

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mrs. Perrotti, at 6:30 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cynthia Perrotti, Chair; David Croston; Thomas Vadney; Angela Volpicelli; and Sylvia Wedge

Also Present: Dr. Krizic, Superintendent; Jeffrey Schoonover, Interim Director of Instruction and Assessment; Mark Dunham, Director of Finance and Administration; Patti Cofield, Administrative Assistant; Joseph Quinn, Little Compton School Committee Liaison; Hayley McClintock, PHS Student Liaison

ABSENT: Jonathan Harris, Vice Chair; Marilyn King, Clerk

A motion was made by Mr. Croston 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 Ms. Volpicelli. So voted 5-0.

The Public Session recessed at 6:30 PM and resumed at 7:40 PM.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT.** None.

3. **RECOGNITION AGENDA.**

A. **PHS Science Fair Winners.** The School Committee recognized the following first, second and third place freshman and sophomore winners of the annual PHS Science Fair: (Freshman) First Place-Chris Norton (The effect on Earth worms when exposed to drinkable fluids), Second Place-Amanda Damon (The Influence of Caffeine on the Regeneration of Planarian), and Third Place-Robert Janik, (Creating a Wind Turbine); and (Sophomores) First Place-Liam Dooley (What Form of Water Heating is More Cost Effective?), Second Place-Nick Norton (Creating a Text Encryptor Using Python), and Third Place-Amanda Chisholm (What are the Leading Factors that Cause Light Pollution in a City?).

4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Mrs. Perrotti reported that the School Committee's Technology Committee was to be made up of two School Committee members. Mr. Vadney (Chair) and Mr. Harris will serve on the committee. The scheduled hearing with regard to seniority at RIDE was postponed to a later date. Mrs. Perrotti thanked the Town Council for agreeing to move playground equipment from Elmhurst School to Hathaway School as this equipment is most age appropriate for Hathaway students. She reported on the preliminary budget presentation made by Mr. Dunham at the prior night's Town Council meeting. Mrs. Perrotti

thanked Superintendent Krizic and her team for identifying budget reductions. On Friday, Mrs. Perrotti had the opportunity to spend the day at Melville School. She shared that all School Committee members completed six hours of training provided by the RIASC in 2011. Mrs. Perrotti announced that Business Agenda Item F was being withdrawn.

5. **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION:** Superintendent Krizic shared that Hayley McClintock, senior at PHS and high school representative to the School Committee, has been selected as one of the 3,000 Presidential Scholar nominees. On an annual basis, 141 students are named as Presidential Scholars each spring. Dr. Krizic also announced that the School Committee meeting agendas and non-confidential meeting materials are now available on the school district's website www.portsmouthschoolsri.net. They are located under the School Committee tab and are found on the Novus Solutions (Agenda) link.
 - A. **Report from PHS Liaison.** Hayley McClintock reported that the annual carnation sales will be held next week. An egg hunt is being organized for elementary students. The Student Council Executive Board made a donation to the Physical Education Department, and new cardio equipment was purchased. A blood drive was held last Friday, and 74 quarts of blood were donated. The next drive will be held in March. Senior project papers were handed in last week, and the students will present their projects May 22 and 23. Hayley invited the Committee to attend. She congratulated Mr. Schoonover on his position.
 - B. **2010-11 Audit Report.** Mr. Dunham provided an overview of the 2010-2011 audit report and explained the status of the school department's positive fund balance. At the conclusion of the FY11 school year, there was an unassigned fund balance of \$1,402,467, which represented 3.77% of the school department's total budget. Mr. Dunham recommended that the School Committee further discuss how to use the fund balance for one-time non-recurring expenditures at a future Finance Subcommittee meeting.
 - C. **December Financial Report.** Mr. Dunham reported that we are projecting a small surplus for FY'12. There is a projected over-expenditure in the legal services line, but the budget transfer will cover that expenditure.
 - D. **NESDEC Enrollment Report.** Superintendent Krizic provided an overview of the NESDEC Enrollment report, a report which provides enrollment projections for a 10-year period. In the 2012-13 school year, the NESDEC report projected a possible decline of 109 students across all grade levels. Factors affecting enrollment projections include birth rates, housing sales, issuance of building permits, and the economy. Dr. Krizic stated that the projections for Years 6 through 10 should be interpreted with caution, as any positive changes to the economy would have an impact on enrollment.

