

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

MINUTES

Pittsfield School Board Meeting
July 7, 2022
Pittsfield Middle High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Adam Gauthier, Chairperson
Sandra Adams, Vice Chairperson
Sarah Duval
Molly Goggin

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

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Gauthier

III. AGENDA REVIEW

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Setting Goals and Performance Evaluation in August for Superintendent Lane (Ms. Adams)
- Pittsfield Pledge (Ms. Adams)
- Student Centered Learning (Ms. Adams)
- Drake Field Fence (Mr. Gauthier)
- Budget Season (Mr. Gauthier)
- Non-public Session (Ms. Duval)
- Parent/Community Support Needs Survey (Mr. Lane)

IV. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA

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

V. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the June 16, 2022 meeting were considered. Changes include on page two, paragraph seven, fix grammatical error; page three, paragraph one, correct Mr. Gauthier's inquiry regarding the bathrooms from floors to grades correct Ms. Sawin's name, paragraph five correct Ms. Mistler's name; page five, change AG to Mr. Gauthier, paragraph five change "he thanks" to "he thanked"; page eight, include approval vote for movie request, paragraph three, include the select board as making the advertisement for the open school board position.

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

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

Dan Schroth-Piermarocchi stated that he does not believe the middle high school should be closed. Mr. Schroth-Piermarocchi independently researched the cost per pupil reimbursement rate and found that the State of New Hampshire has one of the lowest cost per pupil rates in the nation. He does not believe a charter school or any other school should replace the current middle high school. He has requested a minimum of three solar companies to come in and do an energy audit on the middle high school to see if there is a cost savings to be found.

VII. PES PRINCIPAL

- A. Mr. Wiley stated that the end of the year festivities went well. The students enjoyed a very successful Lego night where they were able to show different type of coding and robotics that they had learned this year. Rustic Crust made a donation of one hundred pizzas for the celebration. Summer maintenance has been underway moving all of the rooms in accordance with next year's plans.
- B. There are multiple workshops scheduled for this summer for staff to participate in towards their personal development goals.
- C. The calendar of upcoming events at PES was presented and discussed.

VIII. PMHS PRINCIPAL

- A. Mr. Hamilton presented a Facilities Usage Request from the Town of Pittsfield. The request was made for the use of the gymnasium for the primary elections. Mr. Hamilton states that it would create minimum disruption, but would like to request police presence for the event.

Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Duval, the motion passed 4-0.

- B. Mr. Hamilton presented a list of the Class of 2022 Awards and Recognitions.

- C. Mr. Hamilton presented the list of scholarship recipients for the Class of 2022.
- D. Mr. Hamilton spoke regarding the plans of the 2022 graduating class. He also discussed the transparency in his report regarding students that prefer to go an alternative route.

Ms. Goggin asked how the middle high supports students that choose an alternative route to graduation.

Mr. Hamilton stated that the middle high school offers test preparation sessions for the students who choose to take the HI SET.

- E. District Vacancies – The open positions in the district are: 7/8 Science, 11/12 Special Education, Life Skill, 9/10 Mathematics. Mr. Hamilton additionally relayed that the Student Support Coordinator that had been open since January has been filled for the 2022-23 school year.

Ms. Goggin stated that higher education schools such as UNH, LRCC, PSU and SNHU would be good resources for recruiting new teachers amidst the hiring shortage.

- F. Summer Program – The Extended School Year begins on July 11, 2022

IX. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

- A. Staffing – Mr. Lane informed the Board that the open Special Education and Science positions to fill in the district are considered critical areas at this time.

PES has openings for: Reading Specialist, SSC, SPED Teachers

PMHS has openings for two Special Education Teachers; 7/8 Science, 11/12 Special Education, Life Skill, 9/10 Mathematics

- B. Summer Maintenance – The SAU has been in full swing with summer maintenance activities. Mr. Lane is in the process of getting quotes to replace the tile with VCT. The average thus far is approximately \$4,000 per classroom, which would allow roughly four classrooms per year to be transitioned to the new flooring.
- C. End of Year Festivities – Mr. Lane thanked both Principal Hamilton and Principal Wiley for the great end of year celebration that they organized for the district staff.
- D. Drake’s Field Walkway – Sumnerscape quoted the walkway repair at \$18,500.
- E. Parent/Community Support Needs Survey was presented to the Board for approval. The survey’s goal is to see what the various needs of our community members are in order to better serve them.

