kenneth O'Brien	Assistant Coach	Football
Bryan Travers	Assistant Coach	Football
Jeff Rose	Head Coach	Girls' Cross-Country

Coaching Reappointments:

Ryan Moniz	Head Coach	Football
Matt Plumb	Assistant Coach	Football
Andrew Donnelly	Assistant Coach	Football
Keith MacDonald	Assistant Coach	Football
Steve Kirwin	Assistant Coach	Football
Justin Wesley	Assistant Coach	Football
Jesse McKinnon	Volunteer Coach	Football
Peter Kirwin	Fr. Equip. Manager	Football
Norman Bailey	Equip. Manager	Football
Bob Crudup	Volunteer	All Sports
Jim Blaess	Head Coach	Girls Soccer
James Donovan	Assistant Coach	Girls Soccer
Tom Chamard	Assistant Coach	Girls Soccer
Mike Stinton	Head Coach	Boys Soccer
Scott Sullivan	Assistant Coach	Boys Soccer
Jeff McGuirl	Assistant Coach	Boys Soccer
Shaun Horgan	Head Coach	Boys Cross Country
Judy Colman	Head Coach	Girls Tennis
Rick Berube	Volunteer	Girls Tennis
Deb Valente	Head Coach	Cheerleading

7. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

Items 5 and 9 are from the Consent Agenda:

5. **Appt. – Family/Consumer Science Teacher, PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #2-8/23/11, to the position of Family/Consumer Science Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective August 30, 2011." Mrs. Perrotti stated that this is a full-time, replacement position. There are three teachers in the Consumer Science

Department. This position will teach more courses dealing with food preparation. Mrs. Melvin was concerned with the step the teacher is being hired at. Mr. Harris and Mrs. Perrotti defended the step, adding that their first priority was to hire quality teachers. Mr. Cassidy defended and praised the culinary program. So voted 7-0. Dr. Krizic announced the appointment of Carol Leaver to the Family/Consumer Science position.

9. **Appt. – School Clerk, Category B, Hathaway.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee affirms the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #6-8/23/11, to the position of School Clerk, Category B, at Hathaway School, effective August 23, 2011." Mr. Harris made a motion to affirm the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #6-8/23/11, to the position of School Clerk, Category B, at Hathaway School, effective August 23, 2011. Mr. Croston amended the motion to direct administration to appoint the candidate to a temporary position at this time. Seconded by Mr. Harris. So voted 7-0. Mr. Harris withdrew his original motion. Dr. Krizic announced the appointment of Emily Rahilly to the temporary clerk position.

#### **Regular Business Agenda:**

- A. **Authorize Administration to Provide the Reprioritized Facility Warrant Project List to the Town Administrators.** A motion was made by Mr. Harris and was seconded by Mrs. King to authorize Administration to provide the reprioritized Facility Warrant Project List to the Town Administrators. So voted 7-0.
- B. **Agenda Item Request – Abolish the Special Education Subcommittee.** A motion was made by Mr. Harris and was seconded by Mrs. King to abolish the Special Education Subcommittee. Mrs. Perrotti stated that she requested that this subcommittee be formed back in September. Now that the budget cycle is over, she recommends abolishing the subcommittee. So voted 7-0.
- C. **Approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between NEA Portsmouth and the Portsmouth School Committee.** This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

#### **8. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATION**

- A. **Alternative Revenue.** Mr. Croston reported that the subcommittee met on August 9<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the status of the AIM academy. He stated that they have not been able to gain traction legislatively, so they discussed other avenues. They also reviewed the request for information from the Jamestown School Committee and expect further information from Jamestown in future months. A request was made from the subcommittee to report back as to available seats at PMS in 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.
- B. **Facilities.** Mr. Croston reported that the subcommittee met on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Dunham updated the subcommittee on the Housing Aid Moratorium for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 Building Warrant. The subcommittee approved requesting School Committee approval to hold back 30 percent on both warrants. They reviewed the revised capital spending budget

for the 2010-11/2011-12 warrant. They also approved requesting School Committee approval of the revised warrant spending (subject to legislative reimbursement).

- C. **Finance.** Mr. Harris stated that at next month's School Committee retreat, he would like to discuss a program evaluation review to make sure our budget aligns with our priorities.
  - D. **Health and Wellness.** Ms. Volpicelli stated that the first meeting of the subcommittee would be held next month.
  - E. **Healthcare Commission.** No report.
  - F. **Negotiations.** No report.
  - G. **Policy.** Mrs. King stated that the subcommittee met on August 9<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed to have all policies updated by May, section by section.
  - H. **Special Education.** It was voted to withdraw this subcommittee.
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Harris and was seconded by Mrs. King. So voted 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield  
Recording Secretary for:

Marilyn King, Clerk