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APPROVED
Pelham School Board
Workshop/Business Meeting
Public Session
December 2, 2009

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School Board Members: Eleanor Burton-Chair, Linda Mahoney,
Lorraine Dube; Deb Ryan; Cindy Kyzer
Superintendent: Dr. Frank Bass
Business Administrator: Kathleen Sargent
Student Representative: Shannen Perry

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Chairman Burton called the public session to order at 7:15 pm. All those in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Eleanor Burton read aloud the vouchers to be signed.

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Deb Ryan. 5-0.

Motion to accept the non public minutes of November 18, 2009 as written was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Deb Ryan. Approved 5-0.

Motion to accept the public minutes as amended of November 18, 2009 was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube. Approved 5-0.

Superintendent Remarks

Dr. Bass spoke of a study that is being done at all schools in an effort to zero in on how students are doing by clusters, grade by grade. Administrators will then look at the grading policy and ways to keep it consistent. They are also looking at the homework policy and what kinds of interventions are available for students. Administrators will also be reporting back to the board why students are withdrawing and where they are going - along with the policy regarding suspensions as well as students who are coming into the district. Dr. Bass spoke of the need for a Credit Recovery Policy/Program.

As a part of the Race to the Top Program the state is involved in; Administration is looking for monies to help facilities such a program in Pelham. They are looking to partner with another school to attain some federal grant monies.

Dr. Bass spoke of the recommendation to reduce the number of evaluations performed by Principals from 3 to 2 per year for non-tenured teachers.

1 **403B Certificate**

2 Kathleen Sargent spoke of this written plan document that needs to be signed by the
3 School Board. Linda Mahoney spoke of discrepancies still between the Pelham School
4 District Certificate and the SAU. The board agreed to approve it and authorize the
5 signature pending the discrepancies are cleared up.

6
7 Motion that we approve the Pelham School District 403B retirement plan with the
8 changes that have been noted was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube.
9 Approved 5-0.

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11 Motion to approve the Pelham School District Certificate of Adoption with the changes
12 that have been noted was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube. 5-0.

13
14 Consensus of the board that the Chairman hold off on signing the Certificate until the
15 changes are made. All members were in agreement.

16
17 **Pelham Memorial Presentation**

18 Principal Pinsonneault spoke of her proposed change in staffing at Memorial. She
19 stressed the need for an additional Algebra class for next year – noting there are 60
20 students ready for Algebra 1 in 8th grade next year with only 25 seats available. She
21 spoke of this being a difficult decision

22
23 The Principal would like to take French and Spanish and put in into the exploratory
24 program in the 8th grade; so that students receive a little of both language. This would
25 open up the Spanish position for a math teacher. She also spoke of having a very large
26 incoming 6th grade class and need for another physical education teacher. She spoke of
27 wanting to combine health and phys ed. and call it Wellness – noting this would be
28 seamless for the current teacher to accomplish – leaving the health position open to hire
29 another 6th grade teacher to balance classes.

30
31 Principal Pinsonneault noted the 8th grade teacher would use the Spanish room. She
32 spoke of space being very tight at Memorial. The need to create another Algebra Class
33 comes at the expense of science. They will not be able to go as deeply into lab science as
34 they have in the past.

35
36 Dr. Bass commented that he has had a lot of conversations with Administration regarding
37 this and that they realize there will be a loss as a result of the gain. They will try to do
38 whatever they can to fill the need.

39
40 Cindy Kyzer spoke of her concern about putting the position on the warrant article and
41 having it fail again. Deb Ryan spoke of the need for the community to understand this
42 type of necessary change.

43
44 The board recessed back into non public session at 8:03pm

45 The board returned to public session at 8:30pm

46

1 Motion that we accept the proposed staffing changes for the 2010-2011 school year at
2 Pelham Memorial School was made by Deb Ryan with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney
3 Approved 3-1-1 (Eleanor Burton abstained; Cindy Kyzer opposed).

4
5 Cindy Kyzer spoke of why she voted in the negative – stating she felt they were
6 compromising because we were taking away important curriculum to address other needs,
7 but did appreciate the amount of time spent by administration to find the best solution
8 possible for the situation.

9
10 **Transportation Contract**

11 Kathleen Sargent noted they are in a combined contract with Windham. She has asked
12 that the company extend their current contract. They agreed to a 3 year or 5 year
13 extension. Mrs. Sargent noted there is only one other company that would bid against the
14 current busing company. She also noted that First Student did not have a fuel escalator in
15 their contract.

16
17 Motion to accept the transportation contract extension from First Student Bus Company
18 for a 5 year extension using the current number of buses was made by Linda Mahoney
19 with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

20
21 **Warrants**

22 The board agreed to have the public hearing at Elementary School.

23
24 Article 2 – noted as not being complete.

