

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

PITTSFIELD SCHOOLBOARD
MINUTES

Pittsfield School Board Meeting June 6, 2024
Pittsfield Middle High School

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Adams- Chair Person
Molly Goggin- Vice-Chair person
Adam Cote
Tim Robinson
Eric Nilsson

OTHERS PRESENT: Bryan Lane- Superintendent of Schools
Kristen White- Principal PES
Charlene Vary- Director of Student Support Services
Melissa Brown- PMHS Assistant Principal
Members of the Public

I. Mrs. Adams called the meeting into session at 5:30 and led the Pledge of Allegiance

II. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA

Mr. Robinson

Supporting parents throughout the District

Library collection

Facility walk through

Mr. Gauthier

Generator at PES

Signage at PES office

Anonymous letter

Mr. Lane

Three teacher nomination

Motion to accept the amended agenda by Mrs. Goggin

Second by Mr. Nilsson

Vote 5-0

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of May 16, 2024

Not all Board members received the minutes, this item will be moved to the June 20 meeting

IV. PUBLIC INPUT
None

V. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

The student representative was not present. Mr. Hamilton indicated that meetings were scheduled for two dates in the summer and that the cell phone policy would be brought up. Mrs. Goggin offered to provide a book for reference, "The Anxious Generation" giving some perspective on the stressors that constant connections may bring to students.

VI. PITTSFIELD ELEMENTARY- Kristen White

The Spring Concert was a great success, Mrs. White thanked the staff at PMHS for their help. The participation of the students and the support of teacher volunteers was excellent along with a great turnout by parents.

This was the first "Exhibition" event that Mrs. White had been to and she was enthusiastic in describing the work of students. She went through the emphasis by grade and was so appreciative of the staff for their efforts.

Lego and Art Night was a success as well. Mrs. White thanked Mrs. Stevens, Art Teacher, for her efforts and creating displays of student work. The event was well attended.

Mrs. White described the growth that has occurred in the academic assessments that students have been participating in. She described that a majority of students are meeting growth goals even though they may not be at grade level yet. There was growth in the percentage of student becoming proficient in every grade.

Mr. Robinson commented that it was important for the citizens to better understand the meaning of these assessment and that as long as the students are growing toward their goals it is a success.

Mrs. White is enthusiastic about the growth and has confidence with new programs being implemented that students will continue to meet proficiency at a higher rate.

The Painted Rock project has been a great success. We owe a huge thank you to PMHS for their incredible support and kindness. The students from the Rock Painting Learning Studio, along with Angela Bridges, a paraprofessional at PMHS, painted kid-friendly rocks with uplifting and motivational quotes.

Mrs. White described the events of Staff Appreciation Week and wants to celebrate the staff in all they do.

Events around the transition from 5th to 6th grade have gone well and the collaboration between PES and PMHS has been excellent.

The new materials for the HMH reading program have arrived and the staff is excited about the possibilities this brings. Professional development around the curriculum will occur later in June.

Mrs. Goggin leaves the meeting at 6:28

VII. PITTSFIELD MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL- Derek Hamilton

Senior awards night and graduation will be coming up. Mr. Hamilton distributes information for Board members. Board members confirm the schedule on when they should arrive.

Exhibition of learning was a success, a good turnout. The staff feedback gave kudos to the students for their presentations as well as their behavior. Feedback from parents included creating a more definitive schedule so that they can ensure they will be at their children's presentation.

Mrs. Goggin thanked the staff for looking for and taking feedback from parents.

The events for transition into sixth grade have gone well. The second day was a more student centered event that allowed them to really ask questions about what their day will look like. The final event will be in August during open house on August 22.

There will be multiple summer programs at PMHS. ESY for identified students along with credit recovery and Title I support for grades 6-8. There will be three options for the high school summer academy.

Mr. Hamilton presents some questions to the Board as to the direction to move forward with regarding CPR as a graduation requirement. He verified that the most logical time to offer this would be during health classes in grades 9 or 10.

Mr. Robinson and Mr. Nilsson confirm that they did not see certification for students as the requirement, rather that all students have experience and knowledge in how to do manual CPR and AED devices. Mr. Nilsson also indicated that the Pittsfield Fire Department would be willing to participate in the instruction as well as providing equipment.

Mr. Hamilton thanked the Board for their clarification and will come back to the Board with specifics on how to implement this.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS- Bryan Lane

The Superintendent described the current situation in hiring staff. If the nominations being brought to the Board were approved, there would be three special education teachers that needed to be hired as well as a reading specialist and an art teacher at PMHS. The Superintendent indicated that with the nominations that would be brought forward, there was a surplus of \$82,520 to date.