E. **4th/5th Grade Parent/Staff Committee Report.** Members of the 4th and 5th Grade Staff/Parent Steering Subcommittee presented eight recommendations to be considered for the 2012-13 school year in order to further enhance the quality of the educational environment for 4th and 5th grade students. The recommendations included the following: (1) Addition of an assistant principal assigned to 4th and 5th grade, and elimination of 4th and 5th grade house leader position; (2) Reallocation of counseling services to allow for a full-time counselor for 4th and 5th grade students; (3) Addition of a part-time clerk for the 4th and 5th grades; (4) Continue to reinforce seating of 4th and 5th grade students at the front of the busses, and eliminate the after-school bus for 5th grade students; (5) Creation of a separate 4th and 5th grade student handbook; (6) Revision of school name to delineate 4th and 5th grade from the 6th/7th/8th Middle School; (7) Reconfigure the public address system to allow for both school-wide messages as well as grade level specific messages to be delivered; and (8) Purchase of necessary equipment and physical plant alterations. The projected fiscal impact of the recommendations was approximately \$50,000 for one-time expenditures and approximately \$50,000 for on-going expenditures.

6. **APPROVAL OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES:** A motion was made by Mr. Croston to approve the minutes of the meeting held on December 13, 2011. Seconded by Mr. Vadney. So voted 4-0-1. Ms. Volpicelli abstained due to her absence from that meeting.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mr. Croston to move Item I. to the Business Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Vadney. So voted 5-0.

A. **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Marjorie B. Cogar, Modern World Language Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective with the last day of the 2011-12 school year.”

B. **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Camille Frankel, English Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective with the last day of the 2011-12 school year.”

C. **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Margaret E. Waugh, Grade 1 Teacher at Hathaway School, effective with the last day of the 2011-12 school year.”

- D. **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Rita Finn, Grade 8 English Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, effective with the last day of the 2011-12 school year.”
- E. **Custodian Resignation.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation of Jay Catalan, Custodian at Portsmouth High School, effective immediately.”
- F. **Appt. – Early Intervention Program Teacher, Melville.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee affirms the Superintendent’s appointment, Recommendation #3-1/24/12, to the position of Early Intervention Program Teacher at Melville School, effective January 23, 2012.”
- G. **Appt. – Kindergarten Teacher, .5 time, Hathaway.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee affirms the Superintendent’s appointment, Recommendation #4-1/24/12, to the position of Kindergarten Teacher, .5 time, at Hathaway School, effective January 23, 2012.”
- H. **Appt. – Math Literacy Coach, .6 time, Hathaway.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee affirms the Superintendent’s appointment, Recommendation #5-1/24/12, to the position of Math Literacy Coach, .6 time, at Hathaway School, effective January 30, 2012.”
- I. **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 spring season, as presented.” This item was moved to the Business Agenda.
- J. **Requests for Leaves of Absence.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee approves the requests for Family and Medical Leave in accordance with the backup information.”
- K. **Approval of Requests for Permission to Home School.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee approves the request to provide home schooling for the 2011-12 school year for students HS #25-1/12, as listed in the confidential memo dated January 17, 2012, in accordance with the provisions of R.I. Law 16-19-2.”

A motion was made by Ms. Volpicelli and was seconded by Mr. Croston to approve Consent Agenda Items A-H, J, and K. So voted 5-0. Dr. Krizic announced the following appointments:

Melissa Siebens, Early Intervention Program Teacher, Melville
Elizabeth Gill, Kindergarten Teacher, .5 time, Hathaway
Beth Roman, Math Literacy Coach, .6 time, Hathaway

8. BUSINESS AGENDA

Item I. was moved from the Consent Agenda.

