

Pittsburg School Board Meeting Minutes							
Date		03/24/2025					
Time		6:00 pm School Board Meeting					
Location		Pittsburg School Conference Room					
Chairperson		Willard Ormsbee					
School Board Members				Principal		SAU Members	
P	Jamie Gray	P	Daniel Kurtz	P	Debbie Lynch	P	Dana Hilliard
P	Lindsey Gray	P	Reggie Parker			P	Bridget Cross
P	Bob Ormsbee						
					Student Member		
				P	Joli Carlson		
Public in Attendance: David Covill							

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by the Superintendent and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Organizational Meeting:

Superintendent Presides:

R. Parker/D Kurtz: Motion to elect Bob Ormsbee as Chairman.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Chairman Presides:

R. Parker/D. Kurtz: Motion to elect Jamie Gray as Vice Chairman.

VOTE: Motion Carries

The following Committee appointments were made by consensus:

NHSBA: Delegate – Bob Ormsbee

NHSBA Alternate – Jamie Gray

Legislative Delegate – Bob Ormsbee

Legislative Alternate – Jamie Gray

Athletic Council – Reggie Parker and Dan Kurtz

Leadership Team – N/A

Negotiations Committee – Bob Ormsbee and Reginald Parker

Local Policy Committee – All Board Members

SAU 7 Policy Committee – Lindsey Gray

SAU 7 Technology Committee – Dan Kurtz

SAU 7 Wellness Committee – Jamie Gray

New Board Member Development Information:

Dana reviewed the upcoming webinars through NHSBA including the New School Board Member Orientation Webinar and Chairing an Effective Meeting. Board members will need to sign up for these through the NHSBA website.

School Board Meeting Schedule:

The board will continue to meet on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 6:00 pm.

School Board Member Ethics:

- Policy BCA School Board Member Ethics
The board reviewed policy BCA and signed the acknowledgement form.

Agenda Adjustments: None

Hearing of the Public: David came in to speak about the discussion that was held at the annual school district meeting. David stated that many residents have been discussing the cost of education. He has met with Steve Ellis and Wayne Dorman on this issue. Residents are looking more and more at their tax bills and are looking for answers as to what the future holds for the educational spending in Pittsburg. David stated that the bottom line is the voters are looking for an unbiased neutral look at the feasibility of continuing to fund a K through 12 school in Pittsburg. When David spoke with Steve and Wayne, they agreed that creating a committee that consisted of the three of them, two school board members and selected community members who could bring their individual expertise to the committee. The Superintendent, Business Manager, Curriculum Coordinator, Principal and other key education administrators would participate on an as needed basis. However, he stated that it's important that the study be done in a manner that the citizens of Pittsburg feel confident in its outcome. It's important not to exclude any community members but also it is very important to keep the number of community members to a manageable number.

David reviewed his, Waynes and Steve's, backgrounds to show their expertise and mentioned that they felt Jamie and Dan would be good additions to the committee as board members. He stated the remainder of the committee members would consist of teachers and community members with local parental ties. When he met with Wayne and Steve, they decided that this committee would stay outside the governance of the School Board as that would add credibility to the outcome to the residents.

Some of the challenges that the committee will be faced with is meeting academic standards and fiscal responsibility. It's balancing the cost versus the value of education and what alternatives are out there? Not having any preconceived agenda and what do you do with the facility if it gets closed down? These are just some of the ideas that have been discussed. In order to maintain credibility, we must work as a group and share information collectively so there is no miscommunication at the conclusion of each meeting and prepare a statement that the committee agrees represents the committee and what they have accomplished and what the next steps should be.

Dana stated that the letter that he drafted and brought to each board regarding collaboration vs. consolidation with ENSU has been approved by all boards and sent to the Canaan School District. He spoke that as each board agreed that consolidation was not an option with ENSU but discussions among the 5 SAU 7 boards would be welcomed. There is a willingness to bring all 5 boards together and build on the strength from within.

Dana discussed forming the committee and the question of what is the vision of Pittsburg School? Is the question on Pittsburg Schools vision financial or academic? If the committee wants a school wide vision, then that would be a strategic plan. If the SAU is to be involved with this then the role of the SAU would be to provide data.