Ms. Adams inquired as to the anonymity of the survey for privacy as well as how the services would be delivered if it was private.

Mr. Lane said this was more of an overall view of what families are struggling with to create group/programs to help with the issues.

Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.

- F. Free and Reduced National Lunch Program – Mr. Lane conveyed that this program is coming to an end. The district is working to ensure that the information regarding this is distributed in a proactive manner, in various means of delivery methods so that families are made aware of the changes and are prepared for the changes.

X. SCHOOL BOARD

A. Policies – First Reading

- Policy EBCC, Bomb Threats
- Policy Budget Implementation, CFB
- Policy Building Administrators Evaluation
- Policy EC, Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Nomination

B. Teacher Nominations

- Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the nomination of Jaclyn Rohr, at a salary of \$82,000, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.
- Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the nomination of Donald Belanger, at a salary of \$50,528, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.
- Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the nomination of Payne Gould, at a salary of \$35,688, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.
- Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the nomination of Bonnie Perry, at a salary of \$50,528, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.
- Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the nomination of Mackenzie Lavoy at a salary of \$35,315, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.
- Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the nomination of Sarah Conley, at a salary of \$35,315, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.
- Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the request to hire Melanie Ferraro, at a salary of \$44,118, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.

C. Policies – Second Reading

- Policy DJE, Bidding Requirements, the fourth paragraph needs to be revised in order to allow the policy to be more easily interpreted. Mr. Lane will bring a revised copy to the Board at the next meeting.
- Policy GBD, BOARD – Employee Communications, change deans to principals, correct formatting by adding in bold headings. Mr. Gauthier motioned to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Goggin, the motion passed 4-0.
- Policy BDD, BOARD – Superintendent Relationship. Approved as written.
- Policy BDD-R – Superintendent Relationship, add page numbers. Ms. Duval motioned to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Adams, the motion passed 4-0.

C. Setting Goals and Performance Evaluation in August for Superintendent Lane

Ms. Adams asked if there was any formal evaluation process or form that could be

reviewed and possibly utilized in the goal setting and performance evaluation that they would like to conduct with Superintendent Lane in August.

Mr. Lane stated that he would look into this and provide the Board with an answer.

D. Pittsfield Pledge

Ms. Adams indicated that she would like to see the creation and implementation of a school mantra that emphasis respect in the community.

E. Student Centered Learning

Ms. Adams would like this brought back as priority.

Mr. Hamilton stated he has a presentation for the Board that he will present at the August 18, 2022 meeting.

F. Drake Field Fence

Mr. Gauthier stated that a resident contacted him regarding a section of the fence that should have been painted and was missed.

Mr. Hamilton informed the Board that he would contact Jason Darrah to have this completed.

G. Budget Season

Mr. Gauthier inquired as to when the budget process would come underway.

Mr. Lane informed Mr. Gauthier that he was looking six-to-eight weeks out to have a budget outline ready for the Board. Additionally, he stated as part of the budget process, he would like to see the salary schedule for the district's paraprofessionals be restructured in order to be more competitive and retain the talent that the district needs in order to be successful.

XI. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Pittsfield Middle High School Media Center.

XIII. PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Kelm inquired as to whether there was a concern or not over the method of delivery for the Parent/Community Support Needs Survey that was being sent out by the Family Support Coordinator as some people do not have access to electronic devices for the survey.

Mr. Lane stated that the survey can be sent out in multiple form to ensure accurate responses to gauge the community needs.

XIV. NON-PUBLIC

At 7:13 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Ms. Adams to enter into a non-public session under the authority of RSA 91-A:3 to discuss personnel. The Board polled and voted unanimously to enter into a non-public session. (Ms. Adams, yes; Ms. Duval, yes; Mr. Gauthier, yes; Ms. Goggin, yes).

Discussed personnel issues. No action taken.

At 7:35 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Ms. Goggin to exit into a non-public session under the authority of RSA 91-A:3 to discuss personnel. The Board polled and voted unanimously to exit into a non-public session. (Ms. Adams, yes; Ms. Duval, yes; Mr. Gauthier, yes; Ms. Goggin, yes).

Motion made by Mr. Gauthier to terminate Drake Field's lighting at dusk each day, seconded by Ms. Goggin. Board polled and voted unanimously to approve motion (Ms. Adams, yes; Ms. Duval, yes; Mr. Gauthier, yes; Ms. Goggin, yes).

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Ms. Duval to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Zinn
Recording Secretary