

**PORTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
July 12, 2022**

Attending: S. Peter, S. Benham, L. Christensen, Lavoy, M. Scata, L. Steinhauser

Dr. Britton, Superintendent, Jessica Bruenn, S. Fragola, Business Manager

Absent: D. Murphy

Call to Order

S. Peters called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

Moved by L. Steinhauser, seconded by T. Lavoy Passed unanimously

Approval of Consent Agenda

Approval of June 7, 2022, Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Out-of-State Field Trip, HS Cross Country to Salisbury VT August 21, 2022

Motion to the full board to approve the consent agenda as presented

Moved by S. Benham, seconded by M. Scata, passed unanimously

Audience of Citizens none

Portland Public Schools Spotlight none - will resume in September

Communications and Updates

Resignations were received from Amanda Foley, Jennifer Childree, Elliot McBride, and Cassandra Heidecker. Dr. Britton thanked them for their outstanding service and wished them success in the future.

The following positions are open as of 7.12.22:

4th grade teacher, one secretary to Pupil Services administrator, one paraprofessional, and kindergarten teacher (If accepted by Board this evening)

Summer programs in our schools including Portland Park and Rec Summer Quest and the Middletown Theater Group beginning on July 18 for two weeks.

Superintendent's Report

Head Start Update

Head Start has now moved from Valley View to a location in Middletown. There were issues with staffing during the year that closed the program down. There will be no bus transportation through the schools for the new location. CREC is the overseer of the program.

Assistant to the Superintendent for Business and Financial Affairs

Financial Updates were provided to Board members as of 6/30/2022. S. Fragola reported that we would make out contribution of 100,000 to Fund 11. The Lunch Fund will be short and will be determined once all end of year purchases is completed. Typically, there should be 3 months of monies (\$26,000) in the fund.

Inflationary cost increases in food were discussed and we will have to see if there is any impact to supplies or cost increases.

New Business (Discussion/Possible Action)

Addition of New Kindergarten Teacher

Jessica Bruenn and Dr. Britton discussed the kindergarten class needs for 2022-23. Enrollment is at 91 and there is anticipated additional enrollments over the summer. There are 10 Open Choice seats with 9 open. Combined enrollments with the higher numbers would result in 18/19 students in each class. Ideal number is around 15 students. Dr. Britton is recommending the hiring of a kindergarten teacher. Discussion took place about the cost, which is about \$65,000 not including benefits. The monies are available through line-item savings and CREC monies.

Motion to the full board to hire a kindergarten teacher for the 2022–23 school year.

Moved by M. Scata, seconded by S. Benham Passed unanimously

Portland Association of School Administrators Memorandum of Agreement (discussed under Executive Session)

Old Business (Discussion/Possible Action)

- A. Board of Education Policies were presented for a 2nd reading and approval.

Policy 6141.51 Advanced Courses or Programs, Eligibility Criteria for Enrollment

Motion to the full board to approve policy 6141.51

Moved by L. Steinhauser, seconded by T. Lavoy Passed unanimously

Policy 6141.52 Challenging Curriculum Policy (Criteria for Identification Eligible Grade 8, 9 Students)

Motion to the full board to approve policy 6141.52

Moved by M. Scata, seconded by S. Benham Passed unanimously

Policy 6172.1 Gifted and Talented Students Program

Motion to the full board to approve policy 6141.51

Moved by T. Lavoy, seconded by L. Steinhauser, Passed unanimously

Committee Reports

Curriculum No meeting

Policy Meeting to be rescheduled

Personnel

Buildings and Grounds No meetings scheduled

Liaison - 1. CREC No meeting
2. Selectmen No report
Committee on Solidarity No meeting
Equity and Inclusion Coalition No meeting
School Facilities Study Committee We will meet in August /September
Youth Services Advisory

Audience of Citizens none

Board of Education Member Comments

Executive Session – For the Purpose of Bargaining Unit Negotiations, School Security Discussion

Motion to the full board to enter Executive Session and invite Dr. Britton to join our meeting

Moved by L. Christensen, seconded by S. Benham passed unanimously

Executive Session began at 7:53pm

Motion to return to Regular Meeting at 8:59pm.

Moved by L. Steinhauser, seconded by S. Benham. Passed unanimously

Motion to accept the Portland Association of School Administrators (PASA) and CEA-Portland Memorandum of Agreement.

Moved by Christensen, seconded by T, Lavoy. Passed unanimously

S. Peters commented on the discussion about school security and that the board would continue to work with Dr. Britton on securing appropriate security personnel and a job description at a future meeting.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:02pm.

Moved by T. Lavoy, seconded by L. Christensen. Passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,
Meg Scata

Draft until approved by the Board