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APPROVED
PELHAM SCHOOL BOARD
PUBLIC SESSION
PELHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
August 8, 2007

School Board Members: Bruce Couture, Eleanor Burton, Linda Mahoney,
Cindy Kyzer and Michael Conrad
Superintendent: Dr. Frank Bass
Asst. Superintendent: Roxanne Wilson
Business Administrator: Kathleen Sargent
Student Representative: Scott Cloutier

Chairman Bruce Couture called the public session of the Pelham School Board to order at 7:30 p.m. All those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Motion to Approve the Public Session Minutes from July 25, 2007 was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 4-0-1 (Michael Conrad abstained)

Consent Agenda

Bruce Couture read aloud the manifests to be signed.

Teacher Nominations

Chairman Couture read aloud the following teacher nomination: Steven Durrance-Social Studies @ Pelham High School; Jane Martin-FACS @ Pelham High School; Patricia Bonaventura-Science @ Pelham High School.

Mr. Couture also announced the new Food Service Director for the Pelham School District – Megan Bizzarro.

Motion to Accept Consent Agenda was made by Michael Conrad with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

Recess Monitors at PES

Dr. Bass discussed the concern from Principal LaFrance regarding the need for recess monitors at the elementary school. Dr. Bass requested the School Board agree to the request for one year with an end of year update.

Principal LaFrance noted the positions were previously cut and that the Instructional Assistants were used for recess which creased a hardship in the special education

1 program. She further noted that due to increased enrollment, there are now five (5)
2 recesses. The monitors would be requested to work 2 ½ hours per day. The position
3 calls for three (3) people.

4
5 Linda Mahoney wanted to follow-up on the hourly rate of pay being \$10.00. She noted
6 the Instructional Assistants are making a little over \$11.00. She further noted she was in
7 support of recess monitors but just thought the hourly pay which will be offered was a
8 little too high.

9
10 Motion to Accept Three (3) Recess Monitors for the 2007-2008 School Year was made
11 by Michael Conrad with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

12 **Warrant Articles**

13
14
15 Chairman Couture stated the School Board would be separating components of the
16 project into four (4) Warrant Articles.

17
18 With regard to the purchase of land article, Cindy Kyzer noted her concern about
19 separating the renovation project and new high school.

20
21 Linda Mahoney stated the district should support a renovation project of the high school,
22 noting you can not move middle school students into the high school until the renovation
23 work is done.

24
25 Michael Conrad stressed not to bundle them together. He further noted that yes; it is
26 needed, but to let the voters have their say.

27
28 Eleanor Burton stated she felt they need a high school project first, before a renovation
29 project. She stressed the purchase of land should be first.

30
31 Dr. Bass stated, that looking at other towns, you have to have the land first. He further
32 stressed that you run a huge risk if you ask for everything at once – noting the land was
33 most important.

34
35 Linda Mahoney noted she felt it was way too much to ask of the town. She further noted
36 that Marinace Architects suggested a renovation of the high school would be good.

37
38 Eleanor Burton stated that when you talk about renovating, studies show it is not
39 recommended and that the plan was to do something with the high school issue and then
40 to address Memorial School.

41
42 Cindy Kyzer noted that during the Marinace presentation, it was her understanding that
43 building a high school was preferable.

44
45 Michael Conrad noted that if they were to listen to the architects, they should build a new
46 high school and then renovate the existing high school for 7th and 8th grade.

1
2 Dr. Bass stressed that nothing else can happen without the land purchase.

3
4 Cindy Kyzer noted that people have to realize it is necessary and we need a long-term
5 solution.

6
7 Bruce Couture reminded the Board that the architects need a direction to proceed in.

8
9 Michael Conrad recommended two separate articles, the high school and a auditorium.

10
11 Motion to Direct Marinace Architects to draft conceptual drawings with and without
12 auditorium was made by Michael Conrad with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 4-1.

13
14 **Superintendent Remarks**

15
16 Dr. Bass discussed the plan at Pelham High School to create a more exciting
17 environment. He stated he plans to meet with each class at the beginning of the school
18 year to talk about empowering the students to get them involved in their school.

19
20 Student Representative, Scott Cloutier stated he felt the school was off to a good start and
21 how important this would be to school spirit.

22
23 Principal Mohr spoke of Dr. Bass and how proud everyone will be – they are off to a
24 great start.

