

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 2, 2009, 7:00 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  
Churchill Cotton  
Daniel Elias  
Carmen C. Massimiano, Jr.  
Angel Ramirez  
Erin Sullivan

STUDENTS

Mia Alessio  
Diana Quetti

Chairperson Amuso declared a quorum.

II. A. PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC

NONE

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Carmen Massimiano was pleased to see that Deputy Superintendent Malkas sent thank you letters to all the volunteers assisting in the H1N1 inoculation. He thanked all volunteers on behalf of the School Committee.

Chairperson Amuso asked the Superintendent what process was used in order to get volunteers. Superintendent Eberwein explained that volunteers usually contact the principals to volunteer their services. He invited anyone wishing to volunteer their services to contact either his office or one of the principals.

Churchill Cotton reported on the MASC/MASS Conferences that he recently attended. He commented on two of the topics discussed at the conference: were focus on next year's budget and student injuries while taking part in athletic events.

Mayor Ruberto commented on the wonderful performance of Pittsfield High School Strings at the event honoring his late wife at the Colonial Theatre. He thanked everyone who participated in the event.

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Kathy Amuso thanked Ice River Springs for donating water to the schools.

C. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

NONE

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 November 4, 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. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

• ALLENDALE SCHOOL

Mr. Carl Ameen, Principal of Allendale School, provided an overview of Allendale's summer and school year reading challenge "Allendale Reads." He said the school's goal is to have all the students reach their benchmark levels by June, 2010. Several students and parents were present to share their experiences with the summer reading challenge.

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that accept Allendale School's presentation, was by vote unanimously approved.

IV. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

A. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Eberwein announced the following:

- Welcomed everyone back from the Thanksgiving holiday;
- Commented on the Reid and TPP Thanksgiving events he attended;
- Thanked the School Committee for allowing him to attend the MASC/MASS conference;
- Thanked the Taconic students for their great performance of Macbeth;
- Announced that the PHS performance of *Can't Take It With You* is being this weekend;
- Thanked everyone involved in the H1N1 clinics;
- Announced that student attendance is at 95%;

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- Announced that he attended MSBA meeting where the Pittsfield schools were invited to collaborate with the MSBA in conducting a feasibility study of Taconic High School;
- Announced planning session being held to work on application for *Race To The Top* initiative and that School Committee approval is needed;
- Announced that the PHS Academic Team placed first in the small school competition category and third in all schools competition category;
- Commended Reid students for raising over \$1,000.00 to donate to needy families;
- Announced that Jackie Quetti had been nominated for a National High School Sports Award;
- Announced that over 100 students have qualified to receive the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship;
- Announced that Commissioner Chester visited Conte Community School, Reid Middle School and the JRC program and that Stafford Peat and Jenny Caldwell visited the EOS and JRC programs;
- Acknowledged the two high school Academy groups;
- Announced that the mentor protégé kickoff was held at SABIC Innovations;
- Invited the School Committee to attend the SADD Vigil being held on December 7;
- Announced there was record attendance at this year's Parent-Teacher conferences;
- Urged drivers to be cautious and students to be responsible when crossing street in inclement weather;
- Announced that the Pittsfield Post should be out next week; and
- Announced students will be showcased on the *Superintendent's Skuttle* next week.

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

#### B. BULLYING PREVENTION UPDATE

Ms. Ann Marie Carpenter, Psych/SAC Unit Leader, and Ms. Jennifer Stokes, Violence Prevention/Alcohol Reduction SAC, provided an overview of anti-bullying planning and intervention currently in place, including a description of collaboration with the District Attorney's Office. The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program was described along with steps taken to provide professional development for staff, and progress made toward full implementation of guidelines within the district. In addition, a sample of results of a district-wide bullying questionnaire administered in November 2008 was provided.

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee accept the Bullying Prevention Update, as presented by Ms. Carpenter and Ms. Stokes and outlined in Enclosure No. 3.

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V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. NONE

VI. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST READING ON POLICY STU-78 (ANTI-BULLYING/PEER HARASSMENT)

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee approve, on a first reading, Policy STU-78 (Anti-Bullying/Peer Harassment), as outlined in Enclosure No. 4, was by vote unanimously approved.

B. APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP

- NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

Deputy Superintendent explained the field trips and steps taken to make sure no student was unable to attend due to a financial burden.

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano. that the School Committee approve the field trip to New York City, December 18-19, 2009, as outlined in Enclosure No. 5, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 7-9).

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. ITEM OF LITIGATION

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Carmen Massimiano, that the School Committee go into Executive Session for an Item of Litigation, was by roll call vote unanimously approved.

The Committee went into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Erin Sullivan, 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 8:55 p.m.

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

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VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS

- A. Next Regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 16, 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 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ANGEL RAMIREZ