

PSD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 10/13/15
NOTES TO APT EXECUTIVE BOARD
TAKEN BY OLIN JOHANNESSEN, EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE

NOTE: I arrived late to the meeting, so my notes begin at the 7:25pm mark. Anything prior to that can be found by looking up the official minutes, or the video, both of which are hosted here: <http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/calendar/2015/index.htm>

- Elementary

- Presentation from Principals Callahan, Grossman, and Simon
- Discussion of Every Day Math (EDM) curriculum. K-2 in 2nd year of program, 3-5 in year 1. Lots of great and notable collaboration between teachers in facilitating this curriculum for students. After school workshop held for teachers regarding online resources for EDM. PLC's are drafting SMART Goals around math.
- Discussion about Writing; Ehrenworth presentation from this summer, and how it's being applied by teachers.
- Discussion of Social/Emotional Curriculum. Kudos to K-12 Guidance Chair Amy Donovan on continuing to unify the approach to guidance K-12.
- October is bully prevention month. PHS Service Learning students coming to elementary schools to present and help guide students on prevention, upstanders/bystanders, etc.
- Elementary schools holding monthly all-school meetings to discuss and enhance positive values, school culture, and behavior.
- "Open Circle" social curriculum being shared and implemented from various teachers who've been trained in it. Common language has been helpful to incorporate into monthly school meetings.

- Middle school

- PMS Art Teacher Anna Nuttall lauded for her recent receipt of the Governor's Arts Award for Arts Education, to be awarded October 21 in Manchester at the NH Institute for Art. Board Member Mullaney will be attending in support of Anna.
- PMS Social Studies teacher Erin Bakkom featured on NHPR's "The Exchange" with Laura Knoy, special topic discussion on school start times. Erin also serving on the district's School Start Time Committee with board member Patrick Ellis and several others including building and department administration.
- PMS Post's first edition was shared with board members to great enthusiasm and excitement. Inspired comments from Board Member Clayburgh regarding the absence of a PHS student run paper. More discussion around bringing back the student newspaper at PHS.

- High school

- Acknowledgment given to Tobey Schoff and Laura LaVallee, both PHS teachers, in recognition of their status as finalists for the NH Teacher of the Year award. There was discussion regarding how both teachers remarked about the rigor of the self reflection process they undertook, and how we as a district might benefit from some of the same self-reflection tools they were asked to use.
- Acknowledgment for new FUTURES program coordinator Amy Brngr and her recent FUTURES newsletter. Special note for the connection to alumni from our FUTURES program, and discussion around connecting current students in the program with past students in the program, and how this may serve as a positive connection for them as they look ahead.
- Updates from Board Member Mullaney regarding:
 - Business/Education Collaborative
 - working to bring more opportunities for advanced credit earning courses in partnership with colleges through dual enrollment
 - working to clean up classrooms in CTE
 - architecture and engineering courses are seeing increased enrollment at PHS
 - currently have 14 PHS CTE courses that receive credit from GBCC

- District-wide

- School Start Time Committee has now had two meetings, and start times will be the topic of discussion at a School Board workshop session on October 27.
- Updates from Board Member Mullaney regarding:
 - Sagamore Creek Committee
 - final stages of committee
 - brainstorming around ways to engage community in the usage of the land, i.e. science classes
 - PHS Cross Country team runs through on their course
 - discussion around adding benches, small dock for class usage, or kayaks
 - final presentation to City Council in December