

## Portsmouth School Committee

The Portsmouth School Committee respectfully asks our legislators to support the following issues during the 2019 Legislative Session.

### **For Discussion: 2019 Rhode Island General Assembly Legislative Priorities**

#### **1) Support all initiatives to prevent drug abuse in our community.**

You can do this by: a. Providing support for our Prevention Coalitions. b. Opposing the legalization of recreational marijuana.

#### **2) Oppose all legislation that would impede local governments' ability to negotiate and form contracts with their bargaining units.**

We ask you to oppose any legislation which would severely limit a municipality's and School Committee's ability to bargain with their employees and undermine local control. This includes legislation requiring contract continuation, binding arbitration, and any effort to implement a statewide teachers' contract.

#### **3) Protect and improve sources of school funding.**

We urge the legislature to review the funding formula and strenuously oppose any reallocation of funds which would further reduce the funding Portsmouth receives from the current formula. We ask you to support an increase in state funding for high cost special education students and housing reimbursements