

**PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MEETING WORKSHOP SESSION #4
MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

LIBRARY, PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL
DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 6:30 P.M. [or thereafter]

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - School Board Chair Leslie Stevens called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL**- Chair Leslie Stevens, Jeff Landry, Kristin Jeffrey, Ann Walker, Nancy Clayburgh, Patrick Ellis, Roseann Vozella Clark, Gary Epler (not present at Roll Call), SAU 50 Representative Ann Mayer, Superintendent Stephen Zdravec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, Business Administrator Steve Bartlett
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**- Chair Stevens led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT**- None
- VI. **WORKSHOP SESSION ON FY 2018 BUDGET**
 - i. **STUDENT SERVICES**- Director of Pupil Support & Instruction Jeanette Souther provided the Cost Centers changes in the Special Education Budget.

Ms. Souther provided a five-year history of the number of elementary students requiring Special Education services. With the increase demands at the elementary levels, Ms. Souther recommends additional case managers. New Franklin Elementary would be the priority, based on their increased number of identified students.

Ms. Souther explained the cycle and changes of the IDEA Grant. There is one paraprofessional, six full-time teachers, and an Out-of-District Coordinator paid through the IDEA Grant.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: The number of students receiving ESOL services remains consistent to last year's numbers.

The majority of Out-of-District students are court involved or court placed.

An additional Elementary Case Manager was discussed, as well as, discussion regarding typical caseloads for elementary, middle, and high school case managers. Lower caseloads have the greatest impact at the elementary school level.
 - ii. **TECHNOLOGY**- Assistant Superintendent George Shea and Network Administrator Tom Lotz provided an overview of the FY 18 Technology Budget. The presentation highlighted the following:
 - Framework for 21st Century Learning and the 21st Century Classroom.
 - Today's Learning Environment Challenge

- Technology Tools for Staff, Students, and the Community
 - Student Experience, Clipper Bridge, Website Redesign Planning, Professional Development Management System, Additional Avenues for Communication: Social Media, Google Apps for Education, Department Planning
- Technical Support
 - Database Usage, Data Analysis and Reporting, and Staffing Changes, IT Technician
- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY 17 and FY 18
 - FY 18- Add LAN Network Switches
- Tech Plan Budget Highlights for FY 17 and FY 18
 - FY 18- PMS Classrooms and PMS Library
- PSD Device Inventory

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: A couple of the benefits to purchasing Chromebooks, are the cost and that there is little that can break. Many Chromebooks have outlasted their predicted lifespan.

The IT Department is exploring students' access to Broadband from home and Learning Management Systems.

Discussion ensued on training students on being “responsible digital citizens” and training staff on Cyber Security, as well as, basic keyboard skills for students and staffing, to provide technology programming at the elementary schools.

Website Redesign: The redesign of the website will provide opportunities for students and staff involvement, and the site will be more dynamic.

iii. WORLD LANGUAGE- Superintendent Stephen Zadravec shared a PowerPoint presentation on Elementary World Language. The presentation highlighted the following:

- Current Staffing for Unified Arts
- Define Goals for the Program
- Many Models to Consider
 - One Language, one to two times per week; One Language, three to five times per week; Multiple Languages, one to two times per week; Immersion
- Languages to Consider
 - Spanish, French, Chinese, Latin, and German
 - Pathway through Middle and High School

- Moving Forward
 - Committee to Study and Model Program: Define Goals, Survey Parents and Students, Make After-School Activities Available, Pilot Potential Programs

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: The languages offered and the level of content taught at SAU 50 were discussed.

It was suggested to form a committee to further explore offering Elementary World Language.

Utilizing the online components widely available, could be part of building a comprehensive program.

VII. FY 18 BUDGET UPDATE- Superintendent Zadavec provided an update on the FY 18 Budget. Currently, the FY 18 Budget is at 4.2%. The cost of additional busing for the Late Start implementation is not included.

❖ *SAU 50 Representative Ann Mayer announced that she will not be running for School Board again. The Board thanked her for her many years of service and commitment to the Board.*

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:15 p.m., by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted