

Pittsburg School Board Meeting Minutes							
Date		10/12/2020					
Time		6:00 pm					
Location		Pittsburg School Library					
Chairperson		Toby Owen					
School Board Members			Principal			SAU Members	
R	Jamie Gray	P	Toby Owen	P	Elaine Sherry	P	Debra Taylor
E	Lindsey Gray	E	Billie Paquette			P	Cheryl Covill
P	Bob Ormsbee						
Public in Attendance:							

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chairman Toby Owen and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda:

- Approval to transfer Pittsburg IDEA fund balance to the SAU to purchase services for counseling, pay a portion of the School Psychologist salary, reading and testing materials
- Resignation of a Board Member

Hearing of the Public: None

Reading of the Minutes:

B. Ormsbee / J. Gray: Motion to approve the September 28, 2020 minutes.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Connecticut River Collaborative Exploratory Committee:

- Meeting held on October 1, 2020
- Focus on update of projects in the works
 - Committee has contracted with a financial firm
 - Contracted with a New Hampshire and Vermont attorney to review the Governance articles in the Interstate Compact – Jim O’Shaughnessy in NH and Paul Giuliani in Vermont.
 - The committee agreed to work with Dan Hebert to review the facilities
- Website has been created to provide history and work of the committee.
- Guidance Counselors have been working on a high school schedule including expanding CTE programs
- Next meeting is November 5, 2020

Policy Review:

- Policy GCG - adding a substitute nursing position

J. Gray/B Ormsbee: Motion to approve adding a substitute nurse to the program

VOTE: 2 – Yes, 1 – No (T. Owen)

- Policy GEA-R (separate attachment) Athletic Director and Coaches Handbook
 - Canaan suggested the following changes:

- Add Business Administrator to Role of Athletic Director for Facilities, budgeting, etc.
- Add under Fiscal and Facility Management
- Facilitate professional facilities with maintenance/BA (i.e.: fields, gymnasium, locker rooms & storage areas including mowing, lining, cleaning, repairs and construction.
- Change end time to 9:00 pm
- Holiday Practice remove partial days and do not permit for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day & Veterans Day
 - Table until next meeting
- SAU Policy Committee meeting 10/15/2020 @ 6:00 pm – CA&ES Library

Special Reports: None

School Administrator’s Report:

- Difficult to secure substitute teacher
- Overall students are glad to be back to school
- Students seem to enjoy fall sports

Superintendent’s Report:

- No active COVID cases currently in SAU #7.
- Teachers and administrators are growing accustomed to the new routines. Masks have been donated by Kiwanis and we have received a few orders from the State of New Hampshire.
- School Fund
 - The NH School Funding Fairness Project is hosting a set of regional public forums. The forums will seek to foster a greater understanding of the way in which public schools are funded in New Hampshire. Public comments will be heard.
- Website
 - The new website for SAU #7 will be live by mid-October. Features of the new website include many student photos, accessible policies and board meeting information.
- Local and State Assessments
 - This fall the SAS interim assessment for Math and ELA are required for all 4th thru 8th grade students.
 - Test will be administered in October.
- Professional Development Training
 - Staff participated in professional development activities the 8th and 9th of October. All staff will be required to participate in a 2 hours Suicide Awareness training.
 - Teachers will be working with CANVAS (new platform for remote learning).

Business Administrator’s Report: Cheryl Covill

- Distributed Budget Analysis for the 2020 – 2021 school year.
- Estimated balance on hand based on current student enrollment \$354,000.
- Reviewed Budget Analysis in detail.
- The SAU received notification from NH Retirement System the rates will increase for the 2021 fiscal year. The teacher rate will increase 3.22% and the employee rate will increase by 2.89%.
- Based on this years’ salaries the net effect will be an increase to Pittsburg in the amount of \$31,000.

- HealthTrust has set the rates for the 2021-2022 budget. SAU #7's preliminary increase will be 6.4%.

Unfinished Business:

- Budget Discussion 2021-2022
 - Preliminary Budget
 - Quote on replacing siding quote
 - Catch basin and Quote paving to the road
 - Discussed Trust Funds and contribution to the funds
 - Bus Expendable Trust
 - Bus Fund add \$25,000
 - Facility add \$ 10,000
 - Discussed Proposed Support Staff salaries for next year
- Town Library
 - Debra Taylor looked into the request to open the library for the public
 - Town and librarian are asking to use the school cataloging system and have the public sign out books. They would be stored in containers when returned until they can be put back into circulation, per the COVID guidelines.
 - Consensus Check with the Town Librarian to work on a plan for book distribution and drop off for Friday after school
- Teacher Union Memorandum of Understanding requests
 - Hire a full-time substitute teacher to fill staffing vacancies and staff planning time.

T. Owen / J. Gray: Motion to approve hiring a full-time substitute teacher for this school year during the COVID pandemic period.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

- Elementary Lunch
 - Elementary students are served lunch in their classrooms. This is based on the CDC guidelines.
 - Schedule does not permit separate sessions. The 7&8 grade students are using the Cafeteria during the day.
 - Cleaning would not be possible between lunch periods
 - Recommend that Elementary Lunch remain in the classroom at this time. Use the substitute to rotate to assist with the elementary lunch period.
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T. Owen / J. Gray: Motion to continue with the elementary lunch as it stands now.

Vote: 2 – Yes 1 – No (B. Ormsbee)

- Remote Learning: Teachers option to work from home

T. Owen / J. Gray: Motion to ask the teachers to come to school if out on a case by case basis.

Vote: 2 – Yes 1 - No (B. Ormsbee)

- Stipend for Teachers of Remote Learning

T. Owen/ J. Gray: Motion that the board approved hiring a full-time substitute teacher to alleviate teachers for planning time, and duties to assist teachers while working on remote instruction.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

- The principal will be the only one to designate the substitute

New Business:

- Transfer Pittsburg IDEA Grant funds balance to SAU Consolidated IDEA Grant funds

T. Owen / J. Gray: Motion to approve the transfer of the Pittsburg IDEA Grant fund balance, approximately \$14,162.93 to the SAU Consolidated IDEA Grant funds to purchase services for counseling, pay a portion of the School Psychologist salary, and reading and testing materials.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

- Letter of Resignation Billie Paquette

T. Owen / J. Gray: Motion to accept Billie Paquette's letter of resignation from the school board.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

- Advertise the school board vacancy for a couple of weeks

Information: None

Meeting Dates:

- Pittsburg School Board Meeting: Monday, October 26, 2020 @ 6:00 pm

Adjournment:

B. Ormsbee / J. Gray: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Covill
Business Administrator

Adopted 10/26/2020