

**Portland Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 @ 7:00 pm**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

L. Steinhauser, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

BOE Members Present: Laurel Steinhauser, Meg Scata, Dave Murphy, Tim Lavoy, Stacey Benham, Lauren Christensen, Kim Nagy-Maruschock

Members Absent: - none

Administration Present: Superintendent Dr. Charles Britton, Stephanie Fragola Business and Financial Affairs, Dawn Davis Director of Student Services

Student Representative: Leah Masal and Dorothy Riley

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**M. Scata motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by T. Lavoy. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Approval of Consent Agenda**

A. Approval of September 20 2022 Board of Education Meeting Minutes.

B. Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip PHS DECA Club to Washington, D.C. November 11-13, 2022

**T. Lavoy moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by S. Benham. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED**

**5. Audience of Citizens – none**

**6. Portland Public Schools Spotlight – no report**

**7. Student Representative Report-** Leah Masal reported the high school marching band played at the Portland Fair. This Friday seniors going to Lake Compounce for their senior trip. Dorothy Riley reported sports are doing well, football remains undefeated. Open House turnout was great.

**8. Communications and Updates**

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Britton reported two resignations C. Oliveira math teacher and L. Best speech and language pathologist. Positions have been posted. October 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment submitted. Thanked Bob Shea for his oil tank work at Brownstone, it was a successful removal. Ground has been completely remediated. Due to the observing of work

at the time it was determined there would be little disruption during school for the other locations. This Thursday, meeting with architects SLR for track preconstruction design. Questions on if the track and field team will need to relocate during the construction. Still not clear the exact timeline and whether this will need to be done. Attended webinar about the HVAC grant application process, reimbursement would be dependent on towns matching funds. Also will apply ESSR funding. Learned that any school who has received state bonding money in the last 20 years is not qualified to receive this grant funding. Need to determine what is the qualifying date. Application due December 1, 2022. State legislature passed a law that states we have to replace our K-3 reading curriculum with a state approved reading curriculum. Recently received the 6 programs that were approved, none that we are currently using now. Determining work and cost ahead of us. By July 1, 2023, need to have adopted program or request waiver for additional time. If waiver is not requested, could see funding for one of the programs in this current budget. Curriculum committee will be discussing. Administrators heading into goal setting conferences. This is the first baseline year with data from last year due to COVID.

B. Business and Financial Affairs

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report and Financial Updates – S. Fragola submitted quarterly update and stats to date. Highlighted items on the comparison chart. Should have threshold number by November meeting. Oil purchase question. Will work with Bob to see if a purchase will be necessary. Question on unleaded gas budgeting being higher than diesel. Stephanie stated it may be due to the mini buses not using diesel but will get confirmation.

C. Director of Student Services Report – D. Davis stated numbers have not changed much from last report. Reviewed numbers for special services program enrollment, outplacing and 504 plans. Dr. Britton made note of not outplacing students and being able to offer quality education while being fiscally responsible. Fully staffed with exception of para educator and speech pathologist. Cheshire fitness is filling in until new speech pathologist is hired. CTseds platform up and running. Reviewed process on going.

**9. New Business (Discussion/Possible Action)**

A. CEA-Portland Hiking Club and Photography Club Memorandum of Agreements

Dr. Britton stated these two exciting clubs took off last year. This fits in the process that the Board has identified and is a great opportunity for our kids. Transportation has not been provided by the school. Recommending one position for each. Within the salary schedule there should be some savings identified.

**T. Lavoy moved to accept the memorandum of agreement as presented for the Hiking Club advisor, seconded by K. Nagy-Maruschock. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED**

**M. Scata moved to accept the memorandum of agreement as presented for the photography club advisor, seconded by L. Christensen. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **10. Old Business (Discussion/Possible Action)**

### **A. Board of Education Policies (2<sup>nd</sup> readings)**

1. 4113.12 Minimum Duty-Free Lunch Periods for Teachers
2. 5113 Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal
3. 5144.4 Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students
4. 6142.101 Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy)
5. 5145.511 Child Sexual Abuse and Assault Policy and Reporting Procedure

Dr. Britton reminded the Board that these policies are part of state law.

**M. Scata moved to approve 4113.12 Minimum Duty Free Lunch Periods for Teachers policy as presented, seconded by T. Lavoy. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.**

**M. Scata moved to approve 5113 Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal policy as presented, seconded by S. Benham. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED**

**M. Scata moved to approve 5144.4 Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students policy as presented, seconded by T. Lavoy. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.**

**M. Scata moved to approve 6142.101 Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (Wellness Policy) as presented, seconded by T. Lavoy. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.**

**M. Scata moved to approve 5145.511 Child Sexual Abuse and Assault Policy and Reporting Procedure policy as presented, seconded by T. Lavoy. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED**

## **11. Committee Reports**

- A. Curriculum – L Steinhauser - first meeting on 10/19/22
- B. Policy – M. Scata – next meeting 11/9 at 1p
- C. Personnel – no report
- D. Buildings and Grounds – M. Scata – no report
- E. Liaison
  1. CREC – M. Scata – meet next Wed at 11a
  2. Selectmen – D. Murphy – no report
  3. Committee on Solidarity – T. Lavoy – meeting tonight
  4. Equity and Inclusion Coalition – T. Lavoy– off to good start. Not working with consultant this year, doing the work on their own
  5. School Facilities Study Committee – M. Scata – meeting next Monday
  6. Youth Services Advisory Board – S. Benham – lots of event planning for October; Halloween on Main 10/28 and 10/29 5K Monster Mash. Fall festival at Riverfront planned. Tree lighting being planned.

## **12. Audience of Citizens – none**

**13. Board of Education Member Comments**

K. Nagy-Maruschock - attended band event at the Portland Fair and it was wonderful. Lots of faculty involvement.

D. Murphy - Great to see town out at the fair, no negatives that he heard. Some attendees mentioned not hearing about the school facilities committee work. Dave suggested having a booth at the fair next year.

T. Lavoy – also enjoyed the band at the fair.

M. Scata – tomorrow attending a legal workshop talking about issues facing Boards. Mentioned the passing of Richard Gotta who was a huge supporter of the school. Sent sympathies to the family. Inquired how we will communicate new policies to students as well as parents.

L. Steinhauer – shout out to the elementary school open houses. Email from Jesse Revicki inviting participation in working towards youth prevention seminars to tie in what we are working on with the schools. Meetings will be monthly.

**14. Executive Session - none**

**15. Executive Session Action - none**

**16. Adjournment**

**T. Lavoy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m., seconded by L. Christensen. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tricia Dean, Clerk