

**Pelham School Board Meeting**  
**July 7, 2021**  
**Pelham Elementary School**  
**6:30 pm**

**In Attendance:**

**School Board Members:** Megan Larson, Chair; Troy Bressette, Vice-Chair; Thomas Gellar; Darlene Greenwood; and David Wilkerson

**Superintendent:** Chip McGee

**Assistant Superintendent:** Sarah Marandos

**Business Administrator:** Deb Mahoney

**Student Representative:** Lily Chafe

**In Attendance:** Beth Greenblatt, Managing Director of Beacon Integrated Solutions (virtual)

**1. Call to Order:**

Chair Megan Larson called the meeting to order and requested that everyone stand for The Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Larson mentioned that no one signed up for Public Input, but the Board received an email from someone who has been attending the meetings regularly. She said that the Board would have the email read into the meeting minutes, and the Board would then answer his questions during the discussion of the Reopening 2021 Plan.

**a. Public Input @ 6:31 pm:**

Troy Bressette read Mike Carter's email into the meeting minutes.

**i. Mike Carter, 19 Brandy Lane –**

I appreciate the early dissemination of the District reopening plan for community consumption.

There are few areas that I have some specific questions I am hoping the Board can address during the meeting or discussion of the plan:

The Level of School Impact matrix is confusing to me. Is the level (at the top – Low, Medium, High) determined if ANY of the criteria fall within that level? All of the criteria? Is this a high watermark designation? Please clarify how this chart determines the level of school impact. (example: If there are Zero or sporadic cases with no evidence of transmission within the schools, 15-30% absenteeism and staff capacity are considered critical.) What would the level of school impact be?

As a follow-up to this question. Why is staff capacity a determining factor for physical distancing and masks? How will these safety measures, if implemented, be able to allow us to operate in-person full time if our staffing capacity is considered 'critical.'

As a final follow-up to this question, are there % values to determine when the level of staff capacity is at each of the three categories (normal, strained, critical). I believe this information should be in the plan to eliminate ambiguity.

What is the District's methodology for determining 'clustering' in school settings? As stated in the plan on page 3: Over the course of the school year, NH-DHHS never identified evidence to conclude we had any transmission with the schools. This indicates that the District previously depended on the DHHS to make this determination based on a potential lack of epidemiological expertise. However, on page 6, the plan states:

52 The school nurse will no longer report cases, and the School Administration will no longer complete contact  
53 tracing.  
54

55 Can the Administration and Board clarify what has changed over the past year to enable nurses to  
56 determine ‘clustering’? Has training or certification been performed or achieved? I believe the methodology  
57 used to determine clustering should be included within the plan. Again, this is being requested to remove  
58 ambiguity.  
59

60 I would greatly appreciate a Board member reading this during public comment on my behalf and if answers  
61 to these questions could be provided. Thank you for all that you do in service to the community!  
62

63 Regards,  
64 Mike Carter

65 Public Input closed at 6:34 pm.  
66

67 Mr. Wilkerson entered the meeting at 6:38 pm.  
68

69 b. **Opening Remarks:**

70 i. **Student Representative:**

71 Lily Chafe mentioned that Athletic Director Todd Kress sent out an email to students regarding  
72 information for fall sports. The email contains a link that will take students to the Pelham Athletics  
73 website, and students may register for the fall sports. Ms. Chafe added that it was important that  
74 students who want to play football must register by August 13 and any other sport by August 16.  
75

76 Ms. Chafe stated that Ms. Koravos has sent out an email to students with a link to a spreadsheet that will  
77 allow students to sign up and volunteer for the Pelham Farmer’s Market on Saturdays. Ms. Koravos sent  
78 out the email for students who may need more community service hours.  
79

80 ii. **Superintendent:**

81 Superintendent Chip McGee commented that PES had a lightning strike at the building last week. He  
82 noted that the lightning did minor damage to the fire panel, which is why the PES library has the air-  
83 conditioning on full blast. Dr. McGee stated that the District has already filed a claim with its insurance  
84 company and is currently working through the repairs. Dr. McGee thanked Brian Sands for coming in and  
85 working on the issue on his first day as Facilities Director. He also thanked Ray Wilkins, PES Principal  
86 Jessica Van Vranken, and her staff. They made sure the building was safe, and this allowed ESY students to  
87 attend school today. Dr. McGee also thank Pelham Fire Inspector John Hodge for helping to make sure the  
88 PES could reopen safely.  
89