25 Article 3 – noted there will be at least \$20,000 added because of the leasing of the
26 portable space for the Preschool Program for another year.

27
28 Motion to approve Article 5 as written was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Deb
29 Ryan. Approved 5-0.

30
31 Motion to approve Article 6 as written was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy
32 Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

33
34 Cindy Kyzer questioned the benefits for a ½ time nursing position. Kathleen Sargent
35 noted there is precedence set for this and that this position receives a prorated share of
36 benefits. Cindy Kyzer felt this should be revisited and noted this person is a new hire and
37 perhaps it could change.

38
39 The board agreed to remove health and dental for the ½ time nurse position for a total of
40 \$8,767.48.

41
42 Motion to remove \$8,767.48 for health and dental insurance for ½ time nurse
43 Kindergarten-5 was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube. 5-0.

1 Lorraine Dube stated she felt the Dean of Students salary was too high; suggesting it
2 should be \$40,000. Dr. Bass expressed concern about lowering it too much – noting it is
3 still an administrative position.

4 The board agreed to put the salary as \$50,000 and post the position with a salary range of
5 \$45,000 - \$50,000.

6
7 Motion to approve Article 7 with the change made to ½ time health benefits was made by
8 Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

9
10 Article 8 – taken out as noted.

11
12 Article 9 – Linda Mahoney stated she would be abstaining from voting on this article –
13 noting justification was just given tonight and she did not have time to review. Deb Ryan
14 noted a presentation was already given regarding Article 9 and felt the board should vote.

15
16 Motion to Approve Article 9 at Pelham High School was made by Deb Ryan with a 2nd
17 by Cindy Kyzer – Discussion continued:

18
19 Dr. Bass noted the position for the full time Athletic Director would be district wide.
20 Cindy Kyzer felt the salary for this position was too high and noted her concern that it
21 would not pass. She suggested making this it's own Article – she feels it is a needed
22 position. Dr. Bass will advertise the position at \$45,000-\$50,000.

23
24 Cindy Kyzer suggested putting this on as written this year and if it did not pass the voters,
25 then put it on at a teacher's salary.

26
27 Motion to approve district wide Athletic Director position as Article 8 as originally
28 written was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

29
30 Motion to approve Article 9 for an English teacher and Special Education teacher at
31 Pelham High School was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube.
32 Approved 5-0.

33
34 Motion to approve Article 10 was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer.
35 Approved 5-0.

36
37 Motion to approve Article 11 was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer.
38 Approved 5-0.

39
40 Motion to approve Article 12 was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer.
41 Approved 5-0.

42
43 The board directed Kathleen Sargent to put the demolition of the Marsh Road property
44 into the operating budget – noting it is a safety issue that has to be dealt with. Kathleen
45 Sargent will make the changes and send a copy to the Budget Committee.

46

1 **Monthly Reports** – noted

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4 **Information/Correspondence**

5 Food Service Equipment Information – noted. Linda Mahoney questioned if this
6 information was from an independent report – noting that was what the Food Service
7 Director had stated would happen. Mrs. Sargent stated the information came from the
8 Auditor’s Report.

9
10 Cindy Kyzer suggested looking into purchasing used restaurant equipment.

11
12 PSD Improvement Plan -noted. The plan is for all three schools and was put together by
13 Alan Miller. Linda Mahoney – stated if the work needs to be done, it should be included
14 in the operating budget. She noted the board should have costs attached to the items.

15
16 Sunshine Committee Letter – The committee would like to plant a tree and have plaque
17 made in memory of Justin May.

18
19 Motion to approve the tree being planted by the Sunshine Committee and plaque in
20 memory of Justin May was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube. 5-0.

21
22 **Marinace Report Update**

23 Kathleen Sargent received updated numbers – noting the higher amounts for the
24 conversion of the Middle School were because the State Fire Marshall’s Office had
25 changed their regulations regarding the firewall.

26
27 Cindy Kyzer would like to get an answer for the public as to why middle school age
28 students simply cannot just move into the high school once a new school is built.

29
30 **Board Member Reports**

31 Shannen Perry spoke of the fun event at the high school with the hypnotist. She spoke of
32 concerns regarding the vacation survey. The student government would like the students
33 to take the survey – their concerns center around vocational students. She noted the
34 majority of the student council felt it should not be changed. Dr. Bass agreed the survey
35 should be given to students at the high school.

36
37 Lorraine Dube spoke of attending council meeting at Memorial School and noted they are
38 looking to replace emergency backpacks. She spoke of the booster club raising funds by
39 collecting fabrics and used clothing.

40
41 Future Meeting – December 16, 2009 – Business/Workshop – PES 7:00pm

42
43 Motion to adjourn at 10:20 was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney 5-0

44
45 Respectfully Submitted – Diane Figaro