

1 APPROVED
2 **Pelham School Board**
3 **Budget Meeting – Public Session**
4 **January 30, 2008**
5 **Pelham Elementary School**
6

7 **School Board Members:** Bruce Couture, Chairman; Linda Mahoney;
8 Cindy Kyzer; Eleanor Burton; Michael Conrad
9 **Superintendent:** Dr. Frank Bass
10 **Assistant Superintendent:** Roxanne Wilson
11 **Business Administrator:** Kathleen Sargent
12 **Student Representative:** Scott Cloutier
13

14 Chairman Couture called the public session to order at 7:08 p.m. All those in attendance
15 stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.
16

17 **Good News**
18

19 At Pelham Elementary School, James Russo from Celine Jordan's Grade 5 class won the
20 Geography Bee which was held on January 10th. Mideya Lino from Sandy McCarthy's
21 Grade 5 class was the first runner up.
22

23 **Recycling Program**
24

25 Principal LaFrance discussed the beginning of a recycling program at the elementary
26 school. Amy Gilfoile, 4th grade teacher has the program off the ground and running. It
27 was stated that paper would be the focus of this year's recycling program. A company
28 called Paper Retriever will pay per tonnage for paper received. It was noted that this
29 would begin after February vacation, the kids would be involved and that large bins were
30 purchased for common areas along with classroom bins. It was noted that there would be
31 no profit this year because the bins would have to be paid for first.
32

33 Roxanne Wilson suggested Ms. Gilfoile consider writing for a PCM grant.
34

35 **Pelham Elementary School Geography Bee Winners**
36

37 Principal LaFrance introduces the runner-up in the Geography Bee, Mideya Lino. Dr.
38 Bass and Mrs. LaFrance discussed the level of difficulty that took place and noted visual
39 knowledge of the world also needed.
40

41 **Pelham Middle School Geography Winner and Spelling Bee Champion**
42

43 Jen Adams was the school wide winner of this contest. Vice Principal Adamakos spoke
44 of the student who now moves to the state level competition.
45
46

1 **School Board Appointment**

2
3 Chairman Couture discussed the resignation of Michael Conrad which was officially
4 announced in January. He noted that Mr. Conrad would stay on the Board until March.
5 Mr. Conrad would need to be reinstated for the rest of the term
6

7 Motion to appoint Michael Conrad to School Board to finish out the remainder of this
8 year until March, 11, 2008 was made by Cindy Kyzer with a 2nd by Eleanor Burton.
9 Approved 3-1.

10
11 Mr. Dunn instituted the *oath of reappointment* to Mr. Conrad.

12
13 **Approval of Minutes**

14
15 Motion to approve the non public minutes of January 16, 2008 was made by Cindy Kyzer
16 with a 2nd by Eleanor Burton. Approved 4-0-1 (Michael Conrad abstained)

17
18 Motion to approve as amended the public minutes from January 16, 2008 was made by
19 Linda Mahoney with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer. Approved 4-0-1 (Michael Conrad abstained).

20
21 Bruce Couture read aloud the manifests.

22
23 Motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made by Michael Conrad with a 2nd by Cindy
24 Kyzer. Approved 5-0.

25
26 **Superintendent Remarks**

27
28 Dr. Bass discussed the authorization of monies for the installation of security cameras at
29 all three schools. It was noted the total estimated cost would be \$15,000. This is for
30 equipment and labor. Kathleen Sargent noted she has received quotes for this project. It
31 was also stated there was approximately \$98,000.00 remaining for safety issues in the
32 budget.

33
34 Linda Mahoney made a formal request for information of what it has cost to date to fix
35 the life safety issues at the high school.

36
37 Dr. Bass made a recommendation that the Board approve the security camera installation
38 at this time.

39
40 Eleanor Burton requested that Chief Roarke come forward again to explain this project to
41 the public. It was noted they would have him come to the next meeting on February 20th
42 if possible. It was then noted that he could discuss this at Deliberative Session.

1 Motion that we accept the plan in place to install security devices at all three schools
2 from money that is in place in the budget for safety issues not to exceed \$15,000.00 was
3 made by Eleanor Burton with a 2nd by Linda Mahoney. Approved 5-0.

4
5 *Nurse Substitute Rate* – Dr. Bass discussed the rate and noted Human Resources has
6 requested that this be raised.

7
8 Linda Mahoney questioned how this would affect the Budget. Kathleen Sargent noted
9 that it should not affect the budget as it depends how many times per year the need to call
10 for substitutes is.

11
12 Eleanor Burton stated she did not think the increase should be beyond what is paid for
13 teacher substitutes.

14
15 Cindy Kyzer noted that RN's should make more money.

16
17 *Contract Issue* - Kathleen Sargent made a request that a member of the School Board sit
18 on the sick bank committee. It was noted that Human Resources is requesting this.

19
20 Michael Conrad suggested that Fran DeCinto come before the Board to explain this need.

21
22 Bruce Couture agreed to sit on the committee.

23
24 Lorraine Dube questioned if there would be compensation to said person for this purpose.
25 Bruce Couture responded that there is no compensation for this. Cindy Kyzer noted that
26 the Human Resources Director puts in a lot of extra time.

27
28 **Presentation of Policies/Reports**

29
30 Dr. Bass stated he will be bringing forth a consolidation of reports from various districts
31 regarding the search and seizure policy for Pelham. He will bring this forth at the
32 February 20th meeting along with a first pass of the student handbook for Pelham High
33 School.

34
35 Bruce Couture requested that each Board member review the present handbook prior to
36 the meeting.

37
38 Linda Mahoney suggested the *program of studies* be looked at also. Michael Conrad
39 suggested that dates and deadlines be also taken into effect.

