

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2009, 4:00 P.M., PITTSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL.

I. A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Amuso called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

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

Chairperson Amuso declared a quorum.

II. A. PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC

NONE

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

NONE

C. SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEES

Erin Sullivan reported on the Policy Subcommittee meeting.

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve the minutes of the Policy Subcommittee of July 8, 2009, as outlined in Enclosure No. 1A, was by vote unanimously approved.

III. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – ROUTINE MATTERS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Erin Sullivan, that the School Committee approve the minutes of June 24, 2009, as outlined in Enclosure No. 1, was by vote unanimously approved.

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B. ACCEPTANCE OF PERSONNEL REPORT

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Churchill Cotton that the School Committee accept the Personnel Report, as outlined in Enclosure No. 2, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 3-4).

C. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

NONE

IV. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

A. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Eberwein reported on the following:

- Acknowledge staff involved in summer programs;
- Announced that the DOE will be visiting Pittsfield next week to review the summer programs;
- Announced the Macy's is sponsoring the RIF program again this year and that the Pittsfield Public Schools have benefited from the program;
- Provided an update on the Readiness Program;
- Acknowledged Kim Grady for providing Service Learning training;
- Acknowledge Churchill Cotton for his work on the West Side Council;
- Acknowledged the staff who participated in the Fourth of July parade;
- Acknowledged the American Defenders for providing an evening of baseball for Pittsfield Public School employees;
- Announced that the school system is working on recruiting teachers of color and Spanish;
- Recognized President Raverta and the BCC Executive Board who were at the meeting to support the Positive Options program;
- Thanked BWLI sponsors;
- Acknowledged everyone involved in mentoring training;
- Announced the partnership with Big Read and the Office of Cultural Affairs;
- Thanked has administrative staff for recall efforts, noting that 24 staff members have been recalled, 16 of whom have been reassigned;
- Reported on the principal searches and that he hoped to make a decision by early next week; and
- Thanked School Committee for all their efforts this past school year.

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

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Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Erin Sullivan, that the School Committee take Item IV.C. out of order, was by vote unanimously approved.

C. ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL UPDATE

Superintendent Eberwein provided an overview of the restructuring of the district's Alternative Resource Programs. The presentation included descriptions of the high and middle school tier programs, the Juvenile Resource program, and the Berkshire Community College Positive Options program. Supporting the presentation were Dr. Howard Eberwein, Jr., Director of the Juvenile Resource Center, Lee Steele, Supervisor of Special Education, and Kim Grady, Community Placement Coordinator.

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Erin Sullivan, that the School Committee accept the Alternative School Update as presented by Superintendent Eberwein and other staff members and outlined in Enclosure No. 4, was by vote unanimously approved.

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

B. READY BY 8

Deputy Superintendent Malkas, along with Douglas McNally and Christopher Jacoby, provided an overview of restructuring the middle schools so that all students have a more rigorous curriculum and are at a higher level by the eighth grade.

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept the Ready By 8 presentation, as presented by Ms. Malkas and the secondary principals and outlined in Enclosure Nos. 3A & 3B, was by vote unanimously approved.

V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – OLD BUSINESS

A. NONE

VI. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST READING ON POLICY INS-127 (WORK-BASED LEARNING PROGRAMS)

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve, on a first reading, Policy INS-127 (Work-Based Learning Programs), as outlined in Enclosure No. 5, was by vote unanimously approved.

B. APPROVAL OF BID

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- DISPOSABLE RESTROOM PRODUCTS

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee award the Disposable Restroom Products bid to Caligari Sanitary Supply of Lenox, MA, as outlined in Enclosure No. 6, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 7).

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. NONE

VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS

Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, August 19, 2009, 4:00 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 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ANGEL RAMIREZ