

TO: Jennifer West – Town Clerk
FROM: Thomas Kenworthy, Superintendent TWK
RE: School Committee Information
DATE: September 23, 2020

The School Committee's primary responsibility is to establish purposes, programs, and procedures that will best produce the educational achievement needed by our students. The Committee must accomplish this while also being responsible for prudent management of resources available to the public schools. The Committee must fulfill these responsibilities by functioning primarily as a legislative body to formulate and adopt policy, by selecting an executive officer (Superintendent) to implement policy, and by evaluating the results. Further, it must carry out its functions openly, while seeking the involvement and contributions of the public, students, families, and staff in its decision making processes.

In accordance with these principles, the School Committee, through its mode of operation, will seek to achieve the following goals:

1. To concentrate the Committee's collective effort on its policymaking and planning responsibilities.
2. To formulate Committee policies which best serve the educational interests of each student.
3. To provide the Superintendent with sufficient and adequate guidelines for implementing Committee policies.
4. To maintain effective communication with the school community, the staff, and students in order to maintain awareness of attitudes, opinions, desires, and ideas.
5. To conduct Committee business openly, soliciting and encouraging broad-based involvement in the Committee's decision-making processes by public, students, and staff.

The School Committee typically meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the Month. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Superintendent Thomas Kenworthy at kenworthyt@portsmouthschoolsri.org or School Committee Chair, Emily Copeland at copelande@portsmouthsc.org.