

APPROVED
Pelham School Board
Business Meeting
June 7, 2006 – Pelham Elementary School
Public Session

School Board Members: Michael Conrad, Cindy Kyzer, Eleanor Burton,
Linda Mahoney and Bruce Couture

Superintendent: Dr. Elaine Cutler

Chairman, Michael Conrad called the public session of the Pelham School Board to order at 7:05 p.m. All those in attendance stood to salute the flag and hold a moment of silence in honor of Pelham's fallen military hero, Daniel Gionet.

Good News from Pelham Schools

Linda Mahoney stated that Pelham Elementary School recently held its annual ice cream social on May 31st with great success. Over 800 parents and students made their own sundaes. The proceeds of this event will be used to promote educational endeavors.

Eleanor Burton stated that at Pelham Memorial School eighteen (18) students were inducted in the *Junior National Honor Society* on June 5, 2006. On June 3, 2006 the band and chorus students went to the Music in the Park Competition. They earned the Sportsmanship Award by a unanimous vote of the other twelve bands. The 7th and 8th grade band won 2nd place as did the jazz band and chamber choir. The 6th grade also earned a rating of "good".

Michael Conrad congratulated Matt Stone on winning the Class M award.

Board Buddies from Pelham Memorial School

Three students were on hand to read their essays about their recent class trip to Washington D.C. The students were Lauren Mitchell, Evan Granville and Chelsie Jean. All three students told the Board that they had a marvelous and rewarding trip. They discussed their favorite exhibits and most memorable events. All three students thanked the School Board for the opportunity to attend. Linda Mahoney complimented the students on their writing ability with regard to their essays.

A motion was made to allow Pelham Memorial Students to attend the Washington D.C. trip next year on May 8th – May 11th, 2007 by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Michael Conrad. Approved 5-0.

Adoption of Minutes

May 24, 2006, Pelham Business Meeting minutes were approved as amended. Vote 5-0.

Vendor and Payroll Manifests

Chairman Michael Conrad noted the following:

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| A/P Batch #36 | \$293,425.02 |
| A/P Batch #35 | \$ 64,400.22 |
| P/R Batch #52&53 | \$ 525.52 |
| P/R Batch #54&55 | \$861,793.89 |
| P/R Batch #54&55 deductions | \$371,705.15 |
| P/R Batch #56&57 | \$170,691.04 |

Consent Agenda

Motion to Approve with Regret the Resignation of Kristin Menard along with the Approval of four (4) Teacher Nominations was made by Bruce Couture with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

Presentations of Policies/Reports by the Superintendent and Staff

Pelham Memorial curriculum presentation was made by Pamela Durkin, Department Head of Language Arts. Ms. Durkin outlined for the Board and gave an overview of the current language arts program. She noted that it was time to replace the current 6th grade series of readers. She noted that she will start piloting different series before making a final choice this coming school year. She also stated that the readers were available to students online and that every one was satisfied with this setup. Also available online, were the suggested summer reading lists for students. Linda Mahoney questioned how the books/readers were holding up in terms of condition. Ms. Durkin noted that they are fairing well.

Attendance Policy for Pelham High School

It was noted that presently there was not an Attendance Policy in place. Dr. Mohr shared with the Board the need for such a policy in a two-page drafted document. Attendance graphs were shown along a correlation between attendance and academics. It clearly showed a need for a strong Attendance Policy to be in place. The proposed policy outlined allowed absences per semester, unauthorized absences, absence redemption, absence banking, parent notification and tardiness.

Mr. Conrad noted that the Board will review this proposed policy and take it under advisement before ruling on it. Dr. Cutler requested attendance data and research be sent to her from Dr. Mohr. Mr. Conrad noted that this be sent to legal counsel for review to make sure the proper steps are followed. It was also noted that a 1st and 2nd reading of this *Policy* would still need to be completed. A press release would be made available to parents before the commencement of this Policy.

Diploma Options for Pelham High School

The Pelham High School Leadership Team was on hand to update the Board on the present draft of diploma options. The Team is trying to achieve recognition of students who work above and beyond their counterparts. There would be four (4) distinct levels of diplomas given to students. Honors with Distinction Diploma, Honors Diploma, Academic Diploma and a General Diploma. A 1st and 2nd reading of this policy is needed.

