

Pittsburg School Board Meeting Minutes

Date	7/8/2024						
Time	6:00 pm						
Location	Pittsburg School Conference Room						
Chairperson	Bob Ormsbee						
School Board Members							
School Board Members				Principal		SAU Members	
E	Jamie Gray	P	Reggie Parker	P	Debbie Lynch	P	Dana Hilliard
P	Lindsey Gray					P	Bridget Cross
P	Bob Ormsbee						
Public in Attendance:							

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 5:53 pm by Chairman Bob Ormsbee opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome Dana to SAU #7!

Agenda Adjustments:

Hearing of the Public: None

Reading of the Minutes:

R. Parker/L. Gray: Motion to approve the June 10, 2024, minutes.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Special Reports:

School Administrator's Report: Debbie Lynch

July Principal Report –

The paving of the parking lot has been completed and now has 60 parking spots and they extended the paving at the end to square off the parking lot. The work on the gym floor has begun and hope to have it all sanded down by Wednesday. This is the second week of Art Camp and there are 11 students attending. The camp is open to all students.

Discussed the messaging on the sign in the front of the school. The sign will be used to advertise community events or anything military for free, birthdays and anniversaries \$5.00 for the day and businesses \$25.00 per day but will not advertise anything promoting alcohol, tobacco, drugs or explicit language. The funds received from the advertising will be deposited into the Principal's Enrichment Fund.

R. Parker/L. Gray: Motion to approve the advertising on the sign in front of the school with the set parameters.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Debbie is waiting on an application for the elementary position.

The board approved the GEA-R1 Fitness Room Procedure.

R. Parker/L. Gray: Motion to approve Josiah Riley as baseball coach and Athletic Director

VOTE: Motion Carries

As Athletic Director Josiah will be working on inventory, Athletic Handbook and the Coop Agreement. Canaan still needs to approve him before he can begin working. Canaan will be nominating him to coach soccer.

The Principal Leadership Academy that Debbie and other principals attended had a lot of discussion around getting parents engaged in the school. There was also a workshop on therapy dogs in school (Pittsburg has a therapy dog that came in last year around noon everyday) and one on student's mental health which discussed if a student is sent away to a facility that there should be a re-entry plan for when they come back to school.

Debbie included 2 wordles with her packet, one from the beginning of the year and one from the last day of school. At the end of the year the two words that came up the most were memorable and unique. She is considering that a win.

Debbie is looking to purchase speed bumps for the parking lot. This will help slow cars that are coming into the parking lot. They are portable so they would not be screwed into the new paving and would be able to be removed before winter plowing.

Debbie discussed with Bridget changing the date of the end of the first semester on January 17th and the second semester would end on June 11th. This will go back to the SAU Board for a vote at their August meeting. Discussed the teacher shortages and how this issue is much larger than just up in the North Country.

Mr. Covill will be stepping in for Mr. Wallace for this year only to teach Marketing and Design. There will be 5 students in the first semester and 3 in the second semester. Discussed his contract and moving him from a .5 FTE to .75 FTE which would affect his benefits. Also discussed the teacher in Canaan that teaches woodworking and the PE teacher not having full schedules. Canaan will discuss this but the teachers have the right to say not to teaching at a different school.

R. Parker/L. Gray: Motion to accept David Covill's offer to teach Marketing and Design for the first semester

VOTE: Motion Carries

Debbie has learned that the school does not own the baseball field at the dam. It is owned by the state and leased to the town and was a verbal agreement only. Debbie has sent out an agreement, which is in the board packet. This is a 3-year lease so it will need to be renewed in 2027. Bob will sign the agreement and it will go back to the Selectmen.

Discussed an agreement from 2016 with the Pittsburg Ridge Runners for a right of way by the school. It was stated that this agreement would no longer be needed.

Debbie asked Emily Wood to update the Fitness Room Procedure prior to her leaving. Debbie reviewed the changes to the procedure with the board.

Superintendent's Report: Dana Hilliard

Superintendent July Report - Dana talked about his report and how it highlights from the Weekly #7 Report. Discussed the importance of information flowing between the schools, SAU and the board.

Dana let all board members know that they are welcome to come to the SAU any time to talk. Asked the board members to think about goal setting. Will discuss this more at the SAU School Board meeting in August. Would like to come up with measurable goals that will tie into the Strategic Plan.

Dana spoke about the Admin Retreat which is coming up on August 6th and 7th

The board asked Dana how he handles inclement weather regarding closing schools. Dana explained that he relies on the experts; Chief of Police, Road Agents etc. Dana will be meeting with all the Road

Agents before winter. Bridget suggested that Dana include the Transportation Coordinator in this meeting as well.

Dana talked about the upcoming mixer for SAU staff and Board members so they can spend time getting to know each other.

Discussed recruitment and how to attract teachers to our schools. Dana will be going to college job fairs in the spring to sell our schools to graduating college students.

Discussed the open Board Member Seat and the open seat on the Policy Committee. Interested parties should send letters of interest to Bob directly for the Board seat. The ads for the board seat will go in the papers (alternate weeks in each paper for 1 month), Facebook and on the board in front of the school.

All letters of interest must be received no later than August 15th. Lindsey volunteered to sit on the Policy Committee and Bob will be the alternate.

Bridget stated that if the Board wants to increase their pay rate to let her know so she can include it in the budget for next year and it will have to be included on the warrant article at the School District Annual Meeting.

Business Administrators Report: Bridget Cross

R. Parker/L. Gray: Motion to accept the Hydro Credit Agreement

VOTE: Motion Carries

Provides a check every quarter based on the kilowatt hours used. Rebate would be about \$1,194 annually and this is a 5 year agreement totaling \$5,597. The attorney has reviewed the agreement and stated there is no risk to us.

R Parker/B. Ormsbee: Motion to approve Daniels Plumbing and Heating quote for cleaning and servicing the Boilers at \$1,550.00.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Discussion on Pre-K Students on School Buses and why we do not transport them - Pre-K students need to have an 8 point harness seat belt which is the biggest reason we do not transport them on buses. If a student is in Pre-K but has special needs then we do have to provide them transportation. Kindergarten through 12th grade has no restrictions with riding on the bus.

Area Agreement Timeline Discussion -The Area Agreement has been submitted to the state and they will meet on August 8th to decide on it. Once they approve it we have 90 days to get a vote from the residents. Bridget is recommending that we hold the special meeting in October. The meeting is a vote by ballot meeting. It could be set up with the regularly scheduled meeting and have the public hearing first, then the special meeting then have your regular board meeting. The Board agreed to hold this meeting on October 14th 5:00pm public hearing, 5:30 pm special meeting and 6:00 pm regular school board meeting

Unfinished Business:

New Business: Discussed having Billie transcribe the meeting minutes. There is \$12.00 an hour budgeted for this position.

Other Business: First week of August will be when the roof repair will begin. HVAC system is being worked on now and this will be done before school starts.

Non-Public Session:

Meeting Dates:

- Pittsburg School Board Meeting: Monday, August 12, 2024 @ 6:00 pm – Pittsburg School Conference Room

Adjournment:

R Parker/B. Ormsbee: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Respectfully Submitted,
Billie Paquette,
Executive Assistant