

PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD

MEETING AGENDA

5:30 p.m., Thursday, March 18, 2021

PMHS Lecture Hall

Pittsfield Middle High School

1. CALL THE MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD TO ORDER
 - All speakers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene, libelous, defamatory, or violent statements will be considered out of order and will not be tolerated. The Board Chairperson may terminate the speaker's privilege or address if the speaker does not follow this rule of order. (Pittsfield School Board Policy BEDH)
2. REORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
3. AGENDA REVIEW
4. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA
5. APPROVE MINUTES: March 4, 2021
March 4, 2021, Non-Public Session
6. PUBLIC INPUT & PUBLIC ACCESS– Comments from community members, guests, and faculty. The public may join the meeting remotely using the following information.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9624435282?pwd=ZncvcW1VcUo1KzZEejk5SkNGVnZpQT09>

Meeting ID: 962 443 5282

Passcode: Harvey

Dial by your location:

1(312)626-6799

1(929)205-6099

7. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – Oral Report

8. PES REPORT

Action

▪

Information & Discussion

- Attendance
- PSU Partnership
- UNH Partnership

9. PMHS PRINCIPAL REPORT

Action

▪

Information & Discussion

- District Newsletter
- Prom Committee Presentation
- Spring Athletics
- Spring Conferences
- Student Attendance

10. PMHS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Action

▪

Information & Discussion

- No Report

11. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

Action

- Senior Trip

Information & Discussion

- Compliance
- Extended School Year Services (ESY)

12. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Action

- Staff Nominations

Information & Discussion

- School District 2021 – 2022 Budget
- Tuition Study Committee
- Open Negotiations Receiving Students
- School Board Training

13. SCHOOL BOARD

Action

-

Information & Discussion

-

14. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- A) Budget Committee Representative: TM
- B) Drake Field & Facilities: AG
- C) Negotiating Team: BD
- D) Foss Foundation: JD

15. PUBLIC INPUT

16. PLAN AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING: April 1, 2021

17. NON-PUBLIC SESSION – if required under RSA 91-A:3 II

18. ADJOURNMENT

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

MINUTES

Pittsfield School Board Meeting
March 4, 2021
Pittsfield Middle High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Bea Douglas, Chairperson
 Heidi Asdot, Vice Chairperson
 Jessica Drouin
 Adam Gauthier
 Ted Mitchell (via Zoom)

Others Present: John Graziano, Interim Superintendent of Schools
 Jessica Bickford, Director of Student Services
 Melissa Brown, PMHS Assistant Principal
 Derek Hamilton, PMHS Principal
 Danielle Harvey, PES Principal
 Kathy LeMay, PES Assistant Principal
 Members of the Public (some via Zoom)

Chairperson Douglas called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. AGENDA REVIEW

The following items was added to the agenda:

- Access to Board Minutes (Mr. Gauthier)
- Transportation (Mr. Gauthier)
- Communication (Mr. Gauthier)
- Seeds of Civility (Ms. Harvey)
- Senior Class Trip (Mr. Hamilton)

III. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA

On a motion made by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Gauthier, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Mr. Mitchell to approve the minutes of the public meeting on February 18, 2021. Changes included: in the footer, change to February 18, 2021; on page one, last paragraph, change to Mr. Gauthier; beginning on page two, change Roman Numerals to be in sequence; on page two, paragraph three, change to Gerard LeDuc; on page six, paragraph four, change to 2021-2022; and on page six, paragraph six, change to “On a motion made by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Gauthier...” Gerard LeDuc stated that he had said much more than was recorded. Ms. Chassis apologized and said that it is very difficult to hear non-public input via Zoom. She hopes to be back at the meeting in-person once she has received two vaccinations. The motion was passed unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

A motion was made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Mr. Mitchell to approve the minutes of the non-public session on February 18, 2021. Mr. Gauthier stated that Autumn Burse’s name should be added as present at the meeting. The motion passed unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Justin Clough stated that he is not a lawyer but felt that RSA 659-44A had been broken. He said the law states that public employees cannot use publicly funded systems to promote elections. Mr. Clough said that the Interim Superintendent did engage in illegal behavior whereby he would resign from his participation on the High School Tuition Committee.

Scott Jackson reiterated that he thought it was wrong that the superintendent used the messaging system to promote voting for the school budget.