Regional Preschool Improvement Project

Tina McCoy described the *improvement project* for the Board and how by combining districts (Londonderry, Windham and Pelham) they can effectively maximize federal entitlement funds. It was noted that this enables the preschool teams to continue to effectively meet the unique needs of the students with low incidence disabilities and those with complex needs.

Motion to Continue with Regional Preschool Project by allocating the amount of \$7,581.55 was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 5-0.

Instructional Assistant Mentoring Program

Tina McCoy made a presentation to the Board of the proposed Mentoring Program for new district employees. She noted the rationale, key factors, principles and goals for such a program. The cost for running such a program would be \$4,125.00 which would include training of the mentors. It is believed that mentoring keeps the turnover rate low. Before implementing such a program the Board will take it under advisement.

NECAP Results

It was noted that this be tabled to the next agenda.

New Hampshire ICT Standards

Adam Steel was present to inform and discuss with the Board the newly required Information and Communication Technologies standards. After explaining what would be necessary for the school district to comply with, he also addressed the many concerns the School Board had with regard to financial impact. It was noted that this would create a large burden financially for the Town to comply with the new standards. Although Pelham has already approved to support a technology upgrade, these new standards go above and beyond what monies have already been approved. It was decided that a letter to the Commissioner of Education would be drafted, stating the Boards concerns. Dr. Cutler also stated that our state representatives should be involved to be able to bring the Boards questions and concerns to the state level of government.

Pelham Elementary School/Stipend Request.

Motion to Create a \$1,200 Stipend for a Reading Specialist for 2006-2007 to Act as Team Leader was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

Correspondence/Information

Michael Conrad noted the following:

- Publication from Laidlaw Transportation Company
- Revised Pelham School Board Calendar
- Invitation to the PES Volunteer Social
- Letter from the Commissioner of Education granting a 3-day flood waiver
- Change in procedure for building security at Pelham Elementary School
- June Calendar for the Pelham School District
- Guidance and Career Center Bulletin from Pelham High School

Other Business Items

Second Reading of Section E: School Support Services was read by Michael Conrad. Motion to Approve Section E: School Support Services was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 5-0.

Second Reading of Section F: Facilities Planning and Development was read by Michael Conrad. Motion to Approve Section F: Facilities Planning and Development was made by Bruce Couture with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

Policy: Non-School Sponsored Clubs and Activities

Tabled to next Agenda

Call for Resolutions

Dr. Cutler discussed with the Board the proposed resolutions for the 2006 Delegate Assembly. She noted that a School Board member draft a proposal and letter. Michael Conrad will work with Adam Steel on a draft resolution regarding the new digital portfolio.

Administrative Monthly Reports

The Operating Monthly Report will be discussed at the next meeting that Brian Gallagher attends.

Information and Proposals from Board Members

Eleanor Burton discussed Project Connect with the Board along with the recent teacher appreciation luncheon and internet safety night. She also noted the wonderful job the baseball team and golf team did this year. She then discussed the goals of the meet and

greet for the 5th grade students along with the upkeep of the emergency backpack program.

Bruce Couture stressed the importance of final exams at the high school level. He encouraged all 8th grade musicians to continue with the music program at the high school level and he also stated that he would like to “revisit” contracted services at a later time.

Linda Mahoney noted that she attended a NHCAFE meeting and that on June 22, 2006 it will go before the Supreme Court and that a decision is expected some time in August or September, 2006.

Cindy Kyzer spoke of the academic and sports banquets and how well attended and wonderful they were.

Michael Conrad thanked everyone for their involvement on Project Connect from Memorial School. He also showed his appreciation to his company for their generous donation of a color printer along with 100 senior yearbook DVD's that had been donated to the district.

Future Meetings

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| June 16, 2006 | Pelham High School Graduation |
| June 20, 2006 | Pelham Middle School Graduation |
| June 21, 2006 | Pelham School Board Business Meeting |
| | Pelham School Board Workshop Meeting |
| July 12, 2006 | Pelham School Board Business Meeting |

Future Agendas

Policy Review/Teacher Nominations/Principal Reports
Continued Master Planning for a four-school model

Motion to adjourn was made at 9:51p.m. By Eleanor Burton with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer.
Approved 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted - Diane Figaro