The notification through certified mail regarding the Open Enrollment decision by the State Board was received on June 6. Legal counsel has filed notice of intent to appeal, the Board would need to wait for the decision of the State Board to determine if they would hear the appeal. At the request of the Board, the Superintendent inquired as to the cost of moving this case to the State Supreme Court. Legal counsel gave an approximate cost of \$5,000. Inquiries are being made to see if other school districts would like to join Pittsfield if the case moves forward.

The Board received the action plan that will be given to the Department of Education to resolve the issues that have occurred in the area of Food Service. At the request of the School Board, the Superintendent provided a document indicating that the cost to continue the Food Service program with Fresh Picks for another year would be a reduction of \$28,755 compared to the current contract due to a smaller student body.

The Superintendent described the work that has been done with various grants and applications to the state over the past two week in the area of ESEA, Special Education and Food Service.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Robinson wanted to make sure that we were working toward giving parents what they needed to support their children as they go through their academic journey.

Nominations

Nomination of Maura Burns- First grade teacher Bachelor's Step 31 salary \$64,235
 Motion to accept the nomination by Mrs. Adams
 Second by Mr. Gauthier
 Vote 4-0 to approve the motion

Nomination of Wade Sauls- Sixth grade teachers Master's + 30 step 6, salary \$40,028
 Motion to accept the nomination by Mr. Gauthier
 Second by Mr. Nilsson
 Vote 4-0 to approve the motion

Nomination of Barbara McGrath- Title I teacher Bachelor's step 30, salary \$63,725
 Motion to accept the nomination by Mr. Nilsson
 Second by Mr. Robinson
 Vote 4-0 to approve the motion.

Mr. Nilsson inquired as to what would occur if in the hiring process there were more funds requested than were budgeted. The Superintendent responded the administration would determine where in the budget reductions would be made in order to not exceed the budget. That information would be given to the Board prior to any over expenditure.

Mrs. Goggin returns to the meeting at 7:32
 Policy review

EHB-

EH- PUBLIC USE OF SCHOOL RECORDS

Amendment to include policy letters on each page

Motion to approve as amended by Mr. Robinson

Second by Mr. Gauthier

Vote 5-0 to approve the motion

EFD- ACCESS TO SCHOOL PROVIDED MEALS

Superintendent requests to table until a future meeting

GBEA- STAFF ETHICS

Amendment to add page numbers

Motion to approve as amended by Mr. Robinson

Second by Mrs. Goggin

Vote 5-0 to approve the motion

EHB-R- DISTRICT RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE

Amendments to include:

Correct page numbers

Delete text that was struck out

Include the chart from the NHSBA

Modifying the chart to remove asterisks on page 13

Add word annual before attendance in the sections on "Grades" and

"Attendance on page 17

Motion to accept as amended by Mr. Gauthier

Second by Mr. Nilsson

Vote 5-0 to approve the motion

EBCB- FIRE DRILLS

Amendments to include:

Change the name to Emergency Preparedness Drills

Delete text that was stricken

Change the text to read:

"Emergency preparedness drills will be scheduled by the school's administration. The school administration will create a calendar of drills annually in accordance with RSA 153:1 and coordinate these drills with the authority having jurisdiction as well as outside agencies as appropriate."

Motion to accept as amended by Mr. Nilsson

Second by Mr. Robinson

Vote 5-0 to approve the motion

X. Committee Assignments

The Board discussed committee assignments as follows:

- a) Budget Committee- Mrs. Adams and Mr. Robinson
- b) Drake Field and Facilities- Mr. Gauthier
- c) Negotiation- Mrs. Goggin and Mr. Robinson
- d) Legislation- Mrs. Adams
- e) Foss Family Foundation- Mrs. Adams through June 2024. Mr. Nilsson for the coming school year.
- f) Public Relations- Mrs. Goggin

Motion to approve committee assignments made by Mrs. Goggin
Second by Mr. Robinson

Vote 5-0 to approve the motion

XI. PLAN FOR NEXT AGENDA

Policy EFD
Policy CBI- Evaluation of the Superintendent
Update on Open Enrollment issue

XII. BOARD COMMENTS

XIII. PUBLIC INPUT

Citizen identified only by first name indicated they had moved into town and wanted to see how the Town's entities worked. Complimentary of the meeting, the Board and the staff.

XIV. NON-PUBLIC SESSEION

Motion to go into a non-public session made by Mr. Gauthier at 7:58
Seconded by Mr. Nilsson

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Nilsson- Yes
Mr. Robinson-Yes
Mrs. Goggin- Yes
Mr. Gauthier- Yes
Ms. Adams- Yes

Board discussed program issue affecting personnel
Board discussed topic as recommended by legal counsel

Motion to exit non- public made by Mr. Nilsson at 8:45
Seconded by Mr. Robinson

Vote 5-0 to approve the motion

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Robinson to adjourn
Seconded by Mrs. Goggin

Vote 5-0 to approve the motion at 8:45

SUBMITTED BY BRYAN LANE 6/11/24