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APPROVED
Pelham School Board
Workshop Meeting – Public Session
June 11, 2008
Pelham Elementary School

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School Board Members: Bruce Couture, Chairman; Linda Mahoney;
Cindy Kyzer; Linda Koehler

17
18

Superintendent: Dr. Frank Bass

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Assistant Superintendent: Roxanne Wilson

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Business Administrator: Kathleen Sargent

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25

Chairman Couture called the public session to order at 7:18 p.m. All those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

26
27

Public Forum

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29

None noted. Chairman Couture reminded the public about Public Forum.

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32

Mr. Couture recognized the new student representative, Courtney Perry, to the School Board which will be occupied come July.

33
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Good News

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40

Pelham Elementary School – Linda Mahoney – students from Mrs. Queenan and Mrs. Greenwoods' classes visited the State House after studying about New Hampshire's state government. Governor Lynch met with the students along with Mr. Bergeron, Mr. Ober and Mr. Downing.

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45

Pelham Memorial School – Bruce Couture – the music department took first place in several categories at the Music in the Parks Six Flags New England Festival on May 31st. The chorus took first place in the Class AA Treble Choir category. The 6th grade band also took first place in the Class AA Elementary Band category and the 7th ad 8th grade concert band took first place in the Class AA middle school band category and the jazz band took first place in the Class AA Jazz Ensemble category. 7th and 8th grade concert band and jazz ensemble both received the overall award in the Junior High/Middle School Band and Junior High/Middle School Jazz Ensemble categories. Carleen DelGreco was recognized as one of the two best jazz instrumental soloists.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve as amended the non public minutes from May 28, 2008 was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 4-0

1 Motion to approve as amended the public minutes from May 28, 2008 was made by
2 Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 4-0.

3
4 **Consent Agenda**

5
6 Chairman Couture read aloud the manifests. He then welcomed to the Pelham School
7 District two special education teachers, Corrine Howard and Julie Currier.

8
9 Motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Linda
10 Koehler. Approved 4-0.

11
12 **Board Buddies**

13
14 8th graders from Pelham Memorial School shared their experiences from their recent
15 Washington D.C. trip. Principal Pinsonneault requested approval from the School Board
16 for next years trip.

17
18 Motion that the 8th grade class of 2008-2009 go to Washington D.C., with a departure
19 date of May 5, 2009 and a return date of May 8, 2009 was made by Linda Koehler with a
20 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 4-0.

21
22 **PES Volunteer Reading Support Program**

23
24 Alicia LaFrance and Michelle Viger presented the Focused Reading Intervention
25 Program which utilized parent volunteers. It was noted all the students who participated
26 in this program showed improvement in the area of reading. They are looking to expand
27 this program with the help of more parent volunteers next year.

28
29 **Multi-Age Classroom**

30
31 Alicia LaFrance updated the Board on the multi-age classroom. She noted they will be
32 unable to continue the program due to lack of parental interest in the program. She noted
33 that there was a larger than usual demand for looping classrooms. She does not see the
34 multi-age classroom continuing.

35
36 **Recess Update**

37
38 Alicia LaFrance spoke of early release days and how it relates to recess. She noted recess
39 would be eliminated on such days which will increase classroom instruction time.
40 Students will have their regular allotted amount of time for lunch. She also noted that
41 this does not interfere with the teacher's contract.

1 **Grade 5 Mathematics**

2
3 Alicia LaFrance spoke of meeting the needs of the higher level math students. She noted
4 they will present a side by side math program. She requested she have time to provide
5 this program and get feedback through January, 2009.

6
7 **Preschool Program Update**

8
9 Tina McCoy and Meg Rugg addressed the School Board noting they have had one
10 resignation in the Preschool Program and would like to hire a replacement under a
11 Pelham Contract and not a Windham Contract. They noted it did not make sense to hire
12 under Windham and that it would be more cost effective to hire in Pelham as well as
13 helping with the transition process with regard to splitting the preschool.

14
15 Linda Mahoney questioned if this should be on a Warrant Article. Dr. Bass responded by
16 stating he will have a conversation with the Budget Committee regarding the protocol for
17 hiring a replacement.

