



**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #51**

23 Oneida Street, Unit 1  
Pittsfield, New Hampshire 03263  
Phone: (603) 435-5526 • Fax (603) 435-5331  
Dr. Sandie MacDonald, Superintendent

**PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD**  
**FINAL PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

April 2, 2026, 5:30 P.M.  
Pittsfield Middle High School Media Center

School Board Members Present: Sandra Adams  
Molly Goggin  
Adam Gauthier  
Tim Robinson  
Becky Berk via telephone due to travel out of  
country, with no one present during her participation  
Others Present: Dr. Sandie MacDonald, Supt.  
Dr. Erik Anderson, PMHS Principal  
Kristen White, PES Principal  
Melissa Brown, PMHS Assistant Principal

9 Members of the Public

1. CALL TO ORDER – led by Sandie followed by the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and the ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
Tim made the motion, seconded by Molly to nominate Sandra as Chair. Roll-call vote – unanimous. Sandra made the motion, seconded by Becky, to nominate Molly as Vice Chair. Roll-call vote – unanimous 5-0.
2. REVIEW OF MANIFEST COMPLETED by Sandra and Adam for the March 27<sup>th</sup> payroll and March 25<sup>th</sup> vendor checks
3. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA - Sandie has 7 non-public items as well as information on the student lunch debt, preschool programming, and adding the IHBAB Special Education Evaluations policy for first and second reading and 2 policies – JICJ (use of outside devices) and JH (attendance) for first reading at our May meeting; also move policy AB first reading to our May meeting. Sandra asked to add Erin Flanders' request to install a Little Free Library. Adam made the motion, seconded by Molly to accept the amended agenda. Roll call vote 5-0.
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – public and nonpublic minutes from March 5, 2026. Tim made the motion, seconded by Molly to approve the March 5 public minutes. Roll call vote 4-0-1, with Becky abstaining. Adam made the motion, seconded by Tim, to approve the March 5 nonpublic minutes. Roll call vote 4-0-1 with Becky abstaining.

Sandra made the motion, seconded by Tim to seal the nonpublic minutes. Roll call vote 4-0-1, with Becky abstaining.

5. PUBLIC INPUT- regarding agenda items only – please sign in if you wish to speak.

6. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS- Sandie MacDonald - Sandie shared the justification for combining 3-and 4-year-old preschool program She would like a motion to accept a \$1,500 donation from the NH Charitable Foundation and a motion to accept the 3-year Summerscape proposal for continued maintenance at Drake Field; also to accept the resignation of PES music teacher Jaylyn Chafee. 73 students owe money to the school lunch program with an outstanding balance of \$12,228.95. Sandra made the motion, seconded by Molly to accept the \$1,500 donation from NH Charitable Foundation. Roll call vote 5-0. Adam made a motion, seconded by Tim, to accept the 3-year proposal from Summerscape. Roll call vote 5-0. Molly made the motion, seconded by Adam to accept the resignation of Jaylyn Chafee. Roll call vote 5-0. Sandie shared the message from the Dept. of Education Commissioner Caitlin Davis of the number of students meeting or exceeding expectations in reading and writing, in SAT scores, and 90% passing the Civics exam on the first attempt. Kudos were given to Sarah Carson with her consistency, care and commitment to her [students](#). An article has been submitted to the Pittsfield Post. Four donations under \$1,000 were accepted by the SAU: \$100-MRP Manufacturing; \$600 - Podmore Manufacturing; \$200 - Chucksters mini golf passes; and one anonymous donation to fund SPED buses on 5th grade field trips.

7. REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION – Erik shared the substantive changes in the PMHS Program of Studies for 2026-2027. PMHS hosted a regional guild festival in March. Kristen shared the success of Math night with 200 in attendance and the 65 pieces of artwork are displayed at Camden Bank, the Friendly Diner, the Town Hall, and the Josiah Carpenter Library.

8. SCHOOL BOARD ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Policies for first reading:

JIAA – Eighteen Year-Old Students - rescind – Adam made the motion, seconded by Molly to rescind. Roll call vote 5-0.

IHBI – Alternative Learning Programs and Individual Plans

IK – Earning of High School Credit-Achievement of Competencies

IMBC – Alternative Credit Options – rescind – Molly made the motion, seconded by Adam to rescind. Roll call vote: 5-0.

IKFG Career Exploration, Readiness, Pathways, and Credentials

IKC – Academic Honors, Class Ranking, Valedictorian and Salutatorian

IKF – Graduation Requirements

AB – Parental Bill of Rights (amended March 6) to be move to May 7 meeting.

IHBAB - Special Education Evaluations – Sandra made the motion, seconded by Molly, to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Roll call vote – 5-0.

Open Enrollment Update (SB 101) – public hearing held on March 25, 2026, and April 1<sup>st</sup> – formal process going forward.

