

Pittsburg School Board Meeting Minutes							
Date		September 27, 2021					
Time		6:00 p.m.					
Location		Pittsburg School Library Computer Lab					
Chairperson		Bob Ormsbee, Vice-Chairperson					
Attendance							
Attendance Legend: P – Present A – Absent E – Excused C – Cell Phone							
School Board Members			Principals			SAU Members	
P	Jamie Gray 6:10	E	Toby Owen	P	Elaine Sherry	P	Debra Taylor
P	Lindsey Gray	P	Reggie Parker			P	Cheryl Covill
P	Bob Ormsbee						
Clarksville School Board Members							
				P	Heather Mitchell		
Public in Attendance: None							

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Vice-Chairman Bob Ormsbee and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

Adjustments to the Agenda:

- Superintendent Taylor asked to have a nonpublic session at the end of the meeting per RSA 91-A:3, II(c)

Hearing of the Public: None

Reading of the Minutes: School Board Meeting of September 13, 2021
Reggie Parker stated he would abstain from voting as he was not present at the meeting.

Heather Mitchell asked for a correction to the minutes – under the Special Report, third paragraph. She then opened for questions. Heather said, “You mentioned you had a BA and then said you became Principal”. Jen responded that she got her master’s in between. She now needs one class for certification as a Curriculum Director.

B. Ormsbee/L. Gray: To approve the minutes of September 13, 2021 as corrected.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Special Reports: None

Connecticut River Collaborative Committee: None

School Administrator’s Report – Elaine Sherry (written report included)

Events:

1. Open house scheduled for September 22 with staggered attendance went very well.
2. October 7th – early release. Instructors will be provided with a choice to work on GCN (Global Compliance Training), which is required PD (Professional Development); CIA team (Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment), or PLC (Professional Learning Communities). On

October 8th, the SAU will gather in Colebrook to continue competency work and performance assessment work with Brian Stack.

Old Business

1. Continue to work with Tom Ledue to solidify this year's School Improvement Plan (SIP)
2. Misty Blais is conducting testing of students.
3. We continue to use the SWIS data collection system to monitor student behaviors

New Business

1. Mr. Covill is planning the Humanities Trip for the second week in November – 7 through 10. Transportation has not yet been arranged.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Debra Taylor:

1. Dr. Taylor reported on the School Improvement Grant, Open House, and upcoming administrative days.
2. There are a few cases of COVID at school. One is active. Cases are being handled differently this year. Full classrooms are not quarantined, rather, families are. This approach is working well. Teachers are doing well with good hygiene practices in the classrooms.

Heather asked if masks are still optional. Answer is yes.

Business Administrator's Report – Cheryl Covill:

1. Cheryl brought up capital projects that the Board needs to decide whether to include in next year's budget: paving the driving, sanding the gym floor, stage curtains, lamp posts, and library lighting. There was preliminary discussion on each of these. Discussion will continue at budget time.
2. Chris Hebert will look at the siding soon to give an estimate to repair.
3. Roof work on the Bremer Pond Wing will be paid for in this year's budget.

Unfinished Business: CTE Advisory Meeting will be held on October 14 at 5:00 pm. Content will be looking at area to see if we're providing the right program. Debra asked if any board member wanted to attend. This generated a lot of discussion on what programs could be provided in Pittsburg utilizing Town owned property and bringing licensed people in to educate our students. Some students are more hands-on and prefer to learn a trade.

Debra urged someone to attend the CTE meetings to have their voice heard. This could be a way to expand the program. Lindsey is willing to attend if the meetings can be held in all the towns involved, not just in Canaan. Jamie volunteered to be the board representative. Debra had also informed Canaan that Clarksville was interested in having a voice on this committee.

New Business: Duties of the Curriculum Coordinator were discussed. Heather Mitchell posed questions on how state standards are being met. How does it work for Vermont staff and students if they are going with NH standards? Heather has researched the position of Curriculum Coordinator with the NHDOE and NHSBA legal department. Debra understands that this is a new position and therefore there are unknowns. She stated that the position is there to assist the teachers. Most of our teachers are the only one teaching a particular subject and it is beneficial to them to be able to meet with colleagues in other schools. The position is there to assist the teachers in improving education for our kids.

The board wants to hear from teachers on whether they like or dislike the assistance from the Curriculum Coordinator and wants them to feel free to come to their principal and/or a board meeting

to discuss this. It was decided to bring the Curriculum Coordinator back in December to update the Board on how the program was going.

Other Business: Heather asked if anyone was interested in forming a committee to discuss options for Pittsburg besides a regional school. Discussion ensued on whether a committee was needed as the board meetings offer this opportunity. No decision was made.

Heather and Elaine informed the board about “Devious Licks”, which is on social media and is used to share negative activities amongst students. Unfortunately, it has reached all the schools in SAU 7. Jamie stated this is not new, but social media enhances it.

Meetings:

Next meeting for Pittsburg School Board will be October 11, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

7:20 pm Heather Mitchell and Patricia Grover left the meeting as the Board prepared to enter a nonpublic session.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Grover
Minutes Taker

L. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to enter nonpublic session at 7:20 pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE: L. Gray – yes; J. Gray – yes; B. Ormsbee – yes; R. Parker – yes

Others present during the nonpublic session: Debra Taylor, Cheryl Covill, and Elaine Sherry.

Discussion on transportation issues.

R. Parker/J. Gray: Motion to leave the nonpublic session and return to the public session at 7:50 pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE: L. Gray – yes; J. Gray – yes; B. Ormsbee – yes; R. Parker – yes

J. Gray/R.Parker: Motion to increase PSD bus drivers and custodian wages by \$2.00/hour.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

R. Parker/J. Gray: Motion to authorize the administration to contract with WW Berry for Athletics and field trips.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

J. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. Taylor
Superintendent

Adopted 10/11/2021