VI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Harrison Hill stated that at the last meeting of the Site Council, they debriefed the vote of the School Board relative to community service. He said new members were welcomed and procedures reviewed for their benefit.

VII. PES PRINCIPAL

A. Attendance

Ms. Harvey reviewed attendance statistics for the first week in teal status. She was pleased to see a positive trend emerging.

B. Remote Students

Ms. Harvey provided statistics relative to students attending school remotely.

C. Re-Enrollment

Ms. Harvey explained that twenty-two students have re-enrolled for in-person learning after having been on home school status.

D. Social Media

Ms. Harvey stated that the warrant articles were posted and shared to instagram and facebook with an explanation of what voting yes would mean.

E. Seeds of Civility

Ms. Harvey shared information regarding Seeds of Civility, a program suggested to the district by the NEASC visiting team. She said it is a program designed to help monitor the level of negativity experienced on social media. Ms. Harvey suggested the Board consider adopting such guidelines.

VIII. PMHS PRINCIPAL

A. District Newsletter

Mr. Hamilton provided the Board with a copy of the recent district newsletter.

B. Remote Learners

Mr. Hamilton provided statistics relative to the number of remote learners

C. School Status

Mr. Hamilton provided details on what PMHS looks like while in the teal status. He stated that students are very happy to be back in school.

D. Senior Class Trip

Mr. Hamilton asked Ms. Bickford and Ms. Brown to speak regarding the senior class trip. Ms. Bickford introduced students who were attending the meeting via Zoom. Harrison Hill stated that this year has been very difficult. The class

missed their prom last year, Spirit Week, and opportunities for fundraising. Ben Marcotte and Ryan Stephens explained details of the trip going to Myrtle Beach. Amber Johnson explained safety protocols that will be followed due to COVID-19. Mr. Gauthier asked if guidelines in South Carolina have been investigated, to which Ms. Bickford answered that they would do that next. Mr. Gauthier and Ms. Douglas stated their concern about losing money if the trip had to be cancelled. Mr. Mitchell asked if there is a lack of funds for the students who want to participate. Ms. Bickford stated that a fundraiser will begin soon and local businesses will be asked for support. She said that the cost would be approximately \$200 per student.

On a motion made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Ms. Asdot, the Board voted unanimously to approve the trip to Myrtle Beach. The seniors thanked the Board for their decision.

IX. PMHS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - No report.

X. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES - No report.

XI. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. 2021-2022 School District Budget

Dr. Graziano stated that because of the situation the district is in, he has tried to inform the voters of the details of the budget using several media. He said that he sympathizes with the citizens of Pittsfield who must pay taxes to support the school without assistance from the State. He said he understands how the funding mechanism is impacting the Town of Pittsfield. Dr. Graziano said he would continue to fight for equity in school funding. Mr. Gauthier asked some clarifying questions regarding the revised budget with the recent cuts. Dr. Graziano stated that he would provide that information.

B. School Status Update

Dr. Graziano stated that the two schools are in teal status. Students and teachers are excited to be back in school. He has observed students to be ecstatic and teachers to be energized. Dr. Graziano stated that he thought the timing of the move was optimum; he sincerely hopes that the year will end with students in school. Dr. Graziano explained the participation of students in athletics while maintaining safety protocols.

C. Tuition Study Committee Update

Dr. Graziano explained that the Committee will meet again in March. He stated that a letter has been received by another district inviting the students of Pittsfield High School to attend it's school.

XII. SCHOOL BOARD

A. Transportation

Mr. Gauthier stated that there was an incident of a student being left on the bus and was found when the driver returned to the Marston's yard. Mr. Gauthier asked Ms. Harvey if this situation had been straightened out. Ms. Harvey assured the Board that the situation was remedied.

B. Access to Minutes

Mr. Gauthier asked if minutes were being posted within seventy-two hours of the meeting. Ms. Chassie said that she historically has been asked to have the minutes to the Superintendent by Monday morning after the meeting. Dr. Graziano stated that he was reluctant to post minutes before approval of the Board. Dr. Graziano will rectify the situation.

C. Communication

Mr. Gauthier stated that he has grave concerns about employees of the district promoting elections. He stated that he had been called out on it previously and took issue to it happening now.

