

THE PORTSMOUTH CITY SCHOOL BOARD
PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

MINUTES

The members of the Portsmouth City School Board held a special meeting on Thursday, March 19, 2015 in the Third Floor Conference Room, which is located in the City Hall Building, 801 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bridgeford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Kathy L. Chambliss, the Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting. The Board and the audience paused for a moment of silent prayer. Mrs. Costella B. Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance and recited the Board's mission statement.

ATTENDANCE

The following Board members were present: Rev. Joseph A. Fleming, Mrs. Sarah D. Hinds, Mr. Ted J. Lamb, Mr. B. Keith Nance, Sr., Rev. Cardell C. Patillo, Jr., Dr. Ingrid P. Whitaker, Mrs. Costella B. Williams, and Mr. James E. Bridgeford. Mr. Claude C. Parent was absent.

The following members of the professional staff were also in attendance: Dr. Elie Bracy, III, Superintendent,; Mr. Christopher P. Steele, Assistant Superintendent for Budget and Planning; Dr. Helen W. Taylor, Senior Director; Mr. Dean M. Schlaepfer, Director of Information Technology; Ms. Brittany T. Dortch, Director of Accounting; Mr. Derrick A. Nottingham, Director of Research and Evaluation; Dr. Robert Sheppard, Director of Operations; and Mr. Joseph L. Wiggins, Executive Administrator.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Nance moved to approve the agenda for Thursday, March 19, 2015, as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous roll-call vote. Item 3A (*Closed Session*) was added to the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held on the Superintendent's Proposed Operating Budget for the 2015-16 school year. Mr. Steele presented the budget, reviewing the mission/vision, budget process key dates, demographic trends, state and local revenue outlook, budget highlights/statement of needs, the superintendent's proposed budget overview, and next steps. The following individuals addressed the Board:

Mr. Ty Mutlow – 210-303-0904, 317 Kay Road, Portsmouth, VA 23701

Ms. Donna Sayegh – 757-638-3759, 3104 Garland Drive, Portsmouth, VA 23703

Mr. Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky – 757-967-7298, P.O. Box 50144, Portsmouth, VA 23703

Chairman Bridgeford adjourned the public hearing on the budget at 7:20 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**Benchmark Assessments**

Mr. Derrick Nottingham, Director of Research and Evaluation, offered a report on the second nine-week benchmark assessments. Mr. Nottingham explained PPS' assessment practice noting that benchmark assessments are used to build capacity for making better decisions. They are mainly diagnostic in nature, helping to determine if any changes are needed instructionally. Assessments also help to determine if PPS is using the correct instructional practices. Mr. Nottingham further reviewed a two-year comparison of the second nine-week benchmark calculations by school, subject and the fall end-of course standards of learning assessments. Dr. Helen Taylor reviewed a plan of action which included looking at the number of tutors in the schools, and a 45 day implementation plan from the state.

Day Treatment Program

Ms. Sarah Sugars, Coordinator of Youth Risk Prevention, offered a report on the Day Treatment Program. She explained the process of obtaining an agency to provide services to Portsmouth Schools. The agency also provides a Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement to the schools highlighting the services they will provide. Ms. Sugars also shared the history of these services.

Gate receipts

Ms. Britany Dortch offered a report on gate funds and the usage at each high school. Ms. Dortch provided an account history based on the current year. She noted that a summary by high school was previously provided showing that gate funds are being reported in the respective sport. Additional detail that was requested was also provided which specifies monies going in and what it is being spent on.

Chairman Bridgeford adjourned the special meeting at 8:38 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Nance moved that the Board enter into a closed meeting under the provisions of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia for the following purposes: 1) Consideration of student disciplinary matters, as permitted under Subsection A.2., and 2) Consideration of various personnel matters including the assignment, performance, and resignation of specific school employees, as permitted under Subsection A.1. The motion carried by a unanimous roll-call vote (Rev. Fleming, Mrs. Hinds, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Nance, Rev. Patillo, Dr. Whitaker, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Bridgeford).

The Board entered into closed session at 8:38 p.m.

Mr. Nance moved that each Board member certify that, to the best of his or her knowledge, only matters which are lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and which were identified in the motion to go into closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered during the preceding closed meeting. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll-call vote (Rev. Fleming, Mrs. Hinds, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Nance, Rev. Patillo, Dr. Whitaker, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Bridgeford).

The closed session adjourned at 10:21 p.m. Chairman Bridgeford adjourned the meeting at 10:22 p.m.

JAMES E. BRIDGEFORD, CHAIRMAN

KATHY L. CHAMBLISS, CLERK

APRIL 23, 2015

DATE OF ADOPTION BY THE BOARD