

Portland School Committee

Business Meeting - 7pm

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Room 250, Casco Bay High School

Assuring that all students are learning for their future

7:00 pm Business Meeting

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Report of the Chair

1. 5-2-1-0 Goes to School Presentation – Dr. Victoria Rogers, MMC

Report of Superintendent

1. Resignations – Effective September 1, 2009 –
Suzanne Bays Speech Pathologist/Hall
2. Enrollment update

Report of the Secretary – None

Report of Committees

1. Policy Committee/Legislative Affairs
2. Finance Committee
3. Building Committee
4. Facilities Task Force
5. Personnel Committee
6. Other Committees and/or member concerns

Consent Items – None

Old Business -None

New Business

1. First reading of :
 - A. Curriculum Task Force Charge
 - B. Resolution Authorizing a Review of the Elementary School Capital Needs of the Portland Public Schools
 - C. Resolution Authorizing a Review of the Emergency Preparedness Capital Needs of the Portland Public Schools

Personnel

1. Consideration and action to approve the Personnel Items listed:
 - a. Leave of Absence: Effective September 1, 2009
Meghan Prestes Grade 1/EECS Childrearing
 - b. Election – Effective September 1, 2009 Contract: Probationary 1
Julia Brenner K/Peaks Island \$40,083
MA in Elementary Education – Columbia University

Maureen Cott Grade 2/Peaks Island \$33,669
BA in American Studies/Elementary Education – Lesley University

Connie Daigle .6 ELL/PHS \$36,398.40*
MS in Literacy Education – USM

Virginia Stelk .5 ELL Resource Spec/Multi \$32,287.50*
MA in Reading – The Ohio State University

- c. Election – Effective September 10, 2009 Contract: Probationary 1
Farrah Giroux French/Moore \$32,565.10*
MA in Literacy – USM

* Pro-rated

Moved _____ Seconded _____ Voted _____ to approve the Personnel Items listed.

Public Comment Prior to 11:00 PM on any items not on the evening's agenda

Adjournment

Moved _____ Seconded _____ Voted _____ to adjourn the business meeting at _____

Executive Session

Consideration and action to move into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue,
pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(A)

Moved _____ Seconded _____ Voted _____ to move into Executive Session to discuss a
personnel issue, pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(A)

Moved _____ Seconded _____ Voted _____ to come out of Executive Session.

Upcoming School Committee Meetings – Room 250, CBHS

Oct. 7, 7pm Business Meeting
Oct. 21, 7pm Business Meeting

Upcoming Workshops

Oct. 14, 7pm Workshop – NAACP, Part II

Upcoming Subcommittee meetings

Sept. 23, 5:30pm Personnel Committee, Room 250, CBHS- PATHS/CBHS
Data Analysis
Sept. 24, 4:00pm Joint Finance Committee meeting, Room 209, City Hall
Sept. 30, 5:30pm-8:30pm Finance Committee meeting, Room 321, PATHS
Oct. 14, 5:30pm Personnel Committee, Room 250, CBHS –PHS and DHS
Data Analysis
Oct. 21, 5:30pm Personnel Committee, Room 250, CBHS, CBHS &
PATHS Data Analysis

Curriculum Task Force Charge
Fall 2009

Charge for the Portland Public School Curriculum Task Force for the purpose of developing an overall scope of work and responsibilities for an anticipated Curriculum Subcommittee.

1. Review the statutory duties of school boards and superintendents related to curriculum and educational planning.
2. Identify and review current policies related to curriculum and educational planning.
3. Identify potential gaps in or recommended revisions to existing policies to address curriculum and educational issues consistent with statutory requirements.
4. Prepare draft scope of work and responsibilities for the new subcommittee, including text for use in revising policy BDE (Subcommittees, Task Forces, Advisory Groups).
5. Identify preliminary list of staff reports on the status of curriculum and educational planning issues.
6. Summarize task force findings and suggested modifications to policy BDE in a memorandum to the School Committee Chair for consideration by the full committee. Submit memorandum by October 28, 2009.

Portland School Committee

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REVIEW OF THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAPITAL NEEDS OF THE PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the Portland School Committee adopted the report of the Comprehensive Facilities Use and Maintenance Task Force which identified among other things certain deficiencies and inequities across the district in our elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine Department of Education recently announced its process for evaluating the next round of state funded school facility major capital improvement projects which stipulates that districts must submit applications by June 15, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools intends to submit multiple applications to the State of Maine Department of Education in order to be considered for state funding to address critical elementary facility capital projects within the district; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools was successful in securing funding from the State of Maine for the construction of state of the art facilities at the East End Community School in 2006 and the Ocean Avenue Elementary School in 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools undertook significant capital improvements in 1982 and 1990 using local funding to update and modernize its high schools; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools undertook significant capital improvements in 1995-96 using local funding to update and modernize its middle schools; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools undertook significant capital improvements at the Riverton Elementary School in 2007 using local funding; and

