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APPROVED
Pelham School Board
Workshop/Business Meeting
Public Session
June 24, 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 7:01 pm. All those in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

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Consent Agenda

Manifests were read aloud. The nomination of Stacey Sziedler was noted. The intended retirement of Donna Strasburger was noted.

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as read was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 5-0.

Motion to accept the non public minutes of June 10, 2009 as amended was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

Motion to accept the public minutes of June 10, 2009 as amended was made by Lorraine Dube with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 5-0.

The Chair acknowledged two new members of the Facilities Committee.

Superintendent Remarks

Dr. Bass spoke of the end of year ceremonies; awards and promotion exercises.

Student Leadership Group

Teachers Cheryl Andrews and Kelly Massiello; 1st grade teachers, addressed the board to speak about raising over \$4000 for the school. She spoke of creating a courtyard at PES with handicap accessible picnic tables for the use of both staff and students.

Motion to allow the donations at Pelham Elementary School and thanks to Mr. Schwab for his generous donation of cement was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Deb Ryan. Approved 5-0.

PEA Negotiation Dates – set for Monday August, 24, 2009 at 4:00 pm

1 **Athletic Director Proposal** – Tim Powers discussed athletic participation fees. He
2 spoke of the shortfall for next year and proposed an increase of \$15 at each level.

3
4 Cindy Kyzer questions how much money was collected in the past. Mr. Powers stated
5 they expended \$35,000. He noted a \$10,000 deficit for the high school as of June 1st 2009

6
7 Mr. Powers noted the increase would close the gap for next year but would not cover the
8 whole deficit. He does not want to go that much higher in an increase as it may deter
9 students from playing more than one or two sports.

10
11 Motion to allow an increase in fees by \$15 for more than one or two sports as scheduled
12 in Mr. Power’s proposal was made by Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Deb Ryan.
13 Approved 5-0.

14
15 **PHS Easement Agreement**

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17 Kathleen Sargent spoke of the National Grid Agreement (approved by legal counsel with
18 one slight change) to remove the transformer from the High School.

19
20 Motion authorizing the easement presented to the Board regarding the transfer removal at
21 the High School was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube. 5-0.

22
23 **High School Start Time**

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25 Dr. Bass spoke of conversations being had in southern New Hampshire in other districts
26 regarding changing the high school start time – making it later. No change will happen
27 this year. The pros and cons of altering the start time were had.

28
29 Linda Mahoney agreed that a later start time would be beneficial.

30
31 **Fire Safety Report**

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33 Dr. Bass noted he went to the State to request extra time to comply with life safety issues
34 at the high school. He stated they have managed to coral all outstanding issues and
35 prioritize them. He noted they will need to encumber approximately \$50,000 to fulfill all
36 the outstanding issues.

37
38 Motion to encumber \$50,000 for fire/safety issues at Pelham High School was made by
39 Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Lorraine Dube. Approved 5-0.

40
41 **Land Acquisition**

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43 Kathleen Sargent spoke of needing monies for site work and legal fees/tests on potential
44 land. Legal Counsel suggested encumbering up to \$50,000 to cover those types of items.

1 Motion to encumber \$50,000 for all land acquisitions related concerns was made by
2 Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Deb Ryan. Approved 5-0.

3
4 **SAT Prep/College Admissions**

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6 Dr. Mohr spoke of what is involved in SAT preparation and college admissions process.
7 She noted colleges look at student's transcripts very closely. Colleges tend to dismiss
8 fluff courses and then reconfigure a student's GPA. They also look at class rank. Some
9 colleges disregard SAT scores and focus on GPA and class rank of a student. A student's
10 activities; volunteer work and awards are also closely examined.

11
12 Cindy Kyzer questioned if PSAT testing was offered to freshman. It was noted it was
13 available to sophomores and juniors free of charge. Students need to have completed
14 Algebra 1 before taking PSAT tests.

15
16 Dr. Bass discussed the pros and cons of taking prep classes during school hours versus an
17 outside program. Dr. Mohr noted it is difficult to pull a teacher away from their daily
18 schedule. She felt it would probably be more cost effective to have a course taught and
19 charged per student. Parents were notified about virtual school.

20
21 Lorraine Dube requested a program called Word Smart be looked into. She felt the
22 school could purchase it and make it available to students in the library. Roxanne Wilson
23 noted there are lots of programs available regarding SAT prep. She suggested that
24 teachers come together to discuss the SAT scores strengths and weaknesses. Mrs. Wilson
25 would have to investigate Word Smart program further.