XIII. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Budget Committee - Mr. Mitchell
- C. Drake Field & Facilities - Mr. Gauthier
- D. Negotiations – Ms. Asdot and Ms. Douglas
- E. Foss Family Scholarship Foundation – Ms. Drouin

XIV. PUBLIC INPUT

Tracy Hyuck stated that she is concerned about the minutes not being released to the public in a timely manner. Ms. Hyuck stated that she is concerned about the “electioneering” being done by district personnel. She said she thinks it has to stop. She said was appalled and embarrassed by the message that was sent.

Gerard LeDuc asked the Board if they ever voted to seal the minutes of the non-public minutes. Ms. Douglas stated that the Board has received different advice from superintendents. He opined that if they are not sealed, the public will have access to them. Mr. LeDuc stated that if anyone goes to the Attorney General with complaints, the district will have issues. Mr. LeDuc stated that he does not want the Board to be faced with lawsuits.

Justin Clough stated that he is concerned about the sealing of non-public minutes and the Board taking advice from superintendents. He stated the Board should not be taking advice from the superintendent.

Scott Jackson stated that the citizens do not trust the School Board. He opined that the Board should be doing what is right and that recently that has not been the case.

Autumn Burse asked for clarification regarding the non-public session minutes. She stated her concern that issues dealt with in non-public sessions could be connected to a person because the town is so small.

Heather Elliott stated that in the community in which she lived previously did not send out communications relative to budgets. She said that she thought the communication was to sway voters, not just to inform them. Ms. Elliott asked what steps are being taken to improve education. Ms. Douglas stated that school personnel have worked hard to improve education and provided an example of a recent grant and the work done to personalize learning. Ms. Elliott stated her concern for the test scores. Ms. Douglas stated that test scores are just one factor in determining the success of the educational program.

Justin Clough stated that he is concerned about test scores. He said that Pittsfield is paying in the top twenty-five percent of the state and performing in the bottom twenty-five percent. He said that competency based education was a pet project of the previous superintendent. Mr. Clough said that he is concerned that not enough information is provided at Board meetings about how the education in Pittsfield is being improved. Mr. Clough stated that he thinks people are working hard but that it isn't enough.

Heidi Asdot stated that she has looked at other neighboring towns' budgets and has found that they are paying more than Pittsfield for their students' education. Mr. Clough stated that according to the New Hampshire Department of Education website, Pittsfield is paying more than the state average tuition.

Ms. Hyuck stated that we have transient families in Pittsfield, but that is not unique to Pittsfield. She said that the numbers are not as skewed as people think they are.

XV. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Ms. Douglas stated that a discussion by the Board will be necessary relative to personnel.

At 6:24 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Gauthier and seconded by Mr. Mitchell to enter into a non-public session under the authority of RSA 91-A:3 (c) to discuss personnel matters. The Board was polled and voted unanimously to enter into a non-public session (Ms. Asdot, yes; Ms. Douglas, yes; Ms. Drouin, yes; Mr. Gauthier, yes; Mr. Mitchell, yes).

At 6:58 p.m. a motion was made by Mr Gauthier and seconded by Mr Mitchell to exit from a non-public session. The Board was polled and voted unanimously to exit the non-public session (Ms. Asdot, yes; Ms. Douglas, yes; Ms. Drouin, yes; Mr. Gauthier; Mr. Mitchell, yes).

XVI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 5:30 in the Pittsfield Middle High School Lecture Hall.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Asdot and seconded by Mr. Mitchell, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tobi Gray Chassie
Recording Secretary (via Zoom)

PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD

Non-Public Session Minutes

March 4, 2021

Members Present: Bea Douglas, Chairperson
Heidi Asdot, Vice Chairperson
Jessica Drouin
Adam Gauthier
Ted Mitchell

Motion: On a motion by Ms. Gauthier and seconded by Mr. Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to enter into a non-public session under the authority of RSA 91-A:3 II (c).

Specific Statutory Reason for Nonpublic Session: RSA 91-A:3 II (c) to discuss a personnel matter.

Roll call: Vote to enter non-public session:

Ms. Asdot	yes
Ms. Douglas	yes
Ms. Drouin	yes
Mr. Gauthier	yes
Mr. Mitchell	yes

Time Nonpublic Session Entered: 6:24 p.m.

Other Persons Present: Interim Superintendent John Graziano

Description of Matters Discussed:

Resulting from communications recently sent by the interim superintendent to parents via school messenger (emails+phone calls), there was discussion about the violation of the law due to electioneering. The School Board asked Dr. Graziano to get a legal opinion.

