

THE PORTSMOUTH CITY SCHOOL BOARD
PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

MINUTES

The members of the Portsmouth City School Board held a special meeting/public work session on Thursday, December 4, 2014, in the Sixth 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 5:30 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. Rev. Joseph Fleming 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., Mr. Claude C. Parent, Ms. Linda D. Ridenour, Dr. Mark M. Whitaker, Mrs. Costella B. Williams, and Mr. James E. Bridgeford.

The following members of the professional staff were also in attendance: Dr. Patricia H. Fisher, Interim Superintendent; Mr. Christopher P. Steele, Assistant Superintendent for Budget and Planning; Ms. Brittany T. Dortch, Director of Accounting; Dr. Fiona Nichols, Director of Mathematics; Mr. Derrick A. Nottingham, Director of Research and Evaluation; Mr. Dean M. Schlaepfer, Director of Information Technology; Mrs. Paula M. Smith, Director of Human Resources; and Mr. Joseph L. Wiggins, Executive Administrator.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Nance moved to approve the agenda for Thursday, December 4, 2014. The motion carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Parent 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 a religious exemption from school attendance, 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, Mr. Parent, Ms. Ridenour, Dr. Whitaker, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Bridgeford).

The Board entered into closed session at 5:36 p.m.

Mr. Parent 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, Mr. Parent, Ms. Ridenour, Dr. Whitaker, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Bridgeford).

The meeting resumed at 6:36 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION

Mr. Nance moved to grant a religious exemption for the student named in Religious Exemption Case No. 2014-15/03. The motion carried by a unanimous roll-call vote (Rev. Fleming, Mrs. Hinds, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Nance, Mr. Parent, Ms. Ridenour, Dr. Whitaker, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Bridgeford).

CERTAIN POLICIES REGARDING M/WBE

Mr. Steele presented revisions to two policies, a School Board Minority and Woman Business Enterprise (M/WBE) policy and the School Board purchasing policy. He highlighted the proposed changes being recommended and reported that the policies were reviewed by Transformation Consulting and administration. This item will be presented for the Board's consideration on Thursday, December 18, 2014. Mr. Steele also reported that an announcement has been sent out for new members to serve a two-year term on the School Board M/WBE Advisory Committee beginning in January. If a sufficient amount of candidates are received, this item will also be presented for Board approval on December 18, 2014.

2015-2016 BUDGET**INITIAL GOALS AND ISSUES**

Mr. Steele offered a report on initial goals and issues for the 2015-16 budget. He reviewed the budget calendar, challenges, revenues, prominent must funds, a budget strategy (cuts), and the FY2016 CIP budget.

2014-15 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Mr. Steele provided a financial review of the 2014-15 budget, apprising the Board of the district's current status. A list of Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2015 was also provided. Ms. Brittany Dortch reviewed the final fund balance availability. A resolution will be presented on Thursday, December 18, 2014 for the re-appropriation amount of \$599,483. Board members were asked to provide a list of items by priority.

REVIEW OF THE AGENDA

Dr. Fisher reviewed the agenda for Thursday, December 18, 2014:

- *Call to Order*
- *Moment of Silent Prayer*
- *Pledge of Allegiance*
- *Musical Selections*
- *School Board Mission Statement*
- *Attendance*
- *Approval of the Agenda*
- *Presentation (WHRO Educational Services)*
- *Fiscal Year 2013-14 CAFR*
- *Retiring School Board Members*
- *Resolution (Principals Appreciation Week)*
 - *It was so noted to add a Resolution (Funding Public Education)*
- *Recognition (Schools with Highest Attendance Rate)*
- *Adoption (Minutes—Nov. 18; Nov. 24; Nov. 25, 2014)*

- *Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items*
- *Monthly Report (Curriculum and Instruction)*
- *Monthly Report (Human Resources)*
- *Adoption (Employee Transaction Report—December 2014)*
- *Monthly Report (Budget and Planning)*
- *Contract (Food Service Equipment)*
- *Adoption (Financial Report—Oct. 2014)*
- *Adoption (Financial Report – Nov. 2014)*
- *Adoption (Certain Policies Regarding M/WBE)*
- *Superintendent’s Report*
- *Appointment (Division Supt., and Contract Approval)*
 - *It was so noted to add a student discipline case*
- *Board Members’ Comments and Concerns*
- *Adjournment*

BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORTS

Mr. Parent—VSBA Conference (Standards of Learning Innovation Committee Interim Report)

Ms. Ridenour—CUBE Conference (saving at-risk students session), 3) School Board Independent Fiscal Authority research)

Mr. Nance— Taskforce Summit on Changing Environments (VASS, VCU and VSBA)

Mrs. Williams— publicly thanked Dr. Patricia Fisher, Interim Superintendent for an outstanding job

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bridgeford adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

JAMES E. BRIDGEFORD, CHAIRMAN

KATHY L. CHAMBLISS, CLERK

JANUARY 29, 2015

DATE OF ADOPTION BY THE BOARD