

APPROVED BY THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD

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

MINUTES

Pittsfield School Board Meeting
September 1, 2022
Pittsfield Middle High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Adam Gauthier, Chairperson (arrived at 6:45 p.m.)
Sandra Adams, Vice Chairperson
Molly Goggin
Adam Cote
Sarah Duval

Others Present: Bryan Lane, Interim Superintendent
Derek Hamilton, PMHS Principal
Michael Wiley, PES Principal
Members of the Public

Vice Chairperson Adams opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Ms. Adams

III. AGENDA REVIEW

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Share Table (Ms. Duval)
- Policy IKAD to be added to Policies First Reading for the next meeting (Ms. Adams)
- Website Updates (Ms. Adams)
- Superintendent Evaluation (Ms. Adams)
- Homecoming and Community Night Out (Ms. Adams)

IV. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA

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

V. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the August 18, 2022 meeting were considered.

Changes include: on page three, bullet C, change “study” to “student”, bullet D, correct the spelling of Diane; bullet points; bullet C, update the resignation of Brandon Balsler to reflect the acceptance of his resignation as long as he remits the \$1,000.00 fee for breach of contract.

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

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

Diane Rider would like the e-mail she sent to the Board on August 26, 2022 regarding the revision of Policy JBAB to be included in the meeting minutes.

Ms. Rider would like the Board to address the selection process of theatrical plays by the district for overall appropriateness.

Sabrina Smith spoke on the previous meeting’s review on Policy JBAB, Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students, as she was unable to attend the previous meeting. Ms. Smith stated that she would like to speak on behalf of the LGBTQ+ Community to ensure that the revision of this policy will continue to protect the students that would fall under this policy.

Katie Nikas spoke as a representative of the LGBTQ+ community on Policy JBAB, to ensure that the children of the district will continue to be supported and protected through this policy after it’s reviewed and revised.

VII. PES PRINCIPAL

- A. Mr. Wiley shared that the Open House event had a great turn out.
- B. Professional Development was held on August 24th and August 25th for faculty and staff of PES.
- C. Mr. Wiley summarized the System Protocols for Behavior, System Protocols for Behavior in the Classroom and System Protocols and the Student Services Coordinator for the Board.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT

- A. Mr. Lane provided the Board with a staffing update.
- B. Mr. Lane thanked the building principals for organizing the well-attended workshops for their staff.
- C. Mr. Lane paid his appreciation to the maintenance team once again for their hard work across the various district buildings and grounds preparing for the upcoming school year.

- D. Mr. Lane provided the Board an update on the return rate on the Free and Reduced Meal Applications.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD

- A. Ms. Adams notified the Board that the superintendent evaluation model still needs to be selected. Ms. Adams found a model from the Mattawan Consolidated School District in Michigan that she feels encompasses all areas that a superintendent should be evaluated on. The consensus of the Board was to use the Mattawan Consolidated School's model for superintendent's evaluation.
- B. Ms. Adams inquired as to the schedule for Homecoming and Community Night Out, which was determined to be scheduled for the weekend of September 30th, 2022.
- C. Ms. Adams stated that she reviewed the school level websites which needs to be updated to reflect staffing changes as well as main points of contact.
- D. Ms. Duval would like to revisit the idea of the implementation of a Share Table for the students in the cafeteria.

The Board spoke about the positives as well as negatives and concerns surrounding children with allergies if such a program was to be instituted.

E. Policies – First Reading

- Policy JICK, Student Safety and Violence Protection
- Policy JEA, Compulsatory Attendance Age
- Policy EHAA, Computer Security, E-Mail and Internet Communications
- Policy JLCJ, Concussions and Head Injuries

F. Teacher Nomination for Jason Tanguay

Motion made by Ms. Goggin to approve the nomination of Jason Tanguay, as Physical Education Teacher, at a salary of \$51,328, MA+30, Step 10, to be prorated by the daily rate of \$277.44, seconded by Ms. Duval.

G. Policies – Second Reading

- Policy JBAB, Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students, tabled
- Policy IHAK, Character and Citizenship Education, approved as written.
- Policy IIB, Class Size, approved as written.
- Policy JLCC, Communicable Diseases, was considered, update dean of operations to principal.

X. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Budget Committee Representative – Mr. Cote
- B. Drake Field and Facilities – Mr. Gauthier
- C. Negotiating Team –
- D. Foss Family Scholarship – Sarah Duval

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Pittsfield Middle High School Media Center.

XII. PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Nikas spoke on her experience with the discipline model at the elementary school. Every child has different social and emotional needs and the way that each child should be handled in the best manner fit for each of them.

Ms. Rider asked Ms. Goggin if the district she works for has a similar policy on Transgender and Non-Gender Conforming Students that Pittsfield may review while we work on revising our own.

Ms. Goggin stated that her district had previously used the policy as it was handed down and revisions were made over time to it.

Clayton Wood asked about shared bathrooms vs. gender specific bathrooms for those who do not wish to share the bathroom with classmates that fall under Policy JBAB. Mr. Wood additionally voiced his concern for the lack of parental notification that is required by the policy from the school to parents.

Ms. Rider inquired as to what the labeling of the bathrooms was at the elementary school. Mr. Wiley stated that there are some single in classroom bathrooms, as well as girl, boy and single stall bathrooms available to all students at the elementary school.

Ms. Smith advocated for the rights of children in regards to this policy. New Hampshire allows children to make choices for their own reproductive systems in regards to birth control and such as young as twelve years old. Ms. Smith asked the Board if there were any support groups in place for children who fall under the Policy JBAB.

Ms. Nikas inquired as to how the calendar for the district was decided on for the 2022-23 school year.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Duval and seconded by Ms. Goggin to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Zinn
Recording Secretary