

APPROVED BY THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #51
PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD**

MINUTES

Pittsfield School Board Meeting
February 2, 2023
Pittsfield Middle High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Sandra Adams, Vice Chairperson
Adam Cote
Sarah Duval (entered the meeting at 5:45 p.m.)
Molly Goggin
Adam Gauthier, Chair (via Zoom)

Others Present: Bryan Lane, Interim Superintendent
Derek Hamilton, Principal, PMHS
Charlene Vary, Director of Student Services
Mike Wiley, Principal, PES
Members of the Public

Vice Chair Sandra Adams opened the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Ms. Adams

III. AGENDA REVIEW

The following items were added:

- Request to accept funds (Mr. Lane)
- Non-public session (Mr. Lane)
- Legislative update (Mr. Lane)

IV. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA

On a motion made by Mr. Cote and seconded by Ms. Goggin, the Board unanimously approved the amended agenda.

V. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of January 5, 2023 were considered. Changes include: On page 3, paragraph 7, change to “The Winter Showcase will be held next Wednesday, January 11, 2023 for the students to engage and showcase artifacts and present their creation from the first semester Learning Studios.” Also on page 3, paragraph 10, add “Mr. Lane will reactivate SORA when appropriate.” Beginning on page 5, change numeration after Roman numeral XI. On page 6, paragraph 4, add “7:05”, paragraph 6, add “8:20”, paragraph 7, change the first Ms. Goggins to Ms. Adams, and add “8:22.

Mr. Lane explained that Veterans Day is on a Saturday and some were concerned about when it would be celebrated or acknowledged. Mr. Lane is working with the VFW to confirm the calendar.

On a motion made by Ms. Goggin and seconded by Mr. Cote, the Board voted unanimously (Ms. Adams, yes; Mr. Cote, yes; Ms. Gauthier, yes; Ms. Goggin, yes) to approve the minutes as amended.

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Chassie informed the Board that there is an All-Class Reunion being planned by an ad hoc committee of the PHS Alumni Association. An All-Class Reunion is planned approximately each decade and this is the fourth one.

VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Annelissa Marcotte explained the voting process for at-large members of the Site Council.

VIII. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

A. Identified Students

Ms. Vary reviewed the number of students identified as having a disability and broke it down by each disability. She also provided numbers of students with a Section 504 plan. Numbers of students receiving speech and language services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and vision services were also provided.

IX. PES PRINCIPAL

A. PES Statistics

B. Mr. Wiley shared enrollment numbers for PES.

C. Theater Integrating Guidance, Education, and Responsibility (TIGER)

On Wednesday, January 18, 2023, students from Plymouth State University performed for PES students. Mr. Wiley thanked the PTO for sponsoring this event.

D. Winter Concerts

Mr. Wiley reported that there were two successful winter concerts facilitated by Ms. Nault. Mr. Wiley commended the work of Ms. Nault in providing this opportunity for students. Mr. Carr was acknowledged by Mr. Gauthier for his help with technology.

E. Incidents

Mr. Wiley provided statistics on behavior incidents during the month of January at PES.

Mr. Cote asked if the interventions being taken by staff are helping students and decreasing incidents. Mr. Wiley explained possible reasons for behavior being exhibited and stated that there was an overall decrease in incidents.

X. PMHS PRINCIPAL

A. DARE Program

Mr. Hamilton announced that the DARE Program will return to PMHS this spring. A certified DARE instructor from the Merrimack County Sheriff's Office will provide instruction.

Also, in cooperation with the Merrimack County Sheriff's Office and Pittsfield Police Department, a bullying and vaping awareness session is scheduled for February 7 and 14, 2023.

B. Learning Studios

According to Mr. Hamilton New Learning Studios started on January 25, 2023. There are a total of twenty Learning Studios being offered.

C. Middle School After School Support

The 7 / 8 Grade Team began offering after school support on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00. Title I funds are being used to support the program.

D. Quarter Two Progress Reports

The second quarter and first semester of the school year came to a close on January 20, 2023, according to Mr. Hamilton. Progress reports were sent out on January 31, 2023.

