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APPROVED
PELHAM SCHOOL BOARD
Workshop Meeting – Public Session
January 14, 2009
Pelham Elementary School

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School Board Members: Vice Chair Cindy Kyzer; Linda Mahoney;
Linda Koehler; Eleanor Burton

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Superintendent: Dr. Frank Bass

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Assistant Superintendent: Roxanne Wilson

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Business Administrator: Kathleen Sargent

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Cindy Kyzer called the public session to order at 7:22p.m. All those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Forum – none noted at this time.

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Good News – Pelham Elementary School – Linda Mahoney spoke of PES winning 2nd place in Division I and 3rd place in the Northeast Affiliate Top 10 for the 2007-08 Jump and Hoops event for the American Heart Association. The students raised \$15,436.12.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the December 10, 2008 non public session was made by Linda Koehler with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 4-0

Motion to approve as amended the December 10, 2008 public minutes was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Eleanor Burton. Approved 4-0.

Motion to approve the January 5, 2009 public minutes as written was made by Linda Koehler with a 2nd by Eleanor Burton. Approved 4-0.

Manifests were read aloud by Cindy Kyzer.

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as written was made by Linda Koehler with a 2nd Linda Mahoney. Approved 4-0.

Superintendent Remarks

Dr. Bass introduced Principal Mohr who then addressed the Board regarding proposed changes in the math and science department programs. She spoke of the need for the math and science curriculum to align to state standards. She spoke of providing students with a smoother transition from high school to college and how to enhance the student transcript. The emphasis was on more lab sciences.

1 The science department is proposing a name change to the integrated program. They
2 found that students could be missing some competencies based on students taking
3 Integrated I and Integrated II and Biology.

4
5 No additional staff, requirements or monies would be needed to implement these changes.

6
7 Motion to accept the changes as presented were made by Linda Koehler with a 2nd by
8 Linda Mahoney. Approved 4-0.

9
10 **Media Specialist Presentation/PHS**

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12 Beth Strauss, Media Specialist, spoke of PHS being the recipient of Title II monies to
13 support a science program which includes training through UNH program. The grant
14 would bring in science equipment along with professional development opportunities.

15
16 **New Club Application**

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18 Beth Strauss spoke of Amnesty International organization. The Board will read the
19 proposal and respond back to the high school regarding this.

20
21 **Athletic Proposal**

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23 A proposal was made to the Board with regard to switching some services in the area of
24 athletics at the high school. It was noted there would be a cost of savings of between
25 \$10,000 - \$15,000. The savings could be used to expand the athletic training facilities for
26 athletes and non athletes alike. The proposal is to use the Orthopedic Center of
27 Manchester and Salem. This contract offers more of the coverage they currently receive
28 along with free trainer services and student physicals. The contract would be effective
29 July 1st for the 09-10 school year. It was noted that Mr. Harris would be donating some
30 monies from sales from the concession stand to also help make the expansion of the
31 athletic facilities happen.

32
33 The Board directed Dr. Bass to pursue a contract with Safe Sports Network and
34 Orthopedic Center and to look into updating the weight room at PHS and report findings
35 back to the School Board.

36
37 Dr. Mohr noted she would be coming back to the Board at a later time to discuss
38 streamlining the areas of business/technology at PHS.

39
40 **Lease Purchase**

41
42 Kathleen Sargent spoke of the lease for portable(s) being 3.25% fixed for 3 years -
43 \$79,993.00 annually with a \$1 buyout at the end of the term. The lease could begin on
44 2/13/09 with the first payment due on 7/15/09.

45
46 Consensus of the Board to enter into the agreement.

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2 **Reconsideration Items**

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4 Kathleen Sargent noted the items which the Board previously discussed for
5 reconsideration.

6
7 Linda Mahoney asked the Board to add one more item for reconsideration which is the
8 removal of kindergarten from the operating budget and have it placed on as a Warrant
9 Article. She stated she felt they will be sacrificing the operating budget if this is left in.
10 She feels the people who do not want to fund kindergarten may not vote for the operating
11 budget. She feels the Budget Committee is going against the RSA's by allowing this.

12
13 Dr. Bass stressed that kindergarten is state mandated and that legal counsel wanted it in
14 the operating budget. He noted the Budget Committee had agreed. He noted the voters
15 understand that even if the operating budget is voted down, the default budget contains
16 kindergarten.

17
18 Cindy Kyzer noted that by sending in the Board's letter to the state, they are reserving
19 their right which will protect the district.

20
21 Mrs. Mahoney stated she felt the voters have a right to be heard and that she is not saying
22 not to provide kindergarten.