26
27 Linda Mahoney noted her concern about Pelham's low SAT test scores. She suggested
28 looking at Hollis-Brookline's curriculum and schedules.

29
30 It was noted the science curriculum, presented at a recent board meeting, was now in
31 effect and reflected on student's transcripts.

32
33 **Landscape Bid**

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35 Kathleen Sargent noted that they received 6 bids. A committee consisting, of Deb Ryan;
36 Linda Mahoney; Alan Miller and Tim Powers were formed to review all bids. It was the
37 committee's recommendation to use Boyden Landscaping.

38
39 Motion to accept the recommendation from the landscaping committee to continue with
40 our current practice under the Memorandum of Understanding with Boyden Landscaping
41 was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Deb Ryan. Approved 5-0.

42
43 **PMS Bleachers** – Kathleen Sargent noted the cost to replace the 40 year old bleachers
44 would be approximately \$20,203.00. They are a safety issue.

1 Motion to replace the PMS bleachers for up to \$21,203.00 was made by Cindy Kyzer
2 with a 2nd by Deb Ryan. Approved 5-0.

3
4 **PHS Computer Tables** – Kathleen Sargent noted the request is for 50 tables for roughly
5 \$12,000.00

6
7 Motion to purchase computer tables for \$12,630.00 was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd
8 by Deb Ryan. Approved 5-0.

9
10 **High School Building Committee Charge**

11
12 Linda Mahoney stated the Charge should be simple and straight forward and should be
13 responsible for promoting their recommendation to the public –
14 promoting/educating/holding meetings/mailings.

15
16 Dr. Bass noted the Charge should be as broad as possible to allow the Committee to
17 educate the public and provide forums.

18
19 Deb Ryan noted the title of the Committee should read Facilities Committee and not High
20 School Building Committee.

21
22 Linda Mahoney questioned how many students Pelham High School could accommodate
23 when it was built. She noted information regarding this, got out to the newspaper(s) and
24 is false information. She requested that any information going out to the public should
25 come before the Board first.

26
27 It was agreed that any information from the Committee; that needs to be made public;
28 will go through Dr. Bass.

29
30 Motion to make the new Charge read to promote, inform and engage the Pelham
31 community on the recommendation of the Facilities Committee and for the need of a new
32 high school on a new site as accepted by the Pelham School Board was made by Cindy
33 Kyzer with a 2nd by Deb Ryan. Approved 5-0.

34
35 **Open Forum** – noted to be at Sherburne Hall at 7:30pm for the discussion of the budget
36 and Facilities Committee recommendation.

37
38 **Information/Correspondence**

39 Thank you notes from recent retirees were noted.
40 Summer Reading List and letter from Dr. Bass was noted.

41
42 Dr. Mohr clarified – students are required to read one book during the first two weeks
43 they are back in session. A student may read the book over the summer if they choose to;
44 and will receive extra credit. Dr. Mohr spoke of MLA documentation and what that
45 entails.

1 **Monthly Budget Reports** – noted by Kathleen Sargent.

2
3 **Board Member Reports**

4
5 Deb Ryan – spoke of attending graduation ceremonies. She noted members of the public
6 could log onto rationalwisdom.com/pelhamschools to become involved in open
7 discussions and view all sides of the issues relating to Pelham schools.

8
9 Cindy Kyzer – congratulated all Pelham seniors.

10
11 Lorraine Dube – would like to find out if the Board would accept credits from virtual
12 classes – she would like to see a Policy regarding this.

13
14 Dr. Bass noted he has had discussions with Dr. Mohr regarding virtual credits and it is his
15 suggestion that she come before the board with recommendations.

16
17 Linda Mahoney – requested having the Pelham School Age Child Group on a future
18 agenda. She also requested seeing a typed like of any work that the maintenance
19 department would be performing during the summer months at all schools.

20
21 Eleanor Burton; Linda Mahoney and Lorraine Dube also congratulated graduating seniors.

22
23 **Future Meetings** – 7/15/2009 Business Meeting/7:00 PES; 7/29/09 Workshop
24 Meeting/7:00 PES.

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27 Motion to adjourn the public session at 9:30pm was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by
28 Lorraine Dube. 5-0.

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31 Respectfully Submitted – Diane Figaro