90 Dr. McGee commented that the District learned that Parent Conferences at the elementary level were  
91 improved by cycling parents in a group of five, which was better than having all the parents in one  
92 classroom at a time. The District has decided to maintain the meetings in groups of five.  
93

94 Dr. McGee recognized Tina Tanguay. He mentioned that Ms. Tanguay would be joining the District as an  
95 Administrator overseeing the PHS Guidance Department.  
96

97 **2. Presentations:**

98 a. **Solar Energy Generation:**

99 Superintendent Chip McGee introduced Managing Director Beth Greenblatt of Beacon Integrated Solutions.  
100 Dr. McGee mentioned that Ms. Greenblatt would represent the Pelham School District as an Owner's Agent in  
101 looking at the possibility of solar photovoltaic energy production. Ms. Greenblatt attended the meeting  
102 virtually.

103 Ms. Greenblatt commented that Beacon Integrated Solutions is a Massachusetts certified woman-owned  
104 energy management solutions firm helping clients optimize energy economics, optimize energy infrastructure,  
105 invest in environmental sustainability solutions, and participate in traditional and renewable energy markets.  
106

107 Ms. Greenblatt stated that Beacon Integrated Solutions core focus was in three areas:

- 108 i. Energy Efficiency and Energy Management Support
- 109 ii. Renewable Energy Solutions
- 110 iii. Commodity Advisory and Procurement Support

111

112 She has assisted the Pelham School District with commodity advisory and procurement support since 2014.

113

114 Ms. Greenblatt stated that on-site renewable energy solutions are successful when three essential objectives  
115 are achieved:

- 116 i. Economic Benefits
- 117 ii. Environmental Benefits
- 118 iii. Educational Benefits

119

120 She mentioned that when siting on rooftops, some considerations need to be given:

- 121 i. Orientation toward south and east
- 122 ii. Age of roof and remaining life and warranty
- 123 iii. Reserve weight capacity beyond snow load
- 124 iv. Penetrations

125

126 Ms. Greenblatt noted that there are several behind the meter benefits and considerations that the School  
127 District would want to think about:

128 i. Site the solar array on top of the roof and plug the solar array into the building or plug the solar array into  
129 the grid. If the District plugs the solar array into the building, they would be 'Spinning the meter  
130 backward.' If the District plugs the solar array into the building, this will help to avoid additional costs.

131

132 ii. If the District were to export electricity to the grid, Liberty Utilities would compensate the District under  
133 the Net Metering rules.

134

135 iii. Utility metering requirements.

136

137 iv. **Competitive Electricity Supply**

- 138 a. The District is under contract for competitive electricity supply through 2023.
- 139 b. The District needs to confirm that the behind-the-meter systems will not trigger any material  
140 change/deviation provisions if solar projects are implemented before November 2023.
- 141 c. The District needs to confirm whether electricity accounts must return to utility default service if  
142 participating in the Net Metering Program.

143

144 v. **Environmental Attributes**

- 145 a. Ownership of environmental attributes usually accrues to the owner of the solar array.

146

147 vi. **Education Benefits**

- 148 a. Electronic web-based dashboard near real-time generation data and calculated environmental  
149 benefits coming from the solar array.
- 150 b. Workshops and demonstrations

151

152 vii. Establish a Solar Energy Task Force with representation.

153 a. School Board Member

154 b. Town Official

155 c. Parent

- 156 d. Student
- 157 e. Teacher/Educator
- 158 f. Superintendent
- 159 g. Business Administrator
- 160 h. Director of Facilities
- 161 i. Owner's Agent
- 162
- 163 viii. Critical areas of focus:
- 164 a. Project goals
- 165 b. Ownership considerations (District versus third-party)
- 166 c. Siting considerations
- 167 d. Economic requirements
- 168 e. Operational considerations and schedules
- 169 f. Educational Requirements
- 170 g. Procurement options (sole source versus competitive procurement)

171 Ms. Greenblatt discussed the conceptual designs for PHS, PMS, and PES. She stated that the PHS has a sizeable  
172 array of 720 kW DC and resources. The existing PMS has an array of 199 kW DC, but that would increase after  
173 the renovation. The PES has an array of 312.9 kW DC.