Update on the shared services model/Superintendent and BA search move to nonpublic

Cell phone policy enforcement update – followed consistently by staff. 153 violations, mostly high school, 73 detentions, and 1 in-school suspension.

Financials – revenues and expenditures and current operating budget balance – looking ok - able to fund both the deficit and Prospect Mountain tuition - we continue to be fiscally conservative. Our deficit is just over \$800K. NH Retirement System is paid up - we actually overpaid by approximately \$100K so they will be returning that.

Motion to accept FY27 School Calendar – motion made by Becky, seconded by Tim to accept. Roll call vote 5-0.

After much discussion, a motion to establish the Study Committee relative to Warrant Article 9 as approved by voters at the March 10, 2026, election for the purpose of examining the long-term future of the Pittsfield School District was made by Adam, seconded by Molly to combine the committee efforts in warrant articles 9 and 10 voted in by voters on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Roll call vote 5-0. Anyone interested in being a community member on that committee should submit letters of interest to Sandie, who will relay them to the Board. A special public meeting will be held on April 16 at 5:30 p.m. to establish the committee and review the purpose and scope of the committee. Sandra nominated Becky for the Study Committee, seconded by Adam. With a roll call vote, the motion failed, 2-2-1, with Becky abstaining, and Molly explaining that she felt the committee needed someone with more history with the district. Tim nominated Molly, seconded by Becky. With a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0-1. Molly abstained. Molly nominated Tim for the committee seconded by Adam. With a roll call vote, the motion carried 3-1-1 with Tim abstaining and Becky explaining that she voted nay only because Tim initially indicated he did not have the time to devote to the work. He then explained by would make the time. Molly and Tim will represent the School Board.

Motion to call one Special Meeting (Warrant Article 7) as approved by voters at the March 10, 2026, election to address CBA cost items only made by Molly, seconded by Tim. Roll call vote 5-0. The election will be to vote on a one-year contract.

Molly made the motion, seconded by Tim to approve Erin Flanders' request to install a Little Free Library on school grounds. The Board agreed that it would be installed in Drake Field near a camera. Roll call vote 5-0.

## 9. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- CIP and Facilities: Adam/Sandra – meeting March 25th – Next meeting April 22nd
- Policy Committee: Sandie, Administration team, Sandra – met March 12, 2026 Next meeting April 9<sup>th</sup>
- Foss Family Scholarship – meeting on March 26th at the Town Hall. Sandra shared the schedule for applications and review of applications.
- Negotiations – The CBA was renegotiated as a one-year contract
- New Legislative Committee – Becky and Sandra

10. OLD BUSINESS: IA policy, PMHS Program of Studies (covered this evening), Consideration of 2027 Deliberative session to be held on a Saturday

11. PLAN AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING – May 7, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. Policies for first and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.
12. SELECTBOARD LIAISON – Art St. Laurent shared that the town is in default budget – work in progress.
13. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS- To address items that may arise during the meeting or other items not on the agenda that Board members would like to discuss. Beautification date for PTO/PES Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, at 8 a.m.
14. PUBLIC INPUT – The Board may accept the public’s input that is addressed directly to the Chair in a courteous and respectful time frame of three minutes. The Board does not engage in discussion or answer questions during public comment. The Superintendent may be asked to follow up on specific concerns after the meeting. Please sign in if you wish to speak.
15. NON-PUBLIC SESSION per RSA 91- A:3 – The Board may enter Nonpublic Session under RSA91-A:3 at any time during the meeting if needed. At 7:58, on a motion made by Sandra, seconded by Tim, the board entered into nonpublic session. Roll call vote 5-0.
16. PUBLIC SESSION RESUMED at 9:15 p.m.
  1. Sandra made the motion, seconded by Molly to accept the resignation of Amy Philbrick, School Psychologist, effective April 10, 2026, noting that the resignation does not meet the contractual 90-day notice requirement and constitutes a material breach of contract. The Board authorized the Superintendent to ensure continuity of services, require completion of transition responsibilities to the extent practicable, and pursue any contractual remedies as appropriate. Roll call vote 5-0.
  2. Molly made the motion, seconded by Adam to accept the nomination list. Roll call vote 5-0.
  3. Sandra made the motion, seconded by Molly, to pursue a 3-year contract with SAU8 (Concord) Superintendent Tim Herbert and BA contractual services with the option to extend 3 years. Roll call vote 5-0.
  4. Molly made the motion, seconded by Adam to accept the renegotiated 1-year CBA contract. Roll call vote 5-0.
  5. Molly made the motion, seconded by Tim to hold a public meeting to vote on the renegotiated contract on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Roll call vote 5-0. Sandie emailed on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, that there is a process to be followed as an SB2 town, so this will not occur on May 7<sup>th</sup>.
17. ADJOURNMENT – On a motion made by Adam, seconded by Tim, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. Roll call vote 5-0.

Prepared by Sandra Adams, Chair  
April 4, 2026