Action:

Public Session Reconvened: 6:48 p.m.

Role Call to Seal Minutes: No motion to seal minutes.

Minutes Recorded By: John Graziano, Interim Superintendent

Pittsfield School District

To: Pittsfield School Board
From: PES Administration, Danielle Harvey and Kathy LeMay
Subject: Board Meeting – March 18th, 2021
Date: March 4th, 2021

ACTION
None at this time.

INFORMATION

1. Attendance: The following chart shows attendance at PES for the last two weeks. We have seen an increase in students on quarantine due to various reasons (travel, sick family members, positive exposure, illness). Although many families indicate that they will be doing remote work when in quarantine, the amount of students completing that work is only at about 25% of those on quarantine. The exception is the 5th grade which is currently in quarantine, their completion rate is higher.

	March 1	March 2	March 3	March 4	March 5
Total Absences	22	21	40	14	29
# on Quarantine	7	9	REMOTE	6	7
	March 8	March 9	March 10	March 11	
Total Absences	33	37	33	31	
# on Quarantine*	11	REMOTE	13	10	

*45 fifth graders were also on quarantine this week due to exposure to a positive staff.

NOTE: PES currently only has 1 positive staff member and 0 positive students.

2. Partnerships with PSU: This year we have continued our partnership with Plymouth State University. We host their cohort 1 education students in one of their first field placements. They come every Monday for a semester. Below is an email I received from Joseph Rino, PhD after his

visit to see how the interns were doing. I am thankful for our educators who are eager to host these preservice teachers. This partnership does lead to PSU students applying for jobs with us.

Hi Danielle,

I got to spend a good chunk of time in each classroom that had a PSU student yesterday. My focus was to point out to the interns the small instructional choices that teachers were making that had a big impact on the class. I worry sometimes that due to the interns' inexperience, they don't always appreciate it when a teacher makes a really expert teaching choice. I had a lot of side conversations with interns about your work with Responsive Classroom and how all the community building that's happening supports student learning as well as holistic well-being. I teach this group's Assessment course, so I was also able to point out all of the really amazing formal and informal assessment that was going on, and I often encouraged the interns to ask some specific questions to their mentors about assessment....(intern specific paragraph removed)...

Your teachers made my job very easy. In every classroom I was able to point out simple instructional choices that supported classroom management and learning. The overall environment was wonderful.

Joseph Rino, PhD

Department of Elementary Education and Youth Development

3. Partnership with UNH: We also partner with the UNH Teacher Residency for Rural Educators (TRRE) program. This year we are hosting three year long interns as they take classes with UNH for their master's in education. These interns have promised to work for three years in rural schools in NH. This partnership also opens up opportunities for shared professional development between us and UNH. Danielle is currently partnering with them to design work that would bring Ross Green's Lives in Balance work to PSD for free. Danielle was also invited to sit on a panel again this spring; this year in regards to trauma informed practices in schools.

Pittsfield School District

To: Pittsfield School Board
From: Derek Hamilton, PMHS Principal
Subject: Board Meeting – March 18, 2021
Date: March 12, 2021

INFORMATION

1. District Newsletter. Our most recent edition will highlight our district-wide approach to spring conferences, Kindergarten registration, and the UNH Intern Program at Pittsfield Elementary School. I will bring copies to the Board meeting.
2. Prom Committee Presentation. I anticipate Mrs. Carson, Mrs. Garrett, and junior class representatives will be prepared to present a Prom proposal at the Board meeting. The class is considering holding the Prom at the Elks Lodge in Epsom on Saturday, May 15.
3. Spring Athletics. The start date for softball and baseball is March 29. With your approval, we plan on starting practices outside at the teams practice facilities. Depending on weather and field conditions they may need to start in the gymnasium. If the team starts in the gymnasium, numbers will be kept to 12-15 student-athletes per practice slot and current sanitation protocols will be followed. Student-Athletes will be following the NHIAA recommendations for Spring Athletics pertaining to facial masks. Coaches will monitor symptoms and temperatures prior to every practice. Coaches will encourage social distancing and avoid contact between players. Equipment will be sanitized after each use. Equipment and dugouts will also be sanitized prior to practice and at the conclusion of practice. Middle school teams will play games against Suncook Valley League opponents; high school teams will compete against southern region teams (as determined by the NHIAA).
4. Spring Conferences. Our students and staff are preparing for annual Spring Conferences. The conference window is April 5-16. Teachers will work with students and families to determine if conferences will be held virtually or in-person. Advisers will facilitate conferences in grades 6-8, while students will be expected to play a role in their conference, meaning they will share work samples, course progress, and/or plans for next year (eighth graders). High school students (grades 9-12) will continue to take the lead in a student-led conference. Students will reflect on goals, work samples, course progress, course selection for the 2021-2022 school year, and other topics.
5. Student Attendance. Since the start of the *teal status* district-wide on March 1, our student absenteeism average on in-person learning days is 29.8 absences per day, which includes remote absences, excused absences, and unexcused absences. This number is fairly average. However, Wednesdays, a remote learning day, continue to be a challenge. Our student absenteeism rate the past two remote learning days (including the Tuesday election date) was 64.5 absences. I'll discuss potential changes and supports we are offering to students on Wednesdays at the Board meeting.

