

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Croston at 7:00 PM in the Portsmouth High School Library.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Croston, Chair; Terri Cortvriend, Vice Chair; Thomas Vadney, Clerk; Fred Faerber, and Andrew Kelly.

Also Present Dr. Lynn Krizic, Superintendent; Jeffrey Schoonover, Director of Instruction & Assessment; and Christopher Diluro, Director of Finance and Administration.

MEMBERS ABSENT John Wojichowski and Emily Copeland.

The committee held a moment of silence at the opening of the meeting to honor the victims of last week's Boston Marathon bombings.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT & SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Croston thanked all members of the Portsmouth Prevention Coalition for their hard work and asked Colleen Carpender to introduce her committee. It is an important night for Portsmouth to hear the results of the survey and address the results.

Andrew Kelly reported that the town did a residential survey and he is pleased that the schools were favorably polled. 67.8 % of respondents said that they were satisfied with the quality of public education in Portsmouth; and when you took out people that did not have any information to answer the question, the result is 85.9%. This speaks to the quality of the education we have in this district, and hopefully we will continue to improve.

2. **RECOGNITIONS**

Dr Krizic recognized music teachers Meryl Moore and Richard Price, , who thanked the students, parents, and administration for supporting the music and arts programs. They introduced the PMS & PHS All State Musicians. Mr. Croston recognized the PMS & PHS All State Musicians, read the proclamation, and presented them with the proclamation. Ted Rausch was congratulated on receiving the Golden Apple Award.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATIONS**

A. PHS Student liaison report – Rachel Amundson reported on recent activities at PHS. They completed Modern Language Week; had a successful unveiling of their mascot; completed Dreams for Patients fundraising, which collected money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society; elected a Mr. Portsmouth; over February vacation, the Band went to Bermuda; the Science Olympiad competed at RIC and placed 7th out of 26. In the future,

senior projects will be completed, and AP exams will be given. The junior prom is this Friday and the Froshmore dance is May 11th.

- B. Dr. Krizic reported that at their Leadership Meeting this morning, Mr. Monahan and Mr. Littlefield reported that they just finished registering 234 AP students for 419 exams. Dr. Krizic tweeted this, and she is tweeting much information about all the celebratory things going on in Portsmouth.

There were no questions about the Superintendents 2.36 and 2.37 weekly update.

- C. Mr. Diluro reported on the February and March financials. The revenue prospective is better than forecasted due to the mental Medicaid reimbursement dollars from the Newport County Regional Special Education Collaborative. All revenue lines seem to be on budget.

On the expenditure side, the Special Education line is over budget and has been all year. There was an overage on the claims and settlement line of \$25,000, and there will be an additional \$15,000 that will be coming in April.

In summary, we are continuing to focus on getting a very good forecast for the remainder of the year and to be able to report at the next meeting how we will end the year.

Mr. Croston thanked Mr. Diluro on a job well done. In four short weeks, he has gotten a handle on the office, straightened out the HR department, and determined where our annual expenditures are. Everyone is very appreciative of him.

5. **APPROVAL OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

- A. March 18, 2013 Public Session: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Fred Faerber to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2013, public session. So voted 5-0.
- B. March 25, 2013 Public Session: Withdrawn from the agenda.
- C. March 26, 2013 Executive Session: Withdrawn from the agenda.
- D. March 26, 2013 Public Session: Withdrawn from the agenda.
- E. April 11, 2013 Public Session: Withdrawn from the agenda.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Appointment - Payroll Clerk
- B. Approval of Rescission of Teacher Non-Renewals

A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Andrew Kelly to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. So voted 5-0. Dr. Krizic announced the following appointment: Darlene Quinn – Payroll Clerk

7. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

Mr. Croston recognized Chief Furtado of the Portsmouth Police Department and thanked him for their support and help in keeping our schools safe

Mr. Croston introduced Colleen Carpender, President of the Portsmouth Prevention Coalition, to tell us a little about the Coalition and who the members are. Mrs. Carpender introduced the members: Nicole Pascoe, Vice-Chair, East Bay Educational Collaborative Social worker; Marianne Raymo, parent; Rebecca Elwell, Secretary, Coordinator Tiverton & Little Compton Prevention Coalitions, parent, Kathy Melvin, citizen; Richard Carpender, citizen; and & Ray Davis, Coordinator of PPC, BS, CPSS.

The coalition is a group of parents, teachers, citizens, and social workers who meet to address issues in Portsmouth. A survey was conducted to see what the issues are and to come up with solutions.

A. A presentation on the Portsmouth Substance Abuse Data Report was made by Ray Davis and John Mattson from John Mattson Consulting. Mr. Davis thanked Portsmouth administrators, teachers, and students for their cooperation in conducting the survey. They asked for a true cross section of students – they did not want to hear best behavior, but actual behavior. Mr. Davis thanked Donna Darmody for help in preparing the power point presentation; and Rebecca Elwell for all her help and guidance. He stated that initially they started with a grant of \$500 from Little Compton; and when they were unable to get more funding, Mr. Croston and the School Committee enabled them to do this. He thanked them for their support.

Mr. Davis introduced Mr. John Mattson, consultant, who presented the results of the survey. Much discussion took place.

The entire report is available on the Portsmouth School Department and Portsmouth Town Websites.

In summary, the coalition will work with the Portsmouth School Department to help find solutions. A question and answer period followed. Mr. Kelly thanked the committee for their hard work. He hopes this report helps the school committee, administration, police, and school officials address the problem. We need to do a better job of educating students, and as an administration, we must do our job.

B. Discussion re PHS Preliminary Plans for Addressing Results of Substance Abuse

Data Report. Mr. Littlefield and his team: Michael Monahan, Guidance Director; Christopher Ashley, and Colleen Larson, Asst. Principals presented a report on how PHS addresses issues.

The entire report is available on the Portsmouth School Department website.

- C. A motion was duly made and seconded to approve a contract to Gale Engineers and Planners of Weymouth, MA, to do engineering work for improvements to the athletic fields at Portsmouth High School at a cost of \$64,550. So voted 5-0
- D. A motion was duly made and seconded to approve a Capital Improvement Plan for FY14 for \$350,000. So voted 5-0.
- E. A motion was duly made and seconded to accept an offer by Rhodeway Networks, Inc. of Middletown for VizSafe and VizLocker Services in all schools by June 1, 2013. So voted 4-0-1. Mr. Croston recused himself.
- F. A motion was duly made and seconded to approved the allocation of up to \$15,000 for Surveillance Cameras, Switches, Cabling, and Miscellaneous Devices in conjunction with the Rhodeway Trial Proposal with the Understanding that Installation Labor Costs to be waived. So voted 4-0-1. Mr. Croston recused himself.
- G. A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the resolution for Administrative Professionals Day. So voted 5-0.

8. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Strategic Plan - No report
- B. Technology - No report

Mr. Croston commended Mrs. Melvin for her work on the Drug Abuse Program.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly and was seconded by Mr. Vadney to adjourn the meeting. So voted 5-0.

Respectfully submitted:

Ruth Ziegler
Acting Recording Secretary for

Thomas Vadney, Clerk.