

**APPROVED BY THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD**

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

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**MINUTES**

Pittsfield School Board Meeting  
January 6, 2022  
Pittsfield Middle High School

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Members Present: Adam Gauthier, Chairperson  
Justin Clough, Vice Chairperson  
Sandra Adams  
Molly Goggin

Others Present: Bryan Lane, Interim Superintendent  
Derek Hamilton, Principal, PMHS Principal  
Melissa Brown, PMHS Assistant Principal  
Mike Wiley, PES Principal  
Members of the Public

Chair Gauthier opened the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Gauthier.

**III. AGENDA REVIEW**

The following items were added:

- Curriculum Review Committee (Ms. Adams)
- Meet the Candidates (Mr. Gauthier)

**IV. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA**

On a motion made by Mr. Clough and seconded by Ms. Adams, the Board approved the amended agenda.

**V. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

The December 16, 2021 public minutes were considered by the Board. Changes include spacing of the date in the footer and on page two, paragraph four, change to Jaime Koladish. On a motion made by Ms. Adams and seconded by Ms. Goggin, the Board approved the minutes as amended.

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

Jaime Koladish stated that if a parent curriculum group forms it would be best to have School Board support.

Ms. Koladish asked the Board to consider a more relaxed and targeted mask policy such as are being used in other districts.

VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - No Report

VIII. PES PRINCIPAL

A. Staffing Update

Mr. Wiley informed the Board that PES is currently advertising for a Library Media / Technology Specialist position. Also, there are two paraeducators positions and substitute teacher positions available.

B. Professional Development

Mr. Wiley reviewed the professional development plan for PES for the month of January, which includes Foundations training, UDL and book study.

C. Book Study

Mr. Wiley stated there will be four groups studying four professional books.

IX. PMHS PRINCIPAL

A. Fall Conference Data

Mr. Hamilton shared the participation data for each grade level for the student-led conferences held on November 8 and 19, 2021.

B. Health Services Updates

Mr. Hamilton stated that the district is now accepting COVID-19 home testing results that are negative provided they meet established guidelines. He informed the Board that eighty-four people registered for the COVID-19 vaccination clinic held on December 17, 2021. Plans are being made with Concord Hospital to provide on-site testing within the district.

C. Social Worker Report

The six-month report from the district social worker was provided to the Board. Mr. Hamilton reminded the Board that this position is still vacant.

D. Winter Showcase

On January 19, 2022, PMHS is hosting a Winter Showcase during the day. The purpose, according to Mr. Hamilton, is for students to share high quality work with authentic audiences. Mr. Gauthier stated concern about it being held during the day, which may exclude some families from participating. Mr. Hamilton explained that this will be the first year the public will be invited. He said that an electronic record will be available on the website for people unable to attend.

E. Youth Risk Behavior Survey

According to Mr. Hamilton, PMHS students participated in a Youth Risk Behavior Survey on December 16, 2021. Eighty-six percent of students participated in the survey. The data will be used in a variety of ways to secure resources necessary to address any identified issues.

F. Picture the Graduate

Ms. Adams asked if there would be a follow up for the previous Vision of the Graduate activity. Mr. Hamilton stated that information will be analyzed from the previous meeting and a follow up meeting will be scheduled for March.

G. Website

Mr. Gauthier asked if there could be an increase in publications on the website. Mr. Hamilton stated that efforts will be made. Ms. Goggin suggested cross-posting between the website and teachers' Class DoJo.

X. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. COVID Statistics

Mr. Lane provided the Board with statistics relative to COVID. He stated that the CDC modified their recommendation for quarantining after being diagnosed from ten days to five days. He stated that the district will follow the New Hampshire Department of Public Health recommendations.

B. Natural Gas

Mr. Lane stated that there was a smell detected on December 30, 2021. It was determined that it was the smell of natural gas emanating from the kitchen at

PMHS. The Pittsfield Fire Department and the gas company investigated and declared the building clear.

C. Budget Committee

Mr. Lane stated that all information that the Committee has requested has been provided. He will attend a meeting of the committee on January 12, 2022.

D. Education Association of Pittsfield (EAP)

According to Mr. Lane, the School Board and the EAP have approved the contract to be brought forward to the Budget Committee and the voters.