WHEREAS, the Plan for Sustainable Education Quality, adopted in 2008, reflects the desire of the Portland Public Schools and City of Portland to work together to manage Portland's facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools recently committed to a multi-year budget process which allows the district and the city to prioritize needs and sustain adequate funding in order to deliver quality educational services in an equitable manner;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in order to maintain equity and consistency in the delivery of elementary education programming within the Portland Public Schools, the Superintendent shall convene a task force and undertake a study of the capital needs of all elementary school buildings consistent with the report of the Comprehensive Facilities Use and Maintenance Task Force;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that for the purposes of this study, the Superintendent shall convene a task force of no more than 14 people consisting of the principal and one community member from among the elementary schools. The community member shall be selected by the Superintendent in consultation with the principal and PTA/PTO of the elementary school. In addition, one member of the Portland School Committee shall be

appointed to the task force by the chair of the Portland School Committee bringing the total number of members to not more than 15. The chair of the task force shall be selected from among its members by a majority vote and all meetings shall be conducted in public in accordance with the Policies of the Portland Public Schools;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in conjunction with the study, the Superintendent shall prepare and submit multiple applications for the district's most critical elementary school capital needs to the State of Maine Department of Education for capital funding consideration in accordance with their requirements;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent in conjunction with the multiyear budget process and in consultation with the Portland School Committee and Portland City Council shall include in the study two options for completing the modernization of all elementary schools in a timely fashion. One option shall assume state funding of certain improvements with the balance to be funded locally and one option shall assume no state funding;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as part of the study, the Superintendent and the task force shall evaluate the distribution of students throughout the city such that at the completion of the elementary school capital improvements, each student has access to an equitable physical environment in which to learn no matter where they live within the city;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent shall prepare a plan to remove the modular units at the Presumpscot and Lyseth Elementary Schools. The Superintendent shall work with the City of Portland such that the district is in compliance with all land use ordinances of the city. The plan shall be completed in consultation with the Portland School Committee and any funding requirements shall be incorporated into the appropriate operating budget;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no later than two months after authorization to proceed from the Portland School Committee, the Superintendent of Schools shall present a work plan to the Portland School Committee at a workshop meeting. The work plan shall identify resources and staffing, a schedule of key activities and milestones, including additional consultations with the Portland School Committee and the Portland City Council, and the cost and funding sources to complete the work outlined herein;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the approval of the Portland School Committee at one of its regular business meetings and, if required, the Portland City Council, the Superintendent shall appropriate such funds and retain the services of such consultants as may be deemed necessary to complete the work as outlined herein;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Portland Public Schools shall deliver a Report of Findings and Recommendations to the Portland School Committee by May 1, 2010;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this effort shall be legally established and authorized to act when this resolution is approved.

Portland School Committee

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REVIEW OF THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CAPITAL NEEDS OF THE PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the Portland School Committee is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students, staff and other members of our community who make use of our schools; and

WHEREAS, the Plan for Sustainable Education Quality, adopted in 2008, reflects the desire of the Portland Public Schools and City of Portland to work together to manage Portland's public spaces; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools, under a Readiness in Emergency Management for Schools grant from the U. S. Department of Education and in cooperation with other Federal, State and local agencies, recently completed an Emergency Response Plan for the district; and

WHEREAS, the Portland School Committee adopted the report of the Comprehensive Facilities Use and Maintenance Task Force which identified among other things certain deficiencies and inequities across the district that affect our ability to respond consistently, efficiently and effectively to emergency situations within the schools; and

WHEREAS, during the 2008-09 school year several incidents across the country and within Maine demonstrate the importance of ongoing threat assessment and response planning; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine Department of Education recently announced its process for evaluating the next round of state funded school facility major capital improvement projects which identifies that districts must submit applications by June 15, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools intends to submit applications to the State of Maine Department of Education in order to be considered for state funding to address critical facility capital projects within the district; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Public Schools recently committed to a multi-year budget process which allows the district and the city to prioritize needs and sustain adequate funding in order to deliver quality educational services in a safe, secure and equitable setting;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in order to maintain high standards of safety and security within the Portland Public Schools, the Superintendent shall undertake a study of the emergency preparedness of all school buildings with the goal of identifying capital projects that improve the district's ability to respond efficiently, effectively and equitably to emergency situations across the district;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with police, fire and other first responders, will oversee the assembly of the study, including options, information and supporting data;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no later than two months after authorization to proceed from the Portland School Committee, the Superintendent of Schools shall present a work plan to the Portland School Committee at a workshop meeting. The work plan shall identify resources and staffing, a schedule of key activities and milestones, including additional consultations with the Portland School Committee and the Portland City Council, and the cost and funding sources to complete the work outlined herein;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this effort shall be legally established and authorized to act when this resolution is approved.