

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #51
PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Pittsfield School Board Meeting

November 16, 2023

Pittsfield Middle High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Adam Gauthier, Chairperson
Sandra Adams, Vice Chairperson
Molly Goggin
Adam Cote
Helen Schiff

Others Present: Bryan Lane, Superintendent
Charlene Vary, Director of Student Services
Derek Hamilton, PMHS Principal ? or Melissa?
Kristen White, PES Principal
Members of the Public

Chairperson Gauthier opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Mr. Gauthier.

III. AGENDA REVIEW

- a. The following items were added to the agenda:
 - i. Transportation contract (Mr. Lane)
 - ii. Update on staffing (Mrs. Vary)

IV. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA

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

V. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- The minutes from November 2, 2023 were considered, and changes included:
page 2;
- Spelling of CURRICULUM;
- Staff who want to be involved; page 3;
- PG&E is Professional Growth and Evaluation; page 3;
- Emergency Management Team meeting on October 25th; VIII C. student -led method which the conferences are conducted; page 4 ;
- Mrs. Brown stated . . .Homeland Security Assessment, IX. A. bus ridership numbers for the District. D. 4th paragraph, general supplies (no caps); p. 5 ;
- Mrs. Adams asked Mr. Lane where . . .not yet received; p. 6 ;
- Mrs. Goggin shared the importance of the Alice training.

VI. PUBLIC INPUT – none at this time

VII. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

There was a third grade resignation – Jaqueline A. Malley. Ms. Vary has reached out to two different agencies to find replacements for special education paras. Mr. Gauthier made a motion to accept Ms. Malley’s resignation, seconded by Mrs. Schiff. The Board voted unanimously to also accept para resignations Emily Williams and Claire Drew, with thanks.

Mrs. Vary described the referral process used when there are concerns about the academic progress or sometimes behavior issues their child is having in the classroom. A referral form is used to gather information about the student.

The steps are: referral, evaluations, determination of eligibility, development of the individual education plan (IEP), and determination of placement. Mrs. Vary also shared that in order to be eligible for special education, a child must be identified with a disability in at least one of an included list of 13 areas.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Lane shared that at this time there were no questions from the Budget Committee regarding the proposed budget. The budget as it is presented to the budget committee stands at \$10,921,787.05, a 5.22%

Mr. Lane has contacted the Executive Director of the NH School Boards Association, Barrett Christina, regarding the Board's letter to the State School Board regarding the Prager U. curriculum. The Superintendent is waiting to hear back from the NHSBA.

Mr. Lane described meeting with a DOE representative and the Administrative Leadership team regarding a multi-tiered student support system for behavior to meet the needs of students who struggle to regulate themselves during the school day. More information is to come.

The District is looking into contracting with Tobi Chaisse for Para educator professional development to occur January through May.

The District has received a right to know request from a Florida organization requesting financial records. Mr. Lane is reaching out to legal counsel to see what obligations the District has in this matter.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD

Second Read on the following policies:

- KFA, Public Conduct on School Property; KCD, no action;
- KCD Public Gifts and Donations:
 - Proposed amendment" The Superintendent may accept gifts in the amount of \$1,000 or less. Gifts in excess of \$1,000 may only be accepted by the Board. Additionally, gifts in the amount of \$10,000 or more shall require a Public Hearing. For gifts less than \$10,000, the Board will post a notice of the gift in the Board agenda;
 - Motion by Mr. Cote second by Mr. Gauthier to approve the policy as amended.
 - Vote 5-0 to approve the motion.
- KDA, Public Information Program, no action;
- DJE, Bidding Requirements, no action;
- GBCD, Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check;
 - Proposed amendment: Include "Bus Drivers" the list of those who receive background checks.
 - Motion made by Mr. Cote, second by Mrs. Adams to approve the policy as amended.
 - Vote 5-0 to accept the motion.
- JCA, Chang of School or Assignment, no action;
- JKAA, Use of Restraints or Seclusion, no action'
- BEDG, Minutes, no action;

- IHBA, Evaluation Requirements for Children with Special Learning Disabilities
 - Proposed amendment.” District will ensure that all screening (added) and evaluation requirements”
 - Motion by Mr. Gauthier, seconded by Mrs. Adams to approve the policy as amended.
 - Vote 5-0 to approve the amendment.

X. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

BUDGET COMMITTEE – Mrs. Adams shared that on November 29 the Committee will begin with a review of the smaller departments.

DRAKE FIELD & FACILITIES – Mr. Gauthier – nothing at this time
 NEGOTIATIONS – nothing at this time

FOSS FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP – Mrs. Adams – nothing at this time
 PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Goggin

XI. PLAN AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mrs. Schiff will not be in attendance.

XII. BOARD COMMENT – none at this time

XIII. PUBLIC INPUT – none at this time

XIV. ADJOURNMENT at 7:12 p.m. by a motion made by Mr. Cote, and seconded by Mrs. Goggin, and unanimously approved by the Board.