E. Ski and Snowboard Club

The Ski and Snowboard Club have had two outings to Gunstock and have two more sessions scheduled.

F. VLACS

Ms. Goggin asked for clarification regarding the completion of VLACS courses.

XI. SUPERINTENDENT

A. Budget Committee

Mr. Lane reported that he has spent a good deal of time working with the Budget Committee. He has attended meetings and has answered the few questions posed. He thanked the Committee for its work and collaboration.

Mr. Lane reminded the Board that the Deliberative Session is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 6:30.

Mr. Lane stated the Pittsfield per pupil expenditure is \$19,098, \$900 below the state average. He provided a list of thirteen communities per pupil expenditure amount, as well as the state average to show a comparison. Mr. Lane also provided valuations for Pittsfield and surrounding school districts, a factor that plays significantly on the state average per pupil expenditure.

Ms. Goggin stated that in the past the per pupil expenditure was significantly influenced by the receipt of private and foundation grants. Mr. Hamilton reiterated that it was the high school student per pupil expenditure that was negatively influenced by the grant funds received.

B. Title I

Mr. Lane explained that he has completed a new request for the after school program through the Title I grant.

C. Title II

According to Mr. Lane, Title II grant funds are being used for professional development for paraeducators to become certified as paraeducator II. This certification makes the district eligible to use Title I funds.

D. New Hampshire School Administrators Association (NHSAA) Legislative Update

Mr. Lane stated that the NHSAA Legislative Update meeting was to be held on January 23, 2023 but canceled due to inclement weather. He distributed a handout reviewing the House and Senate bills being proposed. Mr. Lane reviewed HB542, HB654, and HB540.

E. Snow Days

Mr. Lane informed the Board that the district has had three snow days. The last scheduled day for school this year is Thursday, June 15, 2023.

F. Request to Accept Funds

Mr. Lane explained that a gift from the Diane R. Steward Revocable Trust in the amount of \$10,000 has been given to the district. The Board arrived at a consensus to hold a public hearing to accept the gift; Mr. Lane will schedule the public hearing in conjunction with the next Board meeting.

XII. SCHOOL BOARD

A. Policies

The following policies were introduced for the first reading.

- Policy KED, Facilities or Services; Grievance Procedure (Section 504)
- Policy KB, Family and Community Engagement
- Policy GCCBC, Family and Medical Leave
- Policy IJOA, Field Trips and Excursions

The following policies were considered for action.

- Policy CBI, Evaluation of the Superintendent - no changes
- Policy IHBAA, Evaluation Requirements for Children with Specific Learning Disabilities - no changes
- Policy DKC, Expense Reimbursements - no changes
- Policy IHBH, Extended Learning Opportunities - change director of college and career readiness to guidance director;

On a motion made by Ms. Goggin and seconded by Ms. Duval, the Board voted unanimously to approve Policy IHBH as amended (Ms. Adams, yes; Mr. Cote, yes; Ms. Gauthier, yes; Ms. Goggin, yes).

XIII. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

A. Budget Committee Representative

Ms. Adams stated the Budget Committee process has gone well.

B. Drake Field and Facilities - No report.

C. Negotiating Team - No report.

D. Foss Family Scholarship - No report.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Pittsfield Middle High School Media Center.

XIV. PUBLIC INPUT - None

XV. NON-PUBLIC

At 6:43 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Goggin and seconded by Ms. Duval to enter into a non-public session under the authority of RSA 91-A:3 (a and c) to discuss student and personnel issues. The Board was polled and voted unanimously to enter into a non-public session (Ms. Adams, yes; Mr. Cote, yes; Ms. Duval, yes; Mr. Gauthier, yes; Ms. Goggin, yes).

At 8:46 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Duval and seconded by Mrs. Goggin to exit from a non-public session. The Board was polled and voted unanimously to exit the non-public session (Ms. Adams, yes; Mr. Cote, yes; Ms. Duval, yes; Mr. Gauthier, yes; Ms. Goggin, yes).

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Mrs. Duval to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.(Ms. Adams, yes; Mr. Cote, yes; Ms. Gauthier, yes; Ms. Goggin, yes).

Respectfully submitted,

Tobi Gray Chassie
Recording Secretary