

Portsmouth School Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 26, 2013, 7:30 PM
Portsmouth High School Library

The meeting was called to order by the Mr. Croston at 7:35 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Croston, Chair; Terri Cortvriend, Vice Chair; Thomas Vadney, Clerk; Emily Copeland; Fred Faerber; Andrew Kelly; and John Wojichowski

Also Present: Dr. Lynn Krizic, Superintendent; Jeffrey Schoonover, Interim Director of Instruction and Assessment; Joseph Crowley, Interim Director of Finance and Administration; and Patti Cofield, Administrative Assistant

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

Mr. Croston reported that the number of teacher non-renewals is larger than anticipated; however, the School Committee wanted to be cautious and hopes to call everyone back.

Mr. Kelly announced that on March 7th, there will be a celebration of the signing of the Portsmouth Compact of 1638 at the Portsmouth Town Hall at noontime.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

3. **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION**

A. FY14 Enrollment Plan: Dr. Krizic gave a Powerpoint presentation on the FY14 enrollment plan.

4. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

A. Approve Teacher Non-Renewals

1. Uncertainty of Sufficient Funding and/or Programmatic Changes: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend that due to the uncertainty of local, Federal and/or State funding for the School Department's programs for the 2013-14 school year, and the School Committee's interest in achieving economic and/or program efficiencies which could result in program reductions, consolidation of classes, realignment of staff, and elimination of positions in order to effectively and efficiently use the department's assets, that the employment of Teachers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 formally ends following the completion of their current assignment with the Portsmouth School Department. This elimination will be effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year. As a result of these eliminations or reconstitutions, these positions can be eliminated due to uncertainty of sufficient funding and/or programmatic reductions. Seconded by Mr. Wojichowski. So voted 6-1. Mr. Kelly was opposed because he believes the March 1st notification deadline is too early.

2. Part-time (less than 135 days): A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend that due to teaching contracts with less than the equivalent of 135 days for the 2012-13 school year, that the employment of Teachers 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 formally ends following the completion of their current assignment with the Portsmouth School Department. Teachers appointed to part-time positions are not entitled to rights of recall. Seconded by Mr. Kelly. So voted 7-0.
3. Limited Employment Contracts and Substitute Teachers: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend that due to the expiration of limited employment contracts of teachers and substitute teachers, that the employment of Teachers 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 formally ends following the completion of their current assignment with the Portsmouth School Department. Long-term substitutes and 1-year appointments are not eligible for continuous employment as a result these positions can be eliminated. Seconded by Mr. Kelly. So voted 7-0.
4. Impact of Leaves of Absence: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend that due to the anticipated return of teachers who will be or may be returning from a leave which would result in teachers having eligibility for the positions, that the employment of Teachers 25 and 26 formally ends following the completion of his/her current assignment with the Portsmouth School Department. Seconded by Mr. Kelly. So voted 7-0.
5. Declining Enrollment: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend that due to projected declines in enrollment for the 2013-14 school year, that the employment of Teachers 27 and 28 formally ends following the completion of their current assignment with the Portsmouth School Department. As a result of declining enrollment, it will be necessary to eliminate or consolidate positions or programs which will result in a lack of positions. Seconded by Mr. Kelly. So voted 7-0.
6. Re-Open Positions: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend that due to the desire of the School Department to re-open the positions for the 2013-14 school year because we believe that there are more qualified candidates, that the employment of Teacher 29 formally ends following the completion of their current assignment with the Portsmouth School Department. Seconded by Mr. Wojichowski. So voted 7-0.
5. **ADJOURNMENT**: A motion was made by Mr. Kelly and was seconded by Mr. Faerber to adjourn the meeting. So voted 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Cofield
Recording Secretary for:

Thomas Vadney, Clerk