David spoke about the committee and said that he would facilitate the committee to help keep it on track. Dana spoke again about the strength of all the districts within SAU 7 and he spoke about the great teachers at Pittsburg School and Mrs. Lynch.

Reading of the Minutes:

J. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to approve March 6, 2025, minutes.

VOTE: Motion Carries.

Principals Report – Debbie Lynch –

March Report – Things are slowing down at the school activity wise. Sisken came and did cross country

skiing with the students and will be returning again this week. There are a couple of authors coming to the school to read their books to students. This is part of the CLiF Grant. On the weekend of the 11th and 12th of April the drama club will be presenting Annie Jr. The new stage curtains have been installed. The students enjoyed the distracted driver's simulation that they attended. The Celebration of Learning has happened and will be something that Pittsburg School will do annually. The Glow Party had 72 people attend and everyone had a great time. Next Tuesday the Seniors who are being recognized as NHIAA Scholars will be recognized in Concord. The Athletic Committee meeting was last week, and they named Pittsburg as the lead school. The next meeting will be in the fall. Discussed a website that Josiah presented that would allow students to sign up for all 3 sports and have all permission slips for rides etc. on this website. The cost is \$1,000.00 to set it up. Debbie and Ron would like to use money from fundraising to get the website up and running. It would cost \$5.00 per student after the initial \$1,000 cost.

Student Report – Joli Carlson – The yearbook is coming along. The school play is Annie Jr. There have been practices taking place after school and three seniors have taken the lead roles: Drew is Mr Warbuck, Hannah is Annie and Jolie is Miss Hannigan. The senior trip has been planned for April vacation and they are headed to St. Petersburg Florida. There are 6 students going on the trip and two chaperones. They will be doing zipline, banana boat ride, aquarium and maybe parasailing. Mrs. Pettit will be meeting with the parents of the students going on the trip to have them complete any paperwork that needs to be done in order to do those activities. The honor society is talking about doing more activities to get high school students involved. Discussed getting input from students prior to making plans so more people would hopefully want to participate. A survey will be going out to the students to see if Whales Tales, Santa's Village and a couple more places is what they would like to do.

Superintendent's Report

March Update - Dana will continue to update the board on what is going on in Concord and Washington. The title money for next year should be all set.

RSA 91-A:3II (a)

L. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to go into non-public session RSA 91-A:3II (a) at 7:35pm

VOTE: Motion Carries

Superintendent Hilliard and Principal Lynch were invited into the non-public session.

R Parker/J. Gray: Motion to come out of non-public session at 7:49 pm

J. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to approve the 2025/2026 staff nominations.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Discussed the letter received from CN Brown which there will be a minimal impact of \$1.31. Dana stated he would follow up with CN Brown and get back to the board.

J. Gray/D. Kurtz: Motion to approve the 2025/2026 meal pricing

VOTE: Motion Carries

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

J. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to approve the Superintendent to submit Pittsburg Grants.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Dana will follow up with the lighting project and bring information back to the next meeting.

General Assurances will be tabled until they are received.

Past practice for reaching out to candidates that were write-ins on the ballot at the annual meeting was for the Superintendent to reach out to those candidates. Dana stated that there were write-ins for treasurer, moderator and school district clerk.

The board all agreed that they would like the SAU Office to reach out to these write-ins and ask if they would accept these positions.

Kim Wheelock reached out to Debbie and invited Pittsburg students on the world trip next year to either Belize or Ireland. Debbie will be sending information home to parents regarding this. Each trip is about \$3,000 and parents need to sign students up by next Friday.

Information: None

Other Business: None

Meeting Dates:

- SAU School Board Meeting Thursday, April 10, 2025 @ 6:00 pm - Columbia Town Hall
- Pittsburg School Board Meeting April 14, 2025 @ 6:00 pm - Pittsburg School Conference Room

Adjournment:

J. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm.

VOTE: Motion Carries.

Respectfully Submitted,
Billie Paquette
Executive Assistant

Board Adopted: April 14, 2025