



SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #51

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PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING AGENDA

January 02, 2025 5:30 PM
PMHS Media Center
Pittsfield Middle High School
School Board Meeting

Video call link:
meet.google.com/fyd-ojeu-rqz

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 19, 2024
5. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS
6. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE
7. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS- Mrs. Lane
8. PES PRINCIPAL – Mrs. White
 - Art Club
 - Holiday Concert and Winter Solstice Events
 - Drama Club
 - NWEA
 - Calendar of Upcoming Events
9. PMHS PRINCIPAL- Mr. Hamilton
10. SCHOOL BOARD
 - Proposed 2025-26 Operating Budget/Default Budget
 - Personnel List
 - Warrant Articles
 - Open Enrollment Update
 - Clarification on Senior Teacher's Salary Schedule

First Reading of Policies regarding Discipline

- JIC - STUDENT CONDUCT last reviewed Nov. 15, 2018
- JICDD - STUDENT DISCIPLINE: OUT -OF-SCHOOL ACTIONS last reviewed December 6, 2018
- JICD - STUDENT DISCIPLINE AND DUE PROCESS last reviewed December 6, 2018

11. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- Budget Committee
- Drake Field and Facilities
- Negotiations
- Legislation
- Foss Family Scholarship
- Public Relations

12. PLAN AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING - JANUARY 16, 2025

13. BOARD COMMENT

14. PUBLIC INPUT

15. ADJOURNMENT

Pittsfield School District

To: Pittsfield School Board
From: PES Administration, Kristen White and Kyle Hodsdon
Subject: Board Meeting – January 2, 2025
Date: December 26th, 2024

INFORMATION:

Art Club: We are excited that the PES Art Club has returned after a four-year hiatus. The Art Club is an after-school program offered to our fourth and fifth-grade students. It provides support and enrichment for those students seeking a creative outlet in addition to their academic schedule. The goal is to grow a love of the arts through our school and foster collaboration and an innovative community among our art students. It fosters relationships between students who are interested in art. It allows students to learn new techniques from peer artists and explore different media that may not be covered in their regular allotted art class. It is an opportunity for students to participate in community events through the arts.

The Art Club officially began on December 5, 2024, and we have twenty very excited artists! Thus far, the art club students have learned how to make cinnamon clay dough to make cinnamon ornaments, which made the whole art room smell like Christmas! We also had a guest artist, Bill Mitchell, a former art teacher of PMHS and professional printmaker, come and show how to screen print art club t-shirts. In the upcoming weeks of the art club, students will explore pendulum painting, create and design plaster masks, and learn about famous artists and new art techniques. Thank you to Ms. Lisa Stevens for sharing her talent, knowledge and passion for the arts.

Holiday Concert and Winter Solstice Events: To kick off the Winter season we held two successful Winter events that showcased the spirit of our students and community. The first event was our Winter Concert, led by our talented music teacher, Kathryn Ingerson. The concert began with our first graders with their performance of *Little Snowflake* and a choreographed scarf dance to *Wizards of Winter*, with Mrs. White and Ms. Brisbois joining them on stage. The concert continued with wonderful performances from each grade. The second graders had us all singing along with them to *Winter Cheer* and *Winter Fun*, while the third graders performed and danced to *Jack Frost* and *Snow Day*. Our fourth graders brought energy and enthusiasm with *Rocky Mountain* and *Winter Wonderland*. The fifth-grade performance was incredible, featuring an impressive drum sequence to *5th Grade Wish Liszt*, a piece by Trans-Siberian Orchestra, arranged by Kathryn Ingerson.

We are incredibly thankful to the Pittsfield community for its support, particularly through the basket raffle, which helped raise funds for field trips and special events for our school. Our wonderful PTO was at the concert to announce the raffle winners, and we appreciate their continued efforts to support our school.

In addition to the concert, our Preschool and Kindergarten students had their own Winter Solstice celebration. Families gathered for hot chocolate and cookies, and Mrs. Medeiros read a heartwarming story to all in attendance. The event concluded with students and their families bundling up to hang bird feeders, which they had made during the school day, on the apple trees. This was a beautiful way to celebrate the winter season with our youngest learners and their families.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the PES faculty and staff for their dedication in helping with rehearsals and supporting the event. A special thank you to the PMHS custodial staff for setting up the chairs and stage to ensure everything ran smoothly. We also appreciate the parents, family members, and community members who encourage our young musicians and support the artistic programs we offer at PES. Your involvement helps our programs grow and thrive!