174 She added that the next steps are for the District to create a Solar Energy Task Force, report recommendations  
175 through the Superintendent for School Board consideration, and meet budgetary schedule deadlines for FY  
176 2023.

177 Troy Bressette thanked Ms. Greenblatt for her time and patience. He mentioned that he appreciated her  
178 objectives of Economic Benefits, Environmental Benefits, and Educational Benefits. Mr. Bressette stated  
179 that he appreciated the conceptual designs of the three schools, and he believed that the solar arrays would  
180 be able to produce about half of the District's energy consumption.

181 Tom Gellar asked if anyone knew what the estimated energy consumption number for the School District was.  
182 Ms. Greenblatt stated that the annual kilowatt hours' consumption is around two million kilowatt-hours per  
183 year. She noted that once the renovation is complete, the number of kilowatt-hours per year will increase.

184 Megan Larson mentioned that this is not the first time that the District has talked about solar, and in the past,  
185 it has not worked out. Business Administrator Deb Mahoney commented that whenever she mentions talking  
186 to the energy consultant, she is referring to Ms. Greenblatt.

187 Mr. Gellar asked if School Districts the size of Pelham typically export the energy back to the grid or store the  
188 energy. Ms. Greenblatt stated that based on the Pelham School Districts' energy requirements versus what  
189 will be generated. The information will allow the District to understand what it can absorb and what can be  
190 exported.

191 **3. Main Issues / Policy Updates:**

192 **a. Reopening 2021 Plan:**

193 Superintendent Chip McGee commented that putting together the Reopening 2021 Plan was a lot of work,  
194 and he thanked everyone who helped put together the plan. Dr. McGee thanked the members of the  
195 following subcommittees:

196 **i. Teaching and Learning**

197 (Assistant Superintendent Sarah Marandos; Parent Iris O'Donnell PMS; Parent Christina Tetreault – PHS;  
198 Student Shaelyn Bonaparte, Class of 2022; Teacher Tracy Hussey PES; and Principal Stacy Maghakian PMS)

- 209 ii. **Health and Safety**
- 210 (Director of Human Resources Joan Cote; Parent Ralph Cantacesso – PHS; Parent Joshua Glynn – PES;
- 211 Student Madison Gillis, Class of 2023; School Nurse Assistant Nicole MacKinnon; Pelham School Board
- 212 Member Megan Larson; and Parent Lisa Celata – PMS)
- 213
- 214 iii. **Operations**
- 215 (Business Administrator Deb Mahoney; Parent Ronald Campbell – PES; Teacher Nisha Padhye, PHS;
- 216 Instructional Assistant Donna Dailey; Principal Jessica VanVranken PES; and Director of Technology Lee
- 217 Depres)
- 218
- 219 iv. **Social-Emotional Impacts**
- 220 (Director of Special Services Brendan Hoffman; Parent Laurie White – PES; Teacher Lisa Stevens PMS;
- 221 Instructional Coach Patti Lamontagne; Principal Dawn Mead PHS; and Student Shaelyn Bonaparte Class of
- 222 2022)
- 223

224 Dr. McGee started reviewing the Reopening 2021 Plan by going over some of the critical elements of the plan  
 225 for reopening the Pelham School District in the fall of 2021. The key elements are:

- 226 i. The goal is to have a school year as close to normal as possible.
- 227 ii. Face coverings will be optional.
- 228 iii. Physical distancing will not be required.
- 229 iv. Many activities will return to a pre-pandemic approach.
- 230 v. Everyone who enters our building will be required to self-screen.
- 231 vi. People with COVID-19 will be excluded.
- 232 vii. The District will continue following hand sanitation, cleaning, and ventilation guidelines.
- 233

234 Superintendent McGee stated that similar to last year, the key will be communication. He noted that the  
 235 Superintendent would serve as the primary point of contact for communications regarding the pandemic. Dr.  
 236 McGee added that the District would remain committed to communicating with the community through email  
 237 if any person, while in school, has a confirmed case of COVID-19. He added that the District would continue to  
 238 find the necessary balance between privacy and safety.