40
41 **NECAP Results**

42
43 Roxanne Wilson noted the results were released yesterday. She stated they will use the
44 data to show how Pelham is doing compared to the state as a whole and compare them
45 year to year. She noted they are showing growth in reading math and writing are moving

1 ahead of the state average. She noted AYP will be coming out in February and that
2 targets have gone up. As a whole, the district has shown improvement.

3
4 The Board members commented that they were pleased with the way the report was
5 presented by Mrs. Wilson – noting it was easy to read and follow.

6 7 **SAT College Board Update**

8
9 Dr. Bass and Principal Mohr spoke of their work with the College Board in an effort to
10 better prepare high school students for the SAT and PSAT tests. Dr. Bass stated it is a
11 systematic approach that has to begin at the elementary and middle school levels. He
12 noted that time would be needed with faculty. He noted they are exploring the first steps
13 in this process.

14
15 Dr Mohr stressed they need to bring reading scores up. She commented on the
16 interesting summer reading program this past year and emphasized that students will need
17 to be challenged beyond their reading level – perhaps having students work in small
18 groups and returning to the classics.

19
20 Cindy Kyzer and Linda Mahoney agreed they were moving in the right direction. Mrs.
21 Mahoney further commented on Pelham’s historic SAT scores – noting they have been
22 low in the state.

23
24 Michael Conrad stated it will be important to show it across all three schools and that it
25 needs to start at the elementary level.

26
27 Roxanne Wilson noted they do use the Lexile Framework from the NWEA. She noted
28 that Windham is piloting a science test and will see how that goes.

29 30 **Student Withdrawals**

31
32 Dr. Bass presented data to the Board regarding student withdrawals.

33
34 Linda Mahoney noted her concern that there were 18 students since the beginning of the
35 school year that have dropped out or went to adult education.

36
37 Dr. Mohr stressed that Salem Adult Education is in fact a high school diploma and that
38 some students have tough choices to make – noting she encourages them to receive a
39 diploma through adult education rather than dropping out of high school.

40
41 Michael Conrad reminded the Board that they spoke of distributing an anonymous survey
42 to students regarding reasons for dropping out.

43
44 Eleanor Burton noted this is a situation in other communities as well and encouraged the
45 Principal to visit the students privately to discuss their situation.

46

1 Dr. Bass stated that there is clearly an opportunity for us to make greater strides for the
2 student – noting they can have personal conversations with students and parents. He
3 noted they will be working on it.

4
5 The Board discussed the ESOP Program – noting it was dropped due to space issues.
6 Cindy Kyzer reminded everyone that it was dropped due to the default budget but that
7 now there is an issue with space.

8 9 **Warrant Articles**

10
11 The Board discussed which member would be speaking about each Article at
12 Deliberative Session:

13
14 Articles 2, 3, 4 & 5 – Bruce Couture

15 Articles 6 & 7 – Linda Mahoney

16 Article 8 – Eleanor Burton

17 Article 9 – Michael Conrad

18 Articles 10 & 11 – Cindy Kyzer

19 Article 12 – St. Patrick’s School

20 Article 13 – Michael Conrad

21 Article #14 – Linda Mahoney

22 Article #15 – Cindy Kyzer

23 Article #16 – Linda Mahoney

24
25 Kathleen Sargent requested that the members review the *voters guide*. The Board
26 discussed mailing the *voter’s guide* to residents – noting they want to keep it simple and
27 to the point. It will be available for the February 20th meeting with the addition of the
28 district online address.

29 30 **Maintenance Issues**

31
32 Kathleen Sargent discussed the deterioration of well pumps – noting two new pumps
33 were installed. She also discussed a water pressure problem – noting the booster pump
34 also had to be replaced. She spoke of some corrosion in the well along with a block
35 heater in the garage that caught fire and needed repair. She noted the tractor also needed
36 repair and cannot be used for snow plowing. Mrs. Sargent stated the general amount for
37 wells will be \$25,000 – this will come out of the repair line.

38 39 **Budget Update**

40
41 Kathleen Sargent noted she is watching this closely and will report back in June.

42 43 **Assistant Superintendent Report**

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45 Roxanne Wilson spoke of teacher’s being nominated to administrative roles in Pelham.
46 She noted Michelle Viger is looking into administrative roles.

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Board Member Reports

Eleanor Burton – Professional Development met last week and the process is being received favorably by staff members. The 5th grade band presented their program and the high school is doing their variety show. The deliberative session in February 6, 2008.

Linda Mahoney – requested feedback from the credit cards that were recently authorized. Kathleen Sargent noted they are working very well and that people are following purchase order processes. The boy’s basketball team was congratulated for their recent game. Pelham Pythons bumper stickers were on sale at Hillside Country Store. The date for community night was discussed.

Bruce Couture – wished everybody a good run for office at the next election. Congratulated the spelling and geography bee participants and winners. Noted Deliberative Session will be held February 6th.

Michael Conrad – Deliberative Session is very important – noting voters can change wording and amounts from the floor. Gymnastics’ Club is doing very well. This Friday is the deadline to sign up to run for School Board positions – two are open this year. He requested hearing from the police regarding dog searches – noting he would like to give them the courtesy and opportunity to explain their need.

Future Meeting

February 6, 2008	Deliberative Session 7:00 pm/PES
February 13, 2008	Business Meeting (Cancelled)
February 20, 2008	Business Meeting 7:00 pm/PES

Motion to adjourn under RSA 91-A: 3II at 9:20 p.m. was made by Michael Conrad with a 2nd by Cindy Kyzer.

Respectfully submitted – Diane Figaro