

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 17, 2008, 7:20 P.M., PITTSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL.

I. A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Amuso called the meeting to order at 7:20 P.M.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairperson Amuso sent condolences to the Forfa, Curry and Ramirez families.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Kathleen Amuso, Chairperson
Carmen C. Massimiano, Jr.
Churchill Cotton
Daniel Elias
Erin Sullivan

ABSENT

Hon. Mayor James Ruberto
Angel Ramirez

STUDENT

Hannah Simons

Chairperson Amuso declared a quorum.

II. A. PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC

NONE

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

NONE

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee take Item III. D. out of order, was by vote unanimously approved.

D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

- WILLIAMS SCHOOL

Ms. Brenda Wells, Principal of Williams School, introduced Kathy Netzer and members of the Williams School Junior Lego League. Second and third grade students demonstrated their Junior Lego League Robotics exhibit.

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Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept William School's presentation, was by vote unanimously approved.

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School return to the regular order of business, was by vote unanimously approved.

C. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve the minutes of the Safety and Transportation Subcommittee meeting, as outlined in Enclosure No. 1A, was by vote unanimously approved.

III. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – ROUTINE MATTERS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve the minutes of December 3, 2008, as outlined in Enclosure No. 1, was by vote unanimously approved.

B. ACCEPTANCE OF PERSONNEL REPORT

- CAFETERIA REPORT
- STUDENT ACTIVITY AND SCHOLARSHIP REPORTS

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept the Cafeteria Report, as outlined in Enclosure No. 2A and the Student Activity and Scholarship Reports, as outlined in Enclosure No. 2B, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 3-8).

C. ACCEPTANCE OF PERSONNEL REPORT

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept the Personnel Report, as outlined in Enclosure No. 3, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 9).

D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

- WILLIAMS SCHOOL

THIS ITEM WAS TAKEN OUT OF ORDER

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IV. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

A. REPORT OF DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

Deputy Superintendent Eberwein commented on the following:

- Attended the SADD Candlelight Vigil;
- Attended DARE ceremonies at several of the elementary schools and congratulated the fifth grade students;
- Attended Pittsfield High's theatrical production of *The Mad Women of Chailot*;
- Attended the *Mr. Taconic* event, an event raising funds for a Taconic student with leukemia;
- Announced that Williams kindergarten students sang at the Administration Center;
- Congratulated Keith Babuszczyk and the Culinary Arts staff on the success of the *Iron Chef* competition;
- Received a note of thanks from Ed McBride for Pittsfield students participating in the Pittsfield Youth Jazz Festival;
- Thanked all staff who contributed to the Berkshire United Way;
- Announced that a new committee on classroom observation is being established and that he is look for school committee members to serve on the committee;
- Announced that Lisa Buchinski, Principal of Crosby School, is involved in the *Walking Bus Route* program, where she walks students to school via a safe walking route;
- Expressed condolences to the families of staff members who recently lost loved ones; and
- Wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept Deputy Superintendent Eberwein's report, was by vote unanimously approved.

B. PRESENTATION ON EDUCATIONAL PROFICIENCY PLAN

Ms. Barbara Malkas, Deputy Superintendent, provided an overview on the Educational Proficiency Plan and responded to questions from Committee members.

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept the presentation n the Educational Proficiency Plan, as presented by Ms. Malkas and outlined in Enclosure No. 4, was by vote unanimously approved.

C. PRESENTATION ON PITTSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS' WEBSITE

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Karen Shields, Technology PD Coordinator, presented a brief overview of the district's website and Mr. James Schultz, Network Manager, demonstrated the district's online process for creating, editing and commenting on School Improvement Plans.

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by that the School Committee accept the presentations on the Pittsfield Public Schools' website, as presented by Ms. Shields and Mr. Schultz, was by vote unanimously approved.

V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – OLD BUSINESS

A. NONE

VI. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF REVISED 2008-2009 SCHOOL SYSTEM LINE ITEM BUDGET

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve and adopt a Revised 2008-2009 School System Line Item Budget totaling \$49,412,445 which includes a reduction in the City appropriation of \$150,000, the total City appropriation is being reduced from \$48,962,445 to \$48,812,445, as outlined in Enclosure No. 5, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 12-20).

B. APPROVAL OF FY'10 PROPOSED BUDGET CALENDAR

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve the Proposed FY'10 School System Budget Calendar, as outlined in Enclosure No. 6, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 21).

C. APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP

- CAMBRIDGE, MA

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve the field trip to Cambridge, MA for the Pittsfield High School and Taconic High School students to participate in the Culinary Competition at the Cambridge Culinary School for the Pro-Start State Competition on January 15 & 16, 2009, as outlined in Enclosure No. 7, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 22-24).

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VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. ITEMS OF NEGOTIATIONS

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee go into Executive Session for Items of Negotiations, was by roll call vote unanimously approved.

The Committee went into Executive Session at 8:21 p.m.

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee return to the regular order of business, was by vote unanimously approved.

The Committee returned to the regular order of Business at 8:30 p.m.

Let the record show that no votes were taken in Executive Session.

VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS

Next regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2009, 7:00 P.M., Pittsfield High School.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee be adjourned, was by vote unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ERIN SULLIVAN