

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,  
APRIL 14, 2010, 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  
Alfred Barbalunga  
Churchill Cotton  
Daniel Elias  
Erin Sullivan  
Katherine Yon

STUDENTS

NONE

Chairperson Amuso declared a quorum.

II. A. PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC

Valerie Anderson, Dan Avenue, Pittsfield, urged the School Committee not to pull students out of fine arts programs to do MCAS preparation. She wants the fine arts programs to be valued the same as academic subjects.

Ellen Mary D'Agostino, Stockbridge, MA, talked about the importance of the Education Lecture Series presentation by Ron Berger, teacher and author, being held at the Colonial Theater. She also talked about the struggle with bullying.

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Daniel Elias talked about visiting the Christian Center's after school program and the services provided by them for both students and the community.

Katherine Yon commented on the Immigrant Fair she attended; seeing the Taconic Radio Station for the first time; a class she attended at PHS where she listened to five Vietnam Veterans talk about their experiences during the war; and the success of the *Best Buddies* program at PHS.

Daniel Elias thanked Larry Kratka for arranging a fundraiser to benefit the Taconic High School Radio Station.

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C. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

• POLICY

Erin Sullivan reported on the Policy Subcommittee's on-going discussions of the Attendance Policy and Honor Roll Policy.

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve the Policy Subcommittee minutes of March 24, 2010, as outlined in Enclosure No. 1, was by vote unanimously approved.

III. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – ROUTINE MATTERS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve the minutes of March 24, 2010, as outlined in Enclosure No. 2 and the Executive Session minutes of March 24, 2010, was by vote unanimously approved.

B. ACCEPTANCE OF PERSONNEL REPORT

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee accept the Personnel Report, as outlined in Enclosure No. 3, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 4).

C. SCHOOL PRESENTATION

• EGREMONT SCHOOL

Ms. Judy Rush, Principal of Egremont School, introduced volunteer coordinators, Susan Mooney and Jake Brundige, who provided an overview of Egremont School's Postal Service that is modeled after the Postal Service's *Wee Deliver In-School Literacy Program*. This programs encourages teachers to incorporate letter writing into their classroom activities to improve student reading and writing.

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee accept Egremont School's presentation, was by vote unanimously approved.

IV. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee take Item IV B., NESDEC Presentation out of order, was by vote unanimously approved.

B. NESDEC PRESENTATION

Mr. John Kennedy, Team Leader and Ms. Margery Clark, Elementary Facilities Specialist, provided the School Committee with a space utilization/long-range school capacity and facilities plan for the Pittsfield Public Schools. The product of this study provided a basis for options to consider regarding future building renovations, modifications, and/or construction, alternative facilities usage and redistricting. In

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addition, Mr. Kennedy described appropriate facilities that will deliver a high quality 21<sup>st</sup> century educational program.

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee accept the presentation by Mr. Kennedy and Ms. Clark, as outlined in Enclosure No. 4, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 5-75).

Motion by Erin Sullivan to returned to the regular order of business; there were no objections.

A. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Eberwein announced the following:

- Audit team arrived on Tuesday and are pleased with the schools;
- Safety and Transportation Subcommittee will be rescheduled when Sally Douglas returns to work;
- Sally is doing well after her surgery;
- Race To The Top survey is on website;
- Next issues of *PPS Post* is out and thanked everyone who helped put the *Post* together; and
- Narrative of first NESDEC presentation provided to all School Committee members.

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

B. NESDEC PRESENTATION

THIS ITEM WAS TAKEN OUT OF ORDER.

C. GRADUATION AND DROP OUT DATA REPORT

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee table Item IV.C. until the April 28 meeting, was by vote unanimously approved.

V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – OLD BUSINESS

A. SECOND READING ON ADOPTION OF COURSES

- DIGITAL VIDEO PRODUCTIONS
- INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE ALGEBRA

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve, on a second reading, the courses: Digital Video Production and Introduction to College Algebra, as outlined in Enclosure Nos. 6A and 6B, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 76-97).

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VI. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS – NEW BUSINESS

- A. APPROVAL OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THE PITTSFIELD BUS DRIVERS' & ATTENDANTS' UNIT, PITTSFIELD FEDERATION OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES, LOCAL 1315, AFT, AFT-MASS, AFL-CIO

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Pittsfield School Committee and the Pittsfield Bus Drivers' & Attendants' Unit, Pittsfield Federation of School Employees, Local 1315, AFT, AFT-MASS, AFL-CIO for the period September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010, as outlined in Enclosure No. 7, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 99-100)

- B. APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIPS

- ANAHEIM CALIFORNIA

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve overnight field trip to Anaheim, CA, May 4-9, 2010, as outlined in Enclosure No. 8A, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 101-111).

- SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve the overnight field trip to San Jose, CA, May 7-14, 2010, as outlined in Enclosure No. 8B, was by vote unanimously approved (see Page 112).

- WORCESTER, MA

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee approve the overnight field trip to Worcester, MA, May 7-9, 2010, as outlined in Enclosure No. 8C, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 113--116).

- C. ACCEPTANCE OF CHANGES IN PER-32 (PROFESSIONAL STAFF RECRUITING) REGULATIONS

Motion by Erin Sullivan, seconded by Churchill Cotton, that the School Committee accept the changes in PER-32 (Professional Staff Recruiting) regulations, as outlined in Enclosure No. 9, was by vote unanimously approved (see Pages 117-121).

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VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

NONE

VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS

Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2010, 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 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ERIN SULLIVAN