- I. **Coaching Appts. – PHS.** A motion was made by Mr. Croston to affirm the coaching appointments at Portsmouth High School for the 2011-12 spring season, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Wedge. So voted 5-0. Dr. Krizic announced the following reappointments:

Ron Westmoreland	Head coach	Baseball
Mike Borrosh	Head Coach	Girls Lacrosse
Matt McGuire	Assistant Coach	Baseball
Tom Galib	Head Coach	Softball
Gary Dorsi	Head Coach	Golf
Bill Waterman	Volunteer	Girls Lacrosse
Tara McCarthy	Volunteer	Girls Lacrosse
John Heino	Head Coach	Boys Lacrosse
Shaun Horgan	Head Coach	Boys Track
Jeff Rose	Head Coach	Girls Track

- A. **Approve Second Reading and Adoption of Identified Policies in Section 5000.** A motion was made by Ms. Volpicelli and was seconded by Ms. Wedge to approve the below listed policies. Dr. Krizic stated that a resident submitted some changes to the policies. As a result, Mr. Croston made a motion to amend the language in Policy 5131.1 Use of Drugs and Alcohol to reflect “use of alcohol and illegal drugs as well as legal drugs used illegally will not be tolerated,” and to waive the first reading of that policy. Seconded by Ms. Wedge. So voted 5-0. A motion was made by Mr. Croston to amend Policy 5134 Student Solicitation at School Events, to include a few missing words. Seconded by Mr. Vadney. So voted 5-0. No changes were made to Policy 5131.2 Smoking on School Grounds, Policy 5132 Dress Code, Policy 5135 Students - Student Fundraising Activities, or Policy 5310 Student Parking. So voted 5-0.

1. 5131.1 Students - Use of Drugs and Alcohol
2. 5131.2 Students - Smoking on School Grounds
3. 5132 Students - Dress Code
4. 5134 Students - Student Solicitation at School Events
5. 5135 Students - Student Fundraising Activities
6. 5310 Students - Parking

B. Approve First Reading of Identified Policies in Section 3000. A motion was made by Ms. Volpicelli and was seconded by Mr. Vadney to approve the below listed policies. Mr. Croston made a motion to amend Policy 3120 Budget Planning and Preparation to add the Portsmouth Town Charter in #5 of the Adoption Procedures. The language should reflect “State law, Portsmouth Town Charter, or School Committee policies.” Mr. Croston also amended Policy 3269 Purchases, to strike “at its discretion” in the last paragraph on Page 1. The amendments were seconded by Mr. Vadney. So voted 5-0. The original motion passed 5-0.

1. 3120 Budget Planning and Preparation
2. 3150 Budget
3. 3155 Budget Preparation
4. 3160 Adjustment of Accounts
5. 3165 Fiscal Budget Requirements
6. 3260 Disposal of School Property
7. 3269 Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, and Donations to the District
8. 3320 Purchases
9. 3323 Soliciting Bids and Quotes
10. 3323.1 Soliciting Bids (Local Purchasing)

C. Budget Transfers. A motion was made by Mr. Croston to approve the budget transfers as presented. Seconded by Ms. Wedge. So voted 5-0.

D. Approval of November 2011 Financials. A motion was made by Ms. Volpicelli and was seconded by Mr. Croston to approve the November 2011 financial reports as presented. So voted 5-0.

E. Bid Award – Hot Water Boiler for Melville School. A motion was made by Ms. Volpicelli and was seconded by Mr. Croston to award the contract for a hot water boiler for Melville School as presented. So voted 5-0. The expenditure will come out of the warrant funds.

F. Bid Award – Facility Planning. The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee awards the contract for facility planning as presented.” This item was withdrawn.

9. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATION

A. Facilities. Mr. Croston reported that the subcommittee will meet on February 2nd to review the Educational Facility Planning proposals to bring back to the full school committee with a recommendation.

- B. **Finance.** Mrs. Perrotti stated that Finance Subcommittee meetings are being scheduled in February and March.
- C. **Health and Wellness.** Ms. Volpicelli stated that the Health and Wellness Subcommittee will meet on January 31st.
- D. **Healthcare Commission.** No report.
- E. **Negotiations.** Dr. Krizic reported that a mediation session is scheduled with Council 94 on January 30th.
- F. **Policy.** No report.
- G. **Personnel.** Ms. Volpicelli reported that the Personnel Subcommittee will hold its first meeting on February 11th and will report out at the February 14th meeting.
- H. **Technology.** No report.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Ms. Volpicelli and was seconded by Mr. Croston to adjourn the meeting. So voted 5-0. 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield
Recording Secretary for:

Marilyn King, Clerk