

**NEWINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
School Administrative Unit 50  
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Phone (603) 422-9572 Fax (603) 422-9575

The regular monthly meeting of the Newington School Board took place on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Newington Public School.

**PRESENT:**

School Board Members: Dr. Mark Joyce (Chair)  
Mr. Jack O'Reilly  
Mr. Chris Russo

Administrators: Salvatore Petralia, Superintendent  
Kelli Killen, Assistant Superintendent  
Amy R. Ransom, Assistant Business Administrator  
Sarah Reinhardt, Special Education Director  
Peter Latchaw, Principal

Other Staff Present: Tracy Dumais, Secretary to the Superintendent

Visitors: None

**CALL TO ORDER** – Dr. Joyce called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the public minutes of April 10, 2018 were approved. Vote: 3:0*

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the non-public minutes of April 10, 2018 were approved. Vote: 3:0*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Petralia shared a letter from Governor Sununu, dated April 11, 2018 indicating "conditional approval" of Newington grant application through the Public School Infrastructure Fund. An additional letter was received dated April 23, 2018, indicating "final approval" of the grant application in the amount of \$51,640. As a reminder, the Board is committed to a 20% shared cost for the District.

Mr. Petralia shared a letter from Santina Thibodeau, Administrator at the NH Bureau of Special Education, which announced that the Newington Public School had no transitions from Family-Centered Early Supports and Services (FCESS) to preschool special education for the July 1, 2016-October 31, 2016 report period.

The Portsmouth High School's Celebration Graduation Committee is seeking a donation for its annual graduation night celebration for the senior class. The District has annually supported this request.

Cheryl Berman, World Language Teacher is requesting reimbursement for costs associated with the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) conference she will be attending in June in Salamanca, Spain.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo the manifest for April 7, 2018 through April 18, 2018 was unanimously approved in the amount of \$2,586.39. Vote: 3:0*

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo the manifest for April 19, 2018 through May 4, 2018 was unanimously approved in the amount of \$104,354.09. Vote: 3:0*

### **REPORTS**

#### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Petralia shared the results of the air quality testing that was conducted by Yerhot Environmental Solutions, LLC on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Newington Public School. The samples taken indicated no elevated levels of mold spores in any of the areas tested. Mr. Petralia thanked Jodi Wick for her assistance with this project.

Mr. Petralia attended a Southeasters meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in Epping. NHSBA attorney, Barrett Christina was in attendance. Attorney Christina provided an update on SB 193, which Mr. Petralia shared with the Board. The original version of the voucher bill, SB 193 was recently tacked onto HB 1636, which is an unrelated bill about establishing a committee to study teacher preparation programs and charter schools. SB 193 goes before the House on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Petralia will request the Board to entertain a motion to enter into non-public session at the conclusion of the regular meeting to update the Board on two student matters.

#### **Assistant Superintendent's Report**

Ms. Killen shared that the Grade K – 6 art curriculum is ready to be reviewed by the Board. The related documents can be found in the Newington School Board folder on Google Drive. The art curriculum will be up for adoption by the Board at the June meeting.

Ms. Killen announced that the SAU will not move forward with the implementation of the new learning management system, Schoology. Although the system has many features that support the SAU's Vision for Learning, there are many challenges to overcome for a successful implementation at this time.

The Professional Learning Advisory Committee (PLAC) is currently reviewing and revising the Plan for Effective Teaching. Ms. Killen hopes to have the completed document to share with the Board by June.

#### **Assistant Business Administrator's Report**

Ms. Ransom informed the Board that the budget is currently in good standing, with a fund balance of over \$52,000, which is 2.5 % of the budget.

### **Principal's Report**

Mr. Latchaw informed the Board that the 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduation will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Mr. Latchaw and Mr. Tooker are also working with Genevieve Aichele, the Artistic Director at the NH Theatre Project in Portsmouth, to create a play for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to perform at the end of the graduation ceremony. The students have chosen to create a play based on the book, *Holes*.

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, the grade 6 class will spend the day at Portsmouth Middle School. Mr. Latchaw will accompany the students.

Mr. Latchaw reported that during his conversations with parents about the second trimester report card, many parents shared how much they appreciated the efforts by the NPS staff and also shared constructive feedback.

Mr. Latchaw and Ms. Killen continue to meet to review curriculum and instruction at NPS. Ms. Killen is also working to coordinate a professional development opportunity for NPS teachers over the summer to develop authentic project-based learning units and lessons. Ms. Latchaw thanked Ms. Killen for working with him.

The New Hampshire State Assessment will start on May 14<sup>th</sup> in Ms. Lodge and Mr. Tooker's classes.

There are ten students participating in this year's track team. The team is being coached by Erin Russo, NPS nurse. The track team is composed of students in grades 3-5 and will compete in the Portsmouth Elementary Track Series.

### **NPS Staff Updates**

Mr. Latchaw informed the Board that a candidate for the Special Education Teacher/Case Manager has been selected and will be recommended for employment to Mr. Petralia shortly.

It was noted that there has been no interest in the Afterschool Enrichment Program position. Mr. O'Reilly suggested to Mr. Latchaw that he reach out to young adults at the Seacoast Science Center to see if anyone there would be interested in a part-time job.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **End-of-the-Year Maintenance Items**

Ms. Ransom informed the Board that five automated flusher units in the bathrooms needed to be replaced, costing approximately \$1,000.

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board approved the purchase of five automated flusher units as an of the end-of-year maintenance item. Vote: 3:0*

Ms. Ransom recommended that the Board entertain a motion to vote to allow \$12,910, the Newington District's 20% portion of the NH Public School Infrastructure grant, be moved from the end of year fund balance to the general fund.

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board approved to allow \$12,910, from the end of the year fund balance to the general fund. Vote: 3:0*

## **New Business**

### **English Language Arts Curriculum (Adoption)**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board adopted the revised English Language Arts Curriculum. Vote: 3:0*

### **Non-Resident Tuition Application**

Ms. Reinhardt informed the Board that the non-resident tuition application is currently being reviewed by legal counsel. She hopes to have a revised copy by the end of the week. Dr. Joyce requested that the Board be provided copies of the revised application before it is sent to parents. Mr. Petralia agreed with this request.

### **Graduation Donation**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board agreed to donate \$200 to the Portsmouth High School's Celebration Graduation Committee. Vote: 3:0*

### **Reimbursement Request**

Cheryl Berman, NPS Spanish teacher, submitted a reimbursement request to the Board regarding her June 2018 conference for American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) in Salamanca, Spain. Both Mr. Petralia and Mr. Latchaw recommend approval of the request. It was noted that the conference attendance would be covered by professional development funds. After a brief discussion and a request for Ms. Berman to share what she learned at the conference with the Board, the Board approved the reimbursement request.

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board approved Cheryl Berman's conference reimbursement request, totaling up to \$985.05. Vote: 3:0*

### **NON PUBLIC**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board entered non-public session at 5:45 p.m. Roll Call: 3:0*

### **RECONVENE**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board returned to public session at 5:58 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (c). Roll Call: 3:0*

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board sealed the non-public minutes, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (c). Roll Call: 3:0*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board adjourned their meeting at 6:00 p.m. Roll Call: 3:0*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tracy Dumais

  
Secretary