We would also like to highlight our appreciation to the Guathier family who stayed late to help us clean up all the chairs. The PMHS custodial staff was extremely grateful for our support and appreciation.

Drama Club: This year, our new reading program, HMH, has sparked incredible opportunities for both students and staff to take a deeper dive into engaging with literature. One of the standout moments came from our fourth-grade classrooms, where students embraced the chance to perform plays as part of their reading curriculum. After completing an end-of-unit HMH play, Ms. Galley's class performed for other members of our school community, and their enthusiasm revealed a budding passion for theatre among our students.

Inspired by this discovery, our fourth-grade teachers, Ms. Heather Galley and Ms. Critchett, decided to go above and beyond for our students. With the support of our librarian, they located a full-length script of *Charlotte's Web* and initiated a drama club for fourth and fifth graders. The club has already grown into an exciting project, with 16 students participating. Auditions were held this past Monday, and weekly rehearsals are set to begin after the break.

What makes this truly special is the dedication of Ms. Galley and Ms. Critchett, who are volunteering their time without compensation because they are deeply invested in creating opportunities for our students. Their commitment exemplifies how our staff is embracing HMH to go beyond the classroom and cultivate creativity, confidence, and a love of reading.

Through this collaboration, we're not only enriching our students' literacy skills but also fostering their passions and talents. We can't wait to see where this journey takes them—and we're already looking forward to the magic of their upcoming production!

NWEA: *Students in grades Kindergarten through five will complete both the ELA and Math portions of the NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) testing throughout January. This assessment is a key tool for measuring student growth, and we are excited to see the progress our students have made as learners this year. We are incredibly proud of the dedication and effort demonstrated by our students, staff, and families, all of whom have embraced the new HMH reading program. The collaboration between home and school has been instrumental in supporting student learning. Our focus on promoting the importance of reading for at least twenty minutes a day throughout the Pittsfield community will continue to remain a priority. By encouraging this simple yet impactful practice, we aim to foster a love of reading and further support student growth in literacy.*

NWEA testing is a critical component of how our district measures student growth. The data collected through these assessments helps us track individual progress and identify areas where students may need additional support. We look forward to using this data to further inform our instructional practices and ensure that our students continue to succeed.

Our Math Interventionist, Leslie Schuster, has played a key role in enhancing student outcomes in mathematics through the Eureka program. Leslie works closely with classroom teachers, meeting weekly with grade-level teams to plan instruction and address any challenges students may encounter. She also facilitates monthly professional development sessions focused on Eureka, which are tailored to the specific strengths and challenges of our students. These sessions have proven to be both meaningful and impactful for our teaching staff.

On January 15th, members of HMH (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) will be at PES to conduct training on how to best access and utilize data to support learning and instruction. This session will provide valuable insights into using both the NWEA and HMH assessment data to guide instruction and meet the diverse needs of our students. Once testing is completed, grade-level teams will analyze the data to identify trends, gaps, and successes. This will enable us to make data-driven adjustments to our teaching practices, ensuring that students continue to make progress throughout the remainder of the school year.

We would like to thank our families for their ongoing partnership in supporting their children's learning. The combined efforts of students, staff, and families have had a significant impact on student growth, and we remain committed to maintaining this positive trajectory throughout the year. Once we have all our testing completed we will share the data with the School Board.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

- Winter Break - December 21st - January 2st
 - We will return to school Thursday, January 2nd
- Thursday, January 2nd - Building Leadership Team Meeting - 9:30 AM
 - Art Club - 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
 - PG&E Committee Meeting- 3:00 PM- 4:30 PM - PMHS
 - School Board Meeting- 5:30 PM- PMHS Media Center
- January 6th - January 9th- Dental Clinic
- Monday, January 6th - Literacy Team Meeting - 2:45 PM- Learning Commons
 - Drama Club Rehearsal - 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- Tuesday, January 7th - Administration Leadership Team Meeting -9:30 AM -10:30 AM- SAU
 - NWEA Testing- Kindergarten, Grade 1 and 5 - ELA
 - Team Leader Meeting- 2:45PM - Art Room
- Wednesday, January 8th - Grades 3 and 4 NWEA - ELA Testing
 - Early Release - 12:15 PM
 - Smart Board training - PMHS 1:15 PM
 - Budget Meeting - 6PM- Town Hall
- Thursday, January 9th - Grade 1 NWEA - ELA Testing
 - Kindergarten - NWEA- Math Testing
 - Building Leadership Team - PES- 9:30 AM
 - Arr Club- 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
- Friday, January 10th- All grades - NWEA Make Ups