

MEETING OF THE WHOLE OF THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009, 7:00 P.M., PITTSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

I. A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Amuso called the meeting to order.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Kathleen Amuso, Chairperson
Hon. James Ruberto
Daniel Elias
Carmen C. Massimiano, Jr.
Angel Ramirez
Erin Sullivan

ABSENT

Churchill Cotton

STUDENTS

Hannah Simons	Pittsfield High School
Rachael Came	Taconic High School

Chairperson Amuso declared a quorum.

II. A. PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC

Amira Roach, 178 Harryel Street, voiced her concern over the issue that the school system does not allow home educated students to participate in high school sports. She urged the School Committee to reconsider Policy STU-78. Ms. Roach presented documentation contrary to the School System policy and relevant MIAA regulations.

B. PARTICIPATION BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Carmen Massimiano asked for an explanation as to why the policy was in place. Deputy Superintendent Malkas explained that home schooled students are allowed to participate in sports if there are slots available but that preference is given to students attending the Pittsfield Public Schools.

Mayor Ruberto stated that Mrs. Roach raised a creditable issue and suggested a subcommittee meeting be set up to discuss this issue.

Chairperson Amuso stated that this was the first time she was made aware of this issue.

Daniel Elias stated that time is of the essence and would like feedback from the administration regarding Ms. Roach's concern.

Carmen Massimiano suggested that this issue be discussed at a Subcommittee meeting.

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Daniel Elias asked that this item be put on the next School Committee agenda since the Subcommittee had already heard it.

III. INFORMATION

A. 2008-2009 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Superintendent Eberwein provided an overview of the planning process and the district's target areas for the 2008-2009 School Improvement Plans. He specifically referenced the need to improve student performance and to ensure safe schools and a positive school climate. He explained how the principals formulated their individual School Improvement Plans based on the district's target areas. Superintendent Eberwein announced that the administration is in the process of implementing a Strategic Plan.

Principals provided a brief overview of their individual 2008-2009 School Improvement Plans highlighting their top priorities and responded to questions from Committee members.

VI. FUTURE BUSINESS

A. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2009, 7:00 P.M., Pittsfield High School.

V. Adjournment

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Erin Sullivan, that the School Committee be adjourned was by vote unanimously approved at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ANGEL RAMIREZ