25
26 Assistant Vice Principal, Leland Brenan spoke about the outstanding awards the students
27 received over the years. He felt they needed to build on that and that the enthusiasm was
28 there already.

29
30 **No Child Left Behind** – Handout given to Board members from the Association for
31 Supervision and Curriculum Development.

32
33 **Other Business Items**

34
35 **PSB Goal Setting** – The Pelham School Board 2007-2008 Academic Year Goals were
36 presented to the Board. Roxanne Wilson noted an additional was made (c) *Focus on*
37 *establishing a Pre-School program in Pelham by September of 2009.*

38
39 Linda Mahoney suggested an open forum at the beginning of every meeting in which
40 members of the public can address the School Board.

41
42 Dr. Bass explained that Windham has adopted such a forum in which a member of the
43 public (if not previously placed on that meetings agenda) will have an opportunity to
44 speak to the Board for a total of three (3) minutes. The School Board will listen to their
45 comment/concern and take it under advisement.

1 Consensus of the School Board to start an open forum. Eleanor Burton – yes; Cindy
2 Kyzer – yes; Bruce Couture – yes; Michael Conrad – yes; Linda Mahoney – yes.

3
4 **Creation Facilities Committee** – Eleanor Burton suggested a creation of a committee
5 made up of community members in which they will study the needs of the facilities.

6
7 Motion to Form a Community Involvement Committee whose charter will be to look at
8 schools, give us ideas and comments from the public on what they would like to see in
9 our school district facilities was made by Michael Conrad with a 2nd by Eleanor Burton.
10 Approved 4-1.

11
12 Linda Mahoney noted she could not vote on this as she felt they only discussed this for
13 about 5 minutes. She stressed she did not take the forming of committees lightly.

14
15 Dr. Bass noted he will come back to the board with the logistics of the committee with
16 recommendations.

17
18 Motion to Accept Pelham School Board 2007-2008 Academic Year Goals as Amended
19 was made by Michael Conrad with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

20
21 **Special School district Meeting** – Dr. Bass announced the upcoming hearing date at
22 Superior Court for Monday, August 13th.

23
24 Linda Mahoney noted she was in support of the teachers whole heartedly but was afraid
25 if they go to a special election they will be turned down again.

26
27 **Presentations f Policies/Reports by Superintendent and Staff**

28
29 **Policy JICK – 3rd Reading** – With the direction of Dr. Bass, the School Board decided
30 to keep the policy readings to two (2) and not (3) three. It was noted they are posted on
31 the district website.

32
33 **HVAC/Mechanicals Update** – Kathleen Sargent updated the board. The cost of the
34 study of the HVAC will be \$6,500.

35
36 Motion to Approve Air Quality Study at Pelham Memorial School not to exceed \$6,500
37 was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Michael Conrad. Approved 5-0.

38
39 **Fields and Grounds Update** – Dr. Bass noted for the Board that the communication
40 with administration from the landscaping company was going very well. The fields are
41 moving along nicely and that there is still some more work to do.

42
43 At this time, Dr. Bass spoke to the Board regarding the recent Leadership Agenda at the
44 retreat today with both Pelham and Windham. He stressed that the two towns work
45 together as a unit and that they share to create one district. He was very pleased with the
46 work that had been done so far.

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Monthly Reports

Assistant’s Superintendent and Superintendent Reports were distributed for review.

Board Member Reports

Eleanor Burton – Residents would like to meet Dr. Bass and she suggested a meeting along with a high school open house. The SAU is working on coordinating this.

Cindy Kyzer – is happy about what is happening at the high school.

Michael Conrad – noted he will not be at the meeting; complimented Alan Miller and his staff ; reminded the community that while back to school shopping to participate in any store that “gives back to the community program”.

Linda Mahoney – pleased with the high school progress.

Scott Cloutier – pleased with the technology progress at the high school.

Bruce Couture – pleased that the voters passed the technology program and would like to address the drop off rate in the music/drama area at the high school level.

Future Meetings

- August 22, 2007 Business/Workshop Meeting 7:00
- August 27, 2007 Teachers Return
- August 29, 2007 First Day of School
- September 12, 2007 Business Meeting 7:00
- September 26, 2007 Business/Workshop Meeting 7:00

Future Agendas

Life Safety Issues/Policy Review

Motion to Adjourn Non-Public Session at 7:24 p.m. was made by Eleanor Burton with a 2nd by Michael Conrad. Approved 5-0.

Respectfully – Diane Figaro