

Pittsburg School Board Meeting Minutes							
Date		1/11/2021					
Time		6:00 pm					
Location		Pittsburg School Library					
Chairperson		Toby Owen					
School Board Members				Principal		SAU Members	
P	Jamie Gray	P	Toby Owen	P	Elaine Sherry	P	Debra Taylor
P	Lindsey Gray	P	Reggie Parker			P	Cheryl Covill
P	Bob Ormsbee						
Clarksville Board Members							
P	Michel Dionne	P	Heather Mitchell				
Public in Attendance: None							

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Chairman Toby Owen and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Hearing of the Public: None

Reading of the Minutes:

J. Gray/L. Gray: Motion to approve the December 28, 2021 minutes.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Connecticut River Collaborative Exploratory Committee:

- The next meeting will be held on January 13, 2021, and a follow-up meeting regarding finances on January 28, 2021.

Policy Review: None

Special Reports: None

School Administrator's Report:

- Discussed the potential basketball season schedule. At this time Pittsburg/Canaan cannot play per Vermont Secretary of Education.
- A consultant will be working with the classroom teachers on Demonstrated Success and WestEd.
- Elaine Sherry is looking to hire an assistant principal to assist with discipline issues and fill in when she is out of the building.
 - Elaine Sherry would like to nominate Martha VanderWolk.

Superintendent's Report:

- January report
- Started school last week – everyone is happy to be back.
- Work continues on the budgets.
- Reviewed the election dates for school board members.

- Interviewed two candidates for the principal position.

Business Administrator's Report:

- NH Retirement System has released the member interest rate for the calendar year 2021. This interest rate is applied to a member's accumulated contributions on an annual basis. The rates shall not be less than zero. The actual rate of return for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, was 1.1 percent, the member interest rate for the calendar year 2021 will be 0 percent. This does not affect the accrual of pension benefits for active members.
- Congress passed both a COVID stimulus bill and the appropriation package for FY 21 at a cost of nearly 2.3 trillion dollars. In the current bill, education funding has been set at \$ 54.3 billion to states/districts for education-related expenses. This round of funding will remain available to schools through Sept. 30, 2022. Funds can be used for any activity under ESSA, IDEA, Adult Education, activities to support training on sanitization, cleaning supplies, meals, tech to students, mental health services, summer learning, administering assessments, school facility repairs and improvements, air quality, and other general operations needed.
- Funding received to date from CARES, Supplemental Public School Relief Fund #1, and #2 totals approximately \$ 400,000 in SAU #7. This includes almost \$ 175,000 to be expended within less than a month.

Unfinished Business:

- Budget 2021 – 2022
 - Reviewed the budget as presented.
- Discussed adding funds to the Technology Expendable Trust Fund previously established.
 - We have purchased and replaced much of our classroom and staff technology devices through grant funding this year. The downside is everything will be expiring or become outdated technology at the same time. We have a way to mitigate large peaks and valleys in our budget. If we add a warrant article this year and adjust our current Expendable Trust Funds amounts to shift a small amount to the Technology article, we can begin to build our reserve for future technology.
 - School Board approved moving \$ 5,000 from the Bus Expendable Trust warrant article to the Technology Expendable Trust warrant article.
- For School Board information
 - School districts have not been allowed to retain year-end surplus balance as Towns and Counties are allowed. A few years ago, legislation was adopted (RSA 198:4-bII) to allow 2.5% retainage based on net assessment. The purpose of having funds on hand to use as a revenue source for emergency expenditures under RSA 32;11, or to be used as a revenue source to reduce the tax rate. Recent legislation passed to allow districts to retain up to 5% of the net assessed valuation.
 - Keep in mind for future years.
- Discussed the location of the Public Hearing and Annual School District Meeting. We are required to uphold the CDC and State guidelines for large group meetings and implement social distancing.
 - Suggested holding the Annual School District in the gymnasium.
 - Public hearings should not be an issue based on attendance in the past and will be held in the auditorium.

New Business:

T. Owen / R. Parker: Motion to authorize hiring M. VanderWolk as assistant principal.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

- Discussed live streaming home games. Neil Prehemo is proposing going with Phlume Media. The cost is approximately \$ 1500 for the season. Funds are available through the Athletic Fund. Canaan should share in the costs.

T. Owen / R. Parker: Motion to use funds from the Athletic Fund for live streaming of home games.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Other Business:

- March Meeting date
 - Annual District Meeting will be held on March 4, 2021.

Information:

- Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(a)

H. Mitchell and M. Dionne left the meeting at 6:47 pm.

T. Owen / R. Parker: Motion to go into non-public session at 6:48 pm per RSA 91-A:3, II(a)
Roll Call Vote: R. Parker – yes, T. Owen – yes, J. Gray – yes, L. Gray – yes, B. Ormsbee - yes

Discussed personnel issues.

L. Gray / T. Owen: Motion to return to public session at 6:56 pm.
Roll Call Vote: R Parker – yes, T Owen – yes, J Gray – yes, L Gray – yes, B Ormsbee - yes

T. Owen / J. Gray: Motion to authorize the Superintendent to address the support staff personnel concerns.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Heather and Michael return to the public meeting at 6:59 pm

- Selectmen requested to use the gymnasium for Election Day and Town Meeting.

T. Owen / L. Gray: Motion to allow the selectmen access to the gym for town meeting.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

C. Covill and E. Sherry left at 7:03 pm

T. Owen / R. Parker: Motion to go into non-public session at 7:04 pm for a personnel matter per RSA 91-A:3, II(b).
Roll Call Vote: R. Parker – yes, T. Owen – yes, J. Gray – yes, L. Gray – yes, B. Ormsbee – yes

T. Owen / L. Gray: Motion to offer the principal position to Thomas Telicki effective July 1, 2021, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a 3-year contract agreement within budget.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

T. Owen / L. Gray: Motion to authorize the Superintendent to carry out personnel actions.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

T. Owen / L. Gray: Motion to return to public session at 8:04 pm.

Roll Call Vote: R. Parker – yes, T. Owen – yes, J. Gray – yes, L. Gray – yes, B. Ormsbee – yes

Meeting Dates:

- Pittsburg Public Hearing and School Board Meeting: Monday, January 25, 2021, @ 6:00 pm

Adjournment:

T. Owen / R. Parker: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Covill
Business Administrator

Adopted 02/01/2021