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APPROVED
Pelham School Board
Business Meeting
Public Session
July 15, 2009

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School Board Members: Eleanor Burton-Chair, Linda Mahoney,
Cindy Kyzer; Lorraine Dube; Deb Ryan
Superintendent: Dr. Frank Bass
Business Administrator: Kathleen Sargent
Assistant Superintendent: Roxanne Wilson

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Chairman Burton called the public session to order at 7:14 pm. All those in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

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Public Forum

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Kevin Steele addressed the board to speak of his suggestion for a 4 school model. He noted his concern that the voters of Pelham would not be able to embrace a project that is too large and feels the students will suffer. He noted his concern over the failing economy. He suggested putting a small expansion onto the high school that would consist of 12 classrooms and then rearrange the grades in the other two schools as Pre K – 5th grade at both Pelham Elementary School and Pelham Memorial School with 6th -8th grade being at the high school. The high school would be on a new site. A copy of his plan was distributed for the board's review.

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Deb Ryan spoke of her concern about putting forth a change in plans to the voters as this would confuse them. She noted it is the Board's responsibility to show to the voters the best solution for the future of the town.

PTA Presentation

Mary Collins; Kristin Rogrique and Kim Hunt addressed the board to speak of the purchase, by the PTA, of 21 projectors for 17 classrooms; media center and common areas. They spoke of working with Adam Steel to organize the installation. The PTA is having a certified electrician perform the work. The total cost of the donation is approximately \$26,000.

Cindy Kyzer questioned the cost for the replacement bulbs for projectors. It was noted they cost approximately \$200 each with a two year life span. Mrs. Kyzer noted her concern regarding this.

Kathleen Sargent noted that teachers currently borrow projectors from the media center when they need one. The new projectors will be permanently mounted in each of the 17 classrooms. Mrs. Sargent noted she would look to purchase replacement bulbs in bulk by teaming up the buying power with Windham.

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2 Motion to accept the PTA donation for the 21 projectors with gratitude was made by Deb
3 Ryan with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 5-0.

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5 **Consent Agenda**

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7 Motion to accept the non public minutes as written of June 24, 2009 was made by Cindy
8 Kyzer with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. 5-0.

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10 Motion to accept the public minutes as amended of June 24, 2009 was made by Cindy
11 Kyzer with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube. 5-0.

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13 Manifests were read aloud.

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

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18 **Superintendent Remarks**

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20 Dr. Bass spoke of the summer reading program. He spoke of the purpose of the program
21 as being a way to create an opportunity for students to read during the summer months.
22 He noted the value of such a program. He noted the concern about not having teacher
23 input during independent-home reading. Dr. Bass noted they discovered one book, *A*
24 *Prayer for Owen Meany*, as not being appropriate reading material for students on the
25 Summer Reading List. This book is officially off of the summer reading list. Any
26 student that has already read this book will still receive full credit for their work. Going
27 forward, Dr. Bass noted administration will be reviewing the policies and procedures in
28 place to make sure all suggested summer reading is appropriate.

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30 Dr. Bass spoke of looking forward to the placement of kindergarten portables this
31 summer.

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33 Dr. Bass spoke of a discrepancy with the graduation policy requirements and Policy IKF.
34 With the board's permission, Dr. Bass would amend the policy and change the credits
35 from 20 to 26 and add community service.

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37 Lorraine Dube suggested looking at Nashua's Policy and offering a core certificate to our
38 students who are at risk. Dr. Bass noted they could explore other schools' policies. He
39 stressed the need to create a climate where every student feels comfortable and safe.

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41 Lorraine Dube noted that some students are graduating with certificates that enable them
42 to enter the workforce – she spoke of health occupation courses.

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44 Cindy Kyzer noted parents are aware of these opportunities when their student is in their
45 sophomore year.

1 **Facilities Guidelines and Procedures**

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3 The board directed Dr. Bass to go forward with these guidelines and procedure. Kathleen
4 Sargent noted the slight changes that were made after the last reading.

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6 Eleanor Burton spoke of her concern with some organizations not putting away
7 equipment properly. She suggested having instructions regarding the return/use of
8 equipment as being clearly marked and noted in each room where an organization may be
9 using equipment.

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11 Linda Mahoney noted she is very happy with the wording of the document at this time.

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13 The board accepted the Use of Facilities Guidelines and Procedures as being adequate at
14 this time. This document will be available for review on the district website and will be
15 distributed with every application.

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17 It was noted and understood that parents would still be able to walk the track or toss a
18 ball with their child on school fields/track.

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20 **Life Safety Review/PHS**

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22 Dr. Bass updated the board regarding his meeting with the Department of Education; Mr.
23 Mike Joanis (consultant of life safety issues) and Mr. Alan Miller. It was noted the only
24 question that remains is the 200ft. ramp on the 2nd floor. The State Fire Marshall will be
25 performing their walk through soon. The Fire Marshall ultimately has the final say over
26 these matters. Dr. Bass will report back to the board.

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28 **Summer Work Lists**

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30 Kathleen Sargent noted the maintenance lists were provided by Mr. Miller and were laid
31 out for each school. The board took note of said lists.

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33 **Facilities Committee Student Capacity Report** – noted as being accurate in the report.

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35 **Land Acquisition Update**

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37 Dr. Bass spoke of exploring a number of options and will report back when official
38 information is available.

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40 **Old Business**

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42 Kathleen Sargent noted she is in the process of getting the site developed for the delivery
43 of the kindergarten portable next month.