18
19 Bruce Couture stated he felt it would be a transfer of monies between lines in the budget.

20
21 **Preschool Space Needs**

22
23 Meg Rugg explained the space issues in Windham, noting they have maxed out the
24 facility on many levels. It was noted the use of portable classrooms would not make the
25 best financial sense. She outlined options for space needs for the 08-09 school year.

26
27 It was noted that about 30 children receive related services and that they come in for said
28 services one or two times per week. It was noted the annex facility in Windham would
29 also be used. All therapies would be performed with the current staff

30
31 Using space at PES was discussed; utilizing two classrooms.

32
33 Using Sherburne Hall would make the 2nd best choice for the program. Tina McCoy
34 stated it is their biggest fear that the program will be cast off across town away from the
35 school community.

36
37 Linda Mahoney stated she would like to see costs/figures of everything. She is looking
38 for a comparative analysis. She also noted her concern about sharing the PES school
39 nurse. Mrs. McCoy responded by stating they can contract someone to help during busy
40 times of the day and that it should not be a huge nursing burden. She also noted that
41 currently they do not have a nurse in Windham Preschool building.

42
43 It was decided that kindergarten would also have to be looked at and that Dr. Bass will
44 obtain information regarding renovations of Sherburne Hall. He noted kindergarten and
45 possibly a Superintendent's office could also be housed in that building.

1 **Volunteer Sports Program**

2
3 Dr. Mohr and Tim Powers, Athletic Director at PHS, addressed the School Board
4 speaking of programs/clubs that are looking to obtain varsity status and become part of
5 the Athletic Department.

6
7 Mr. Powers spoke of the gymnastics club, noting they represented PHS very well. The
8 club recently won the sportsmanship award. Members of the gymnastics club addressed
9 the Board stressing their desire to become a varsity team.

10
11 Dr. Bass noted there would be no additional liability on the District and that they would
12 still have to be self supportive if they become a team – stating they could run as a varsity
13 sport for several years and not be funded by the District.

14
15 Linda Mahoney stated she thought it was great what the gymnastics club was doing, but
16 was concerned with the budget and increasing athletics costs.

17
18 Transportation fees were discussed along with the liability that comes with traveling. It
19 was noted the liability will go the parent driver or the car owner and not the District.

20
21 Motion to operate the gymnastics club to a varsity level program starting 2008-2009 and
22 that said program will be self funded was made by Linda Koehler with a 2nd by Cindy
23 Kyzer. Approved 3-0-1 (Linda Mahoney abstained)

24
25 Mr. Powers spoke of the start of a swim club for next year. He noted there was interest in
26 this type of club and that it will be self-funded.

27
28 Motion that Pelham High School for 2008-2009 start a swimming club that would be self
29 funded was made by Linda Koehler with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 4-0.

30
31 Three Minutes Recess

32
33 **Booster Club**

34
35 Tim Powers and key members of the PHS Boosters Club spoke about their role and
36 responsibility in providing support for the many programs in the district. They spoke of
37 their fundraising activities. School Board members thanked them and stated every sports
38 program has benefited from what the Booster Club does.

39
40 **Banner Fundraising Program**

41
42 Mrs. Joyce explained what this program is about and how successful the banner program
43 has been. She then spoke of rings that were given to players and how proud the students
44 were to receive them.

1 **Breakfast Program and After School Snack Program**

2
3 Megan Bizzarro spoke of the need for a breakfast program at PES. She noted the state
4 provides some funding for such a program. This would be a very similar process to the
5 lunch program. She noted the price will have to be set by the School Board if approved.
6 The before school care program would have access to the breakfast program. Free and
7 reduced lunch procedures would also be able to be utilized.

8
9 Linda Koehler questioned the logistics of when the students arrive at school and being
10 able to participate in the breakfast program.

11
12 Cindy Kyzer questioned the students arriving via bus to school and not having time to
13 participate in the program. Linda Mahoney also questioned this.

14
15 Kathleen Sargent reported that the collection of monies owed to the lunch program has
16 improved and that the deficit is very small this year. She noted she and Megan Bizzarro
17 are working to eliminate the deficit altogether. She also stated she is in support of a
18 breakfast program in Pelham

19
20 Chairman Couture noted the Board will revisit this again at the first July meeting.

