

Pittsburg School Board Meeting Minutes

Date	11/18/2024							
Time	6:00 pm							
Location	Pittsburg School Conference Room							
Chairperson	Willard Ormsbee							
School Board Members			Principal			SAU Members		
P	Jamie Gray	P	Reggie Parker	P	Debbie Lynch	P	Dana Hilliard	
P	Lindsey Gray	P	Daniel Kurts		Student Report	P	Bridget Cross	
P	Willard Ormsbee				Joli Carlson			
Public in Attendance:								

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Willard Ormsbee opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Adjustments: Complete the State of NH Certificate of Vote for the SEED Grant.

Hearing of the Public: Dawn Pettit came to speak to the Board

R. Parker/J. Gray: Motion to go into Non-public session RSA 91-A:3, II(c) at 6:05 PM

All board members polled and agreed to go into Non-public session. Principal Debbie Lynch was invited to stay in the Non-public session.

VOTE: Motion Carries

R. Parker/J. Gray: Motion to come out of Non-public session and return to public session at 6:36 pm.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Bridget and Superintendent Hilliard were asked to rejoin the meeting.

Reading of the Minutes:

J. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to approve the October 28, 2024, minutes as presented.

Bob asked Debbie if she and Dawn had a chance to speak to Mr. Covell. Debbie stated that he will be at school for the first two blocks of the day all year long for 25/26. This will allow us to offer what is needed.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Special Reports: None

School Administrator's Report: Debbie Lynch

November Report – The Artist in residence started today. She will be here for the week. Students will be creating a 20 foot by 5-foot mural for the wall and Zack Wallace will be building the frame. The students have chosen a theme, and each student will be doing their own little section of the mural. This will be unveiled the evening of the Holiday Concert.

Seven seniors participated in the Apply NH today. The Pittsburg Macy's Day Parade is next week.

Tanya has been working on setting up different presentations for each month for students and this month she has set up Kevin Scarupa from WMUR. He was not able to come to the school but will be doing a zoom with the elementary school students. That same day high school students will be going to see Ed Gerety who is a motivational speaker.

There are 24 students going to the ski/snowboard program. This program will take place on Wednesdays. Still waiting for a proposal from Emily for the snowshoe program. Debbie has sent out the invitation to the annual holiday get together on Friday the 13th at the Fire Station. Six students attended the Boston Trip last week. The fall festival had 83% of the elementary in attendance and 88% of the high school students. The parent/teacher conferences had 47% of elementary in attendance and 28% of high school attending.

Flood Work Update – The gym floor is coming along nicely.

Student Report (Joli Carlson) – The National Honor Society and Key Club are discussing events they could do throughout the year. The National Honor Society is speaking with Mr. Covill about creating a lounge in the Business Classroom. Students would earn the privilege of using this space. It would be a quiet place where they could study. Some high school students had concerns about helping paint the mural. They felt they did not do well in Art. Seniors are selling Poinsettias for \$16.50 each. Discussed the Boston Humanities Trip. Joli reviewed all the places they got to see and explore. Everyone had a great time.

Superintendent’s Report: Dana Hilliard

Superintendent November Report – Stated that everyone was given the draft of the 25/26 calendar at the SAU Meeting. If anyone has comments or suggestions, please let us know. Will be attending the North Country Education Services meeting tomorrow in Gorham. Will be meeting via zoom with the President of White Mountains Community College tomorrow then on Thursday will be hosting a meeting with Littleton’s Superintendent. This is budget season.

Agenda adjustments – Pittsburg School has been awarded the Seed (School Energy Efficiency Development) Grant. A Certificate of Vote signed by the Board Chair is needed to give permission to receive the grant and allow the Superintendent to sign for the grant. This grant is for energy efficient upgrades and is for \$120,000.

J. Gray/R. Gray: Motion to give Willard Ormsbee permission to sign the Certificate of Vote for the SEED Grant.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Would like to set the dates for the public hearing in February and for the annual school district meeting. We are proposing that the public hearing take place on January 27, 2025, at 6:00 pm and the annual school district meeting March 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm. This will be in the Bremer Pond Auditorium.

Business Administrators Report: Bridget Cross

Bridget reviewed the Longevity Stipend Policy. This stipend will be for support staff that do not participate in New Hampshire Retirement. This would be a small incentive for staff to stay. Reggie brought up questions regarding the number or hours. This policy is starting this current year. Reggie brought up bus drivers and how they are getting paid. Currently if a bus driver does a run that is 1 ½ hours they will be paid for two hours.

Willard proposed that 10 years of service to 25 years of service will receive a \$250 stipend and 26 years of service to 40 years of service will receive a \$500 stipend.

R. Parker/J. Gray: Motion to approve the longevity stipend for 10 to 25 years of service \$250 stipend and 26 to 40 years of service \$500 stipend.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Bridget reviewed the budget documents and talked about the local tuition comparison. The proposed 25/26 rate is an estimate for the elementary state average at \$22,000, the Area Agreement will be

\$22,500 and outside the area would be \$23,000. High School state average estimated at \$20,000, Area Agreement at \$20,800 and outside the area estimated at \$21,600.

Balance on Hand \$443,221.00 is what was sent back to the taxpayers to offset the tax rate. Total revenue decreased \$356,282.00 and retained \$144,354.00 this year.

Estimated revenue is \$781,000 budget is down \$86,759.00 which is a 2% decrease from the current year. The school budget is \$4,157,569 which is down from last year. Amount to be raised by taxpayers is \$3,376,569. This is an increase of \$269,523 compared to the current year.

Bridget reviewed the expenses budgeted for 25/26. Requesting an addition of \$50,000 to the Facilities Expendable Trust and \$30,000 to the School Bus Fund.

Willard requested a page that includes the shared services. Bridget stated she could add that. Currently Guidance, Music and the Reading Specialist are the shared services. There are also positions that are partially funded by Clarksville and the sports program by Canaan.

The board members asked how the flood renovations are coming and if there had been any update from FEMA and how insurance was doing with making payments. Bridget stated that insurance is paying some of the larger payments and the school district is paying some of the smaller payments. Still waiting to hear if the ADA Compliant bleachers will be approved.

R. Parker/J. Gray: Motion to approve appointment of Jessica Haynes as Assistant Treasurer

VOTE: Motion Carries

Unfinished Business:

Discussed what the center of the gym floor picture should look like.

R. Parker/J. Gray: Motion to have a P in the center of the floor. Maroon and outlined in white.

VOTE: Motion Carries

The P will be facing the complete bleachers wall.

New Business:

Information:

There will be no second meeting in December unless the budget is not completed at the December 9th meeting.

Other Business:

Non-Public Session:

Meeting Dates:

- Pittsburg Public Hearing/School Board Meeting: Monday, December 9, 2024 @ 6:00 pm – Pittsburg School Conference Room
- SAU School Board Meeting Thursday, December 12, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - Clarksville Town Hall

Adjournment:

J. Gray/R. Parker: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm.

VOTE: Motion Carries

Respectfully Submitted,
Billie Paquette,
Executive Assistant