23
24 Linda Koehler stated she would like the consensus of the Board to stand and not be
25 reconsidered.

26
27 **St. Patrick's Warrant Article**

28
29 It was noted the SAU received the Warrant but that it was too late to be a Petition
30 Warrant Article.

31
32 Motion to add the St. Patrick's child benefit services warrant article as an additional
33 warrant article #16 and that the School Board votes be added/recorded on said Article
34 was made by Linda Koehler with a 2nd by Eleanor Burton. Approved 4-0.

35
36 It will be recorded as 3-1 not in favor of supporting Article #16.

37
38 **PES Program Initiatives**

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40 Principal LaFrance spoke of the 5th grade math program – running two programs side by
41 side. The plan is to use the NWEA testing to determine which direction they should
42 proceed in the future.

43
44 Principal LaFrance spoke of Tufts University Research Center providing reading
45 comprehension teaching to PES teachers. Training will be for grades 1-5 teachers who
46 will then be able to receive professional development hours.

1
2 Principal LaFrance spoke of technology in the classroom and asked for consideration
3 from the School Board regarding a model for moving the current enrichment program
4 into the technology lab. Enrichment is offered as part of the Unified Arts program.
5

6 Linda Mahoney noted her concern about first graders needing to be performing more
7 hands on types of things instead of working on computers.
8

9 Mrs. LaFrance noted that art and technology would be split ½ of the year and this would
10 give exposure to technology. The required digital portfolio for students begins in the 2nd
11 grade. She also noted students still have a formalized printing and cursive program.
12

13 Linda Koehler requested a comparison between the current and proposed enrichment
14 program.
15

16 Principal LaFrance spoke of the More Than Spanish Program. The program has been
17 successful and they would like to start another session and have one more additional
18 session.
19

20 Kathleen Sargent noted this would be another charge of \$25/hour.
21

22 **Lost Days Waiver**

23
24 Dr. Bass spoke of the need to apply for a waiver for lost school days due to the power
25 outage. He noted that if the Board approves of the waiver, the students do not have to
26 make up three days but the teachers/staff would. Each school will come up with a plan as
27 to how they are going to use those days for professional development. A plan will be
28 presented to the Board when made.
29

30 Motion that we give Dr. Bass authority to move on the lost day waivers was made by
31 Linda Koehler with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 3-1 (Eleanor Burton negative)
32

33 **FEMA Rebates**

34
35 Dr. Bass noted the district would be entitled to apply for rebate monies regarding the food
36 that was lost and over time spent during the power outage. An itemization will be sent to
37 the state.
38

39 Linda Koehler noted a downed line in the island at the high school.
40

41 **Policy Proposal**

42
43 Dr. Bass spoke of a need for a policy to be in place regarding cameras in school. A
44 proposed policy will be brought forth soon.
45
46

1 **Preschool Update**

2
3 A tentative lease agreement was presented to the School Board for their review.

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5 **Kindergarten**

6
7 Kathleen Sargent noted the actual site for the portable has been marked.

8
9 **Presentations by Superintendent and Staff**

10
11 Kathleen Sargent spoke of Mr. Miller’s request for a hopper spreader for a truck. A
12 quote was received for approximately \$3,399.99. This would be used for sand and salt.

13
14 Consensus of the Board to purchase the hopper. 4-0

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16 **Monthly Reports**

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18 Budget Report is in good standing at this time. Mrs. Mahoney requested the budget
19 report be sent in the advance packets.

20
21 **School Board Members Reports/Concerns**

22
23 Linda Mahoney noted the PESPA contract had been ratified. The School Board
24 candidate filing was noted. She noted she would like to see the filing by candidates
25 performed at Town Hall rather than at Mrs. Murphy’s private home.

26
27 Eleanor Burton noted that most of the committees had not had an opportunity to meet due
28 to weather and holidays. She spoke of Chairman Couture’s father in law’s illness and
29 wished them well.

30
31 Cindy Kyzer spoke of the Instructional Assistants contract that will be presented
32 tomorrow night to the Budget Committee.

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34 **Future Meetings**

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36	January 20, 2009	Public Hearing	7:00 PES
37	January 28, 2009	Business/Workshop	7:00 PES
38	February 4, 2009	Deliberative Session	7:00 PES
39	February 18, 2009	Business/Workshop	7:00 PES
40			

41 Motion to adjourn the public session at 9:30 pm was made by Linda Koehler with a 2nd
42 by Eleanor Burton. Approved 4-0.

43
44 Respectfully Submitted – Diane Figaro