21
22 Cindy Kyzer stated she would support the program for one year and then reevaluate it.

23
24 Linda Mahoney stated she would like Eleanor Burton to weigh in on this topic.

25
26 Mrs. Bizzarro briefly discussed utilizing an after school snack program. She noted
27 conversations were being had with staff and that more information would be brought
28 before the Board.

29
30 **PHS Adventurous Bibliophilies (PHAB)**

31
32 Beth Strauss and Jay Chandler spoke of last summer's adventure based summer reading
33 program. They spoke of combining this program this year with the music camp. Mr.
34 Chandler discussed using 20 workstations to do some composing and arranging. He
35 stated he would like to see students write a school song.

36
37 It was noted that this program was funded through grant money, but that grant money
38 was not available this year. It was also noted that about 30 students might be interested
39 in this program – 15 on the music side and 15 on the literacy side.

40
41 The cost to run such a program was discussed. It was noted that it would be about \$200
42 per student. The possibility to charge for said program was noted.

43
44 Cindy Kyzer stated she would like to support this program, because she knows the
45 students got a lot out of the activities, but that money is just too tight this year.

1 Linda Koehler suggested charging \$100 per student and fundraising for the rest.

2
3 Dr. Mohr stated she would hate to take away the enthusiasm about the program and that
4 she will look at other options to fund it,

5
6 Linda Mahoney stated she would like to support an SAT prep course.

7
8 Bruce Couture noted he wished they had come to the Board sooner.

9
10 Dr. Bass stated that perhaps someone would come forward in support of this worthwhile
11 project.

12
13 **Summer Training Program**

14
15 Roxanne Wilson gave a schedule of the summer programs which will be held for
16 teachers. The programs would be funded through Title II.

17
18 SAU leadership meetings will also take place this summer.

19
20 **Updated School Board Meeting Calendar** – noted

21
22 **Pelham High School Building Committee Charge**

23
24 It was noted the revised Charge was well written and covered everything the Board
25 wanted to be incorporated.

26
27 Linda Mahoney questioned if the SAU had heard from any member of the Budget
28 Committee or Board of Selectman. It was noted that they had not but that there has been
29 some interest from members of the public to serve on this committee.

30
31 Cindy Kyzer stressed that she wanted the committee to look at the impact on the other
32 schools and not just the high school. Under section IV of the Charge, the wording was
33 added...*Impact to other schools may be considered.*

34
35 **Monthly Reports**

36
37 Enrollment – Bruce Couture questioned the loss of 10 students in grade 4; Dr. Bass will
38 check on that and report back to the Board.

39
40 Kathleen Sargent stated the generator will be hooked up when school is out for the
41 summer. She then noted she has spoken with the Police Department regarding the entry
42 buzzer system, and that they are waiting for some electrical portions to be finished

43
44 Linda Koehler suggested there be some correspondence to parents regarding what to
45 expect at the beginning of the next school year with regard to the entry system.

1 Kathleen Sargent noted the District’s Maintenance Department has taken over the care
2 and operation of the irrigation system. She noted there will be a significant savings to the
3 District.

4
5 Letters to Pelham residents concerning the reinstating of the “D” in the grading system
6 and the formation of the Building Committee were noted as having been posted.

7
8 NHSAA Update - the state did not sign funding; there are no more donor towns.

9
10 **Board Member Reports**

11
12 Mr. Couture – called upon members of the public to please consider volunteering on the
13 Building Committee.

14
15 Mrs. Koehler – noted PHS Council is meeting tomorrow and that they will be looking for
16 a facilitator for next year.

17
18 Mrs. Mahoney – noted PES Council held their last meeting.

19
20 **Future Meetings**

21
22 June 18, 2008 Business/Workshop PES 7:00 PM
23 July 16, 2008 Business Meeting PES 7:00 PM
24 July 30, 2008 Business/Workshop PES 7:00 PM

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27 Motion to adjourn under RSA 91-A: 3II at 11:00 p.m. was made by Linda Mahoney with
28 a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. 4-0

29
30
31 Respectfully Submitted – Diane Figaro