Pittsfield School District

To: Pittsfield School Board
From: Jess Bickford
Subject: Board Meeting – March 18, 2021
Date: March 12, 2021

INFORMATION

1. Compliance:

Every year the special education department is evaluated for a variety of different compliance checks. Most recently we received our data on Significant Disproportionality.

Pursuant to IDEA, states must collect and examine data to determine if significant disproportionality based on race and ethnicity is occurring in the state and the local education agencies with respect to the identification of children with disabilities, the placement of these students, and discipline.

In review of Pittsfield's three-year analysis no determination of significant disproportionality has been made. Therefore we are in good standing with this review.

2. Extended School Year Services (ESY):

The special education department is beginning to plan what ESY will look like for students this year. We are looking at extending ESY to four weeks this summer in order to help students maintain progress and avoid regression for the start of next school year. We are also looking at ending ESY closer to the start of the school year to provide less of a gap between summer and the start of the school year and better meet our students needs. The dates we are looking at are July 19 through August 12.

ACTION

1. Senior Trip:

Thank you for The Board's feedback and approval at the last meeting in regards to the senior trip. The class has been able to reserve a house to stay at that does include the option for a refund in case COVID cases spike here or in Myrtle Beach. The

class has also been able to reserve two-twelve passenger vans that we can cancel up to a week before the trip. The Senior's next steps are to send permission slips home with families that include details and collect a deposit from interested seniors. In order to go on this trip students must be in good academic and community service standing.

Chaperones for this trip include myself, Melissa Brown, and Logan LaRoche. We will ensure that staff are first aid and cpr certified before leaving. In order for us to drive students down, we will need your approval for an exemption to the board policy, EEAG paragraph three, that requires two adults in a vehicle when driving students. We will be supplying copies of our licenses and insurance to the SAU and the rental company.

Thank you again for your support, you have helped make a group of students extremely happy!

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A.

School District 2021 2022 school district budget

B.

Tuition study committee

C.

Open negotiations receiving students

D.

School Board training

E..

Staff nominations



SOULE, LESLIE, KIDDER, SAYWARD & LOUGHMAN

P.L.L.C. • ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Peter H. Bronstein
David W. Sayward
Barbara F. Loughman
Michael S. Elwell
Gordon B. Graham
Diane M. Gorrow
Peter C. Phillips

Anthony M. Muir

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P.O. Box 908
Wolfeboro, N.H. 03894

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Lewis Soule (1924-1986)
Robert P. Leslie (1932-2017)
Bradley F. Kidder (1939-2000)

220 Main Street
Salem, N.H. 03079

Tel: (603) 898-9776

Fax: (603) 898-3418

R/E Fax: (603) 893-7678

March 10¹¹, 2021

John Graziano
SAU #51
23 Oneida Street, Unit 1
Pittsfield, NH 03363-3102

Dear John,

You have asked what can be done about a board member who discloses information from non-public session. It is a violation of the oath of office for a board member to disclose confidential information obtained in non-public session.

RSA 42:1-a reads,

Without limiting other causes for such a dismissal, it shall be considered a violation of a town officer's oath for the officer to divulge to the public any information which that officer learned by virtue of his official position, or in the course of his official duties, if:

(a) A public body properly voted to withhold that information from the public by a vote of 2/3, as required by RSA 91-A:3, III, and if divulgence of such information would constitute an invasion of privacy, or would adversely affect the reputation of some person other than a member of the public body or would render proposed municipal action ineffective; or

(b) The officer knew or reasonably should have known that the information was exempt from disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A:5, and that its divulgence would constitute an invasion of privacy, or would adversely affect the reputation of some person other than a member of the public body or agency, or would render proposed municipal action ineffective.