E. Team Design

Mr. Lane stated that Team Design-Harriman will be investigating the cost to house elementary students at PMHS. He will review the cost analysis with the Board as soon as it becomes available.

F. Curriculum

Mr. Lane stated that efforts are being made to provide parents with information relative to curriculum so that they would know what is being taught, per their request.

G. Dumpsters

Mr. Gauthier asked Mr. Lane to check on the status of the dumpsters; Mr. Lane agreed to do so.

H. Warrant Articles

Mr. Lane provided the Board with proposed warrant articles. Discussion ensued regarding grammatical options. Mr. Clough stated the Budget Committee would like to be sure there is enough information relative to Warrant Article 4 - Establishment of a School District Reserve Fund to ensure clarity. Mr. Lane explained that the process that he will use is to have a Board member read the Warrant Article to the public; a script will be provided to offer full explanation. Mr. Lane will be available to assist a Board member, should that be necessary. Mr. Lane suggested a fifth warrant article being written to address the dumpster issue, should that become necessary. Ms. Goggin asked if it was possible to have additional information available for the public. Mr. Lane stated that instead, he would be writing explanations about the warrant articles for the website and Concord Monitor, one warrant article per week.

Mr. Gauthier stated the following wording for Warrant Article IV: To see if the Pittsfield School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be added to the Dumpster Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established to fund replacement of dumpsters at the schools of the district. Impact and fund balance amounts will need to be updated, according to Mr. Gauthier. (Estimated tax impact of this article: \$0.02/thousand (Current fund balance \$3,000)

On a motion made by Mr. Clough and seconded by Ms. Goggin, the Board voted unanimously to approve Warrant Article I.

On a motion made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Mr. Clough, the Board voted unanimously to approve Warrant Article IV.

On a motion made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Ms. Goggin, the Board voted unanimously to approve Warrant Article V.

Mr. Lane provided an explanation of the terms of the collective bargaining agreement with the Education Association of Pittsfield. He explained steps that can and cannot be taken at the Deliberative Session relative to the negotiated contract.

#### I. Policy Review

Mr. Lane presented Policy EGA-IJNDB, School District Internet Access for Students; Policy BEDG-R, Access to Minutes and Public Records; and Policy EBBB, Accident Reports. These policies will be reviewed at the next meeting. Mr. Lane invited Board members to notify him of any questions.

#### J. Deliberative Session

The date of the School District Deliberative Session was discussed. Mr. Gauthier suggested it be scheduled to coincide with the School Board meeting, Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of better attendance on a Saturday but it was determined that the traditional Thursday meeting would be appropriate as long as it started at 6:30 p.m.

### XI. SCHOOL BOARD

#### A. Meet the Candidate Night

Mr. Gauthier, on behalf of Ms. Rider, asked about a Meet the Candidate Night. It was noted that in the past Pittsfield Listens was the sponsor of the event, but since its demise, the Chamber of Commerce has been responsible. Mr. Lane noted that it would not be appropriate for the School Board to sponsor such an event.

#### B. Curriculum Committee

Ms. Adams stated that parents are interested in participating in a Curriculum Committee. She stated that this was discussed at the last meeting but with no resolution. Mr. Gauthier stated that he contacted the Bedford School District, which has two community members on their fourteen-member committee. He stated that Woodsville also has a curriculum committee that includes community members; more information from them is forthcoming.

## XII. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

### A. Budget Committee Representative - Mr. Clough

Mr. Clough stated that the Budget Committee would like the pay salary steps for the current contract. They would also like information on the salary steps for people not a part of the master contract.

Mr. Clough asked if masks would be mandated at the Deliberative Session. Mr. Lane stated that participants will be encouraged to wear masks, but not required. He said that the non-masked individuals could be segregated in a separate area of the room.

Mr. Clough stated that there has been discussion within the Budget Committee about the way in which the tax impact is being publicized. Mr. Lane stated that he will communicate with Cara Marston to clarify.

### B. Drake Field and Facilities - Mr. Gauthier

### C. Negotiating Team - Ms. Goggin & Mr. Gauthier

### D. Foss Family Scholarship - Ms. Rider

## XIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Pittsfield Middle High School Media Center.

## XIV. PUBLIC INPUT - None

## XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Goggin and seconded by Ms. Adams to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tobi Gray Chassie  
Recording Secretary