

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
MAY 27, 2009, 6:20 P.M., PITTSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL.

I. A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Amuso called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Kathleen Amuso, Chairperson
Hon. Mayor James Ruberto
Carmen C. Massimiano, Jr.
Churchill Cotton
Angel Ramirez
Erin Sullivan

ABSENT

Daniel Elias

Chairperson Amuso declared a quorum.

II. A. PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC

Mr. Terry Kinnas, 14 Cooper Parkway, suggested the Committee take a look at the curriculum from middle school to high school. He suggested building data based on a horizontal method rather than a vertical method.

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Ruberto attended the 25-Year Luncheon on Tuesday and commended the school system for honoring their employees with 25 years of service.

Mayor Ruberto suggested that the school system establish a dress code because he finds the students' dress an absolute disgrace. He suggested a committee be established and a policy be put in place for a more respectable dress code.

Sheriff Massimiano inquired as to the number of students that attend PHS. Superintendent Eberwein replied approximately 1000. He asked the administration to explore an on-campus lunch with three lunch periods.

Erin Sullivan said some schools send the dress code policy home and that the dress code is at the discretion of the principal.

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III. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – ROUTINE MATTERS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve the minutes of May 13, 2009, as outlined in Enclosure No. 1, was by vote unanimously approved.

B. ACCEPTANCE OF PERSONNEL REPORT

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept the Personnel Report, as outlined in Enclosure No. 2, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 4-5).

C. NINE-MONTH BUDGET PROJECTION

Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept the Nine-Month Budget Projection, as outlined in Enclosure No. 3, was by vote unanimously approved.

D. LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve the Line Item Transfers, as outlined in Enclosure No. 4, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 6).

IV. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

A. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Eberwein commented on the following:

- Congratulated the PHS students and Ralph Hammann for the excellent production of *Evita*;
- Congratulated all the students and their teachers for the wonderful artwork displayed at the Art Show;
- Acknowledged all the students who participated in *Third Thursday*;
- Congratulated all the students involved in spring sports and the teams going on to Western Mass finals;
- Announced that a multi Spring Concert will be held at Herberg on May 28 and Pittsfield High's Spring Concert will be held on June 3;
- Congratulated Morningside Community School and Berkshire Bank on their mentoring partnership;
- Announced that on June 12 two events will be taking place: the Berkshire Wireless Laptop Initiative will report on the impact of the program and members of the School Building Needs Commission will have a site visit to Chicopee High School and Chicopee Comprehensive High School;
- Announced that the Feigenbaum luncheon will be held soon;

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- Recognized Stearns School who partnered with Mass MoCA on the Sol LeWitt Project;
- Thanked District Attorney David Capeless for the bracelet campaign in the schools to promote positive behavior;
- Announced that a comprehensive list of summer programs will be brought before the School Committee at the next meeting;
- Congratulated staff members with 25 years of service;
- Announced that principal searches are continuing and that he will keep the Committee updated on the status;
- Announced that Friday is the deadline for notifying staff of reductions in force;
- Announced that senior classes are closing this Friday; and
- Announced that senior week is important and urged students to celebrate in a safe way and make good decisions in a drug and alcohol free environment.

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

V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – OLD BUSINESS

A. NONE

VI. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF END-OF-YEAR TRANSFERS

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee authorize the administration to make those line item transfers necessary to close the books at the end of the fiscal year, was by vote unanimously approved.

B. APPROVAL OF SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee award approve the Summer Food Service Program, as outlined in Enclosure No. 5, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 7).

C. APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF RICHMOND TUITION AGREEMENT

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve the renewal of the Richmond Tuition Agreement for FY'10 through FY'14, as outlined in Enclosure No. 6, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 8).

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D. ACCEPTANCE OF FY'08 END-OF-YEAR AUDIT

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept the End-of-Year Audit for Fiscal Year 2008, as outlined in Enclosure No. 7, was by vote unanimously approved.

E. APPROVAL OF AMENDED FY'09 LINE ITEM BUDGET

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve the Pittsfield School System's 2009 Amended Line Item Budget from \$49,262,445 to \$49,912,888, as outlined in Enclosure No. 8, was by vote unanimously approved.

F. APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THE UNITED EDUCATORS OF PITTSFIELD

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Pittsfield School Committee and the United Educators of Pittsfield, as outlined in Enclosure No. 9.

Mayor Ruberto stated the City of Pittsfield is facing \$4.6 million less in funds than last year and urged the Committee to table this item. A discussion followed.

Motion by Mayor Ruberto, seconded by Angel Ramirez, that the School Committee table the Memorandum of Understanding between the Pittsfield School Committee and the United Educators of Pittsfield, was by vote unanimously approved.

G. APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THE UNITED EDUCATORS OF PITTSFIELD

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Pittsfield School Committee and the United Educators of Pittsfield, as outlined in Enclosure No. 10, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 10).

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. NONE

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VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS

Next regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2009, 7:00 P.M., Pittsfield High School.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee be adjourned, was by vote unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ANGEL RAMIREZ