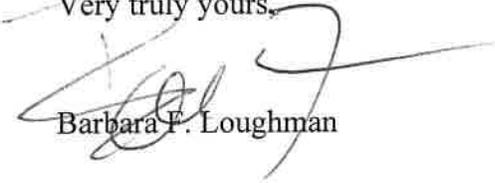
The remedy is to petition the superior court for removal of the offending board member. RSA 42:1, I reads,

The manner of dismissing a town officer who violates the oath as set forth in RSA 42:1 shall be by petition to the superior court for the county in which the town is located.

Although RSA 42:1 is found in the town statutes, it is also considered applicable to school officers as well. I have never had to take a school board member to court to get him/her removed. Usually, once someone explains to the board member that s/he can be removed from office for disclosing information obtained in non-public session, the board member stops doing it.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Barbara F. Loughman



SOULE, LESLIE, KIDDER, SAYWARD & LOUGHMAN

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March ~~10~~¹¹, 2021

John Graziano
SAU #51
23 Oneida Street, Unit 1
Pittsfield, NH 03363-3102

Dear John,

It is my understanding that a member of the public has complained that you violated the election laws when sent a communication to Pittsfield School District voters which reads,

This is John Graziano, Interim superintendent of schools. Please mark your calendars for voting day to be held on Tuesday, March 9th from 7 am to 7 pm in the PMHS gymnasium. The school district is facing almost a million dollars in budget cuts including 13.5 teaching + staff positions. A NO vote will keep our budget about the same as last year. PLEASE COME PLEASE VOTE. I look forward to seeing you at the polls.

School officials, including superintendents, have the right to provide factual information to the voters and may also urge citizens to come out and vote, provided they do not tell people how to vote. In my opinion, you did not violate the election law when making the below statement.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours

Barbara F. Loughman

NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT NO. 53

267 PEMBROKE STREET
PEMBROKE, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03275
TELEPHONE: (603) 485-5187
FAX: 603) 485-9529

*Peter Warburton, Superintendent
Allenstown, Chichester, Epsom*

*Patty Sherman, Superintendent
Deerfield, Pembroke, SAU*

*Karen Guercla, Asst. Superintendent of Student Services
Christopher Motika, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Joshua Berube, Technology Director
Amber Wheeler, Business Administrator*

February 19, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Deerfield School Board. For close to twenty years the Deerfield School District has contracted with the Concord School District to have Concord High School serve as our school of record and educate the vast majority of our secondary students. That contract is nearing its end.

Deerfield has not yet decided on whether we would prefer to identify one high school to educate the bulk of our students or to identify multiple districts with whom to negotiate tuition agreements. Regardless of this decision, we have decided that we are looking for at least one school to serve as our school of record.

We currently have around 170 secondary students enrolled in public schools and anticipate providing education for 45-55 students per year for the foreseeable future.

Since your secondary school is a reasonable distance from Deerfield, the Board has asked me to open discussions with your district by soliciting some information from you:

- Do you have space to house some or all of our secondary students beginning within three years?
- Are you interested in opening negotiations to take on some or all of our students?
- Are you open to serving as our school of record?
- Are you open to being contacted by our Board's subcommittee that is tasked with this purpose?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Patty Sherman, Superintendent



SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #51

23 Oneida Street, Unit 1
Pittsfield, New Hampshire 03263
Phone: (603) 435-5526 • Fax (603) 435-5331

Dr. John Graziano
Interim Superintendent of Schools

March 4, 2021

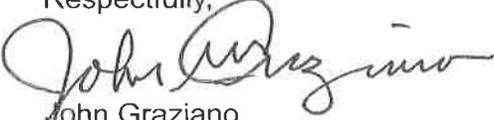
Dear Superintendent Sherman,

Thank you for your February 19 letter indicating that the Deerfield School Board would like to open discussions with the Pittsfield school district regarding your high school students.

- Yes, we have the space to take some or all of your students
- Yes, we are interested in opening negotiations to take some or all of your students
- Yes, we are open to serve as your school of record.
- Yes, we are open to being contacted by the Board's subcommittee

Thank you for this opportunity. We look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,



John Graziano
Interim Superintendent