

APPROVED BY THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD

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

MINUTES

Pittsfield School Board Meeting
September 21, 2017
Pittsfield Middle High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Michael Wolfe, Chairperson
Bea Douglas
Ted Mitchell (exit at 6:12 p.m.)
Ralph Odell

Others Present: John Freeman, Superintendent of Schools
Tobi Chassie, Director of Student Services
Ross Morse, Community Liaison
Member of the Faculty

Chairperson Wolfe called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

II. AGENDA REVIEW

The following items were added:

- Special Education Procedures Manual

The following items were deleted:

- School Development

III. ACTION ON AGENDA

On a motion made by Mr. Odell and seconded by Ms. Douglas, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda, as amended.

IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Odell to approve minutes of the September 14, 2017, meeting. On page one and on page two, paragraph three, change Girard to Gerard. Also in page two, paragraph three, change to "School Board members will be present voting day as required by Mr. LeDuc. Mr. LeDuc shared expectations regarding signage during voting day." In paragraph five, in two places, change "board" to "Board."

On a motion made by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Ms. Douglas, the Board voted unanimously to approve the non-public minutes of September 14, 2017.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Ross Morse stated his opinion that the vote last Tuesday on the proposed collective bargaining agreement between the Board and the Education Association of Pittsfield highlighted the fact that SB2 doesn't allow for compromise and does not allow the public to hear why someone might be in favor of or in opposition to an issue, which would provide officials with potentially helpful information on moving forward. Mr. Morse was disappointed with the voter turnout. He wondered aloud whether the approach the district takes in the future should change due to SB2.

Susan Bradley thanked the School Board for coming to events such as opening days and new teacher reception. She stated her appreciation for their consistent attendance at school events, demonstrating their support.

Ms. Bradley shared a story about a previous graduate who was offered an attractive job partially based on skills he can attribute to his educational experience at Pittsfield Middle High School.

Ms. Bradley highlighted a student leadership training activity provided by Jenny Wellington, Erin Bozek, and Derek Hamilton. For a three-hour block of time, three students led a training for student leaders. The students had planned an agenda, which included thoughtful discussion and focused activities.

VI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – None

VII. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

A. Special Education Procedures Manual

Ms. Chassie provided the Board with an update on the Special Education Procedures Manual and requested their approval. This manual is required and must be updated with the newly revised New Hampshire Special Education Safeguards Handbook. On a motion made by Ms. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Odell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the manual.

VIII. DIRECTOR OF INTERVENTIONS & TITLE I MANAGER

A. Dyslexia Screening

Ms. LeMay, by report, informed the Board of RSA 200:59, which requires the district to screen all students enrolled in kindergarten and grade one for potential indicators or risk factors of dyslexia and related disorders. She reported all of our students in kindergarten and grade one were screened as of September 15, 2017, and that the district is in the process of creating an intervention plan for the students identified as being high risk.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS – None

X. PUBLIC INPUT (Second Session) - None

XI. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 5:45 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Odell to enter into non-public session to discuss recommended changes to administrator contracts under the authority of RSA 91-A:3, II (a). The Board was polled and voted unanimously (Ms. Douglas, yes; Mr. Mitchell, yes; Mr. Odell, yes; Mr. Wolfe, yes).

The Board discussed upcoming negotiations with the Education Association of Pittsfield and the Board; the Board also discussed compensation for other full-time employees

No action was taken in non-public session.

At 6:20 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Odell to exit from non-public session and to re-enter into open session. The Board was polled and voted unanimously (Ms. Douglas; Mr. Odell, yes; Mr. Wolfe, yes) to exit the non-public session and to re-enter into open session.

XII. SCHOOL BOARD – None

XIII. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

A. Budget – None

B. Drake Field & Facilities – None

C. Negotiations – None

D. Foss Foundation – None

XIV. PLAN AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

The next School Board meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pittsfield Middle High School.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Odell, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tobi Gray Chassie
Recording Secretary