239  
 240 Dr. McGee mentioned that the priorities for the Reopening 2021 Plan are similar to the Reopening 2020 Plan.  
 241 The difference this year is that the Task Force added ‘Focus on Pelham’ to the priority list. The District will  
 242 continue to use the NH-DHHS as a source for data.

- 243 i. Safety First
- 244 ii. Be in School
- 245 iii. Data Drives Our Decisions
- 246 iv. Be Flexible; Offer Choice
- 247 v. Be Equitable and Personalized
- 248 vi. Focus on Pelham
- 249

250 Dr. McGee stated that he would not provide his regular pandemic update. He highlighted, as of the meeting,  
 251 the Level of Community Transmission. The PCR test positivity rate for Hillsborough County, not including  
 252 Nashua, is 0.8%. Dr. McGee stated that to go from Low to Medium is 5%. The new infections per 100,000  
 253 population in the prior 14 days is 11, and the cutoff is 50.

254  
 255 The PCR test positivity rate for Pelham is zero. The new infections per 100,000 population in the prior 14 days  
 256 is zero.

257  
 258 **Health and Safety**

259 Dr. McGee said the District would not require physical distancing and masks. Self-screening and hand  
 260 sanitation will be necessary. Because the District is abiding by these guidelines, the following will occur:

- 261 i. Regular capacity on buses.

- 262 ii. Regular use of lockers.
- 263 iii. Regular meals in the cafeteria.
- 264 iv. Regular movement of students to different classes.
- 265 v. Group work in classrooms.
- 266 vi. Shared supplies as needed.
- 267

268 Dr. McGee commented that the District would not require COVID-19 vaccination for attendance for the 2021-  
269 22 school year, and the District will not "tether" vaccinations to mask-wearing. This means that students who  
270 have not received a COVID-19 vaccine will not be required to wear a mask. Also, students who have not  
271 received a COVID-19 vaccine will not be required to occupy different physical spaces.

272  
273 **Self-Screening**

274 Dr. McGee mentioned that self-screening would look very similar to the self-screening from last year. He  
275 added that it is easy to anticipate the upcoming cold and flu season, and the District needs to make sure it  
276 handles both false positives and false negatives.

277  
278 The staff and students will continue to have daily hand washing routines whenever possible.

279  
280 **Possible COVID-19 Cases**

281 Dr. McGee stated that the NH-DHHS has said, 'no longer are schools expected to do contact tracing for  
282 positive cases in school.' The only contact tracing that NH-DHHS requires is at home, and this means that if  
283 there is a positive COVID-19 case in the home, then the contact tracing must occur in the home. If there is a  
284 positive case within the school, the Superintendent will inform the entire community by email.

285  
286 **Operations**

- 287 i. Cleaning, Food Service, and Transportation will be provided much like it was before the pandemic.
- 288 ii. Ventilation – The District will have enough HEPA filters for all Student-Teacher spaces next year. Dr.  
289 McGee mentioned that the School Board has committed to installing AC on the second floor and in the  
290 cafeteria at PES. The project is expected to be completed in June 2022.
- 291 iii. Other –
  - 292 a. The District will leave bubblers off until national standards change.
  - 293 b. The District will allow the use of lockers.
  - 294 c. The District will no longer require one-way directions in hallways and stairs.
  - 295 d. The District will purchase sufficient cleaning supplies and hand washing and sanitizing supplies for  
296 staff and student use.
  - 297 e. The District will reopen school facilities to visitors and outside group use/rent, nights, weekends, and  
298 school break as they did pre-pandemic.
  - 299 f. The District will consider overnight trips.

300  
301 **Teaching and Learning**

- 302 i. **Technology**  
303 The District will continue its commitment to Google Classroom as the standard platform for students  
304 to access information. Google Classroom is the Pelham School District's primary platform.
- 305  
306 ii. **Remote Option**  
307 The Pelham School District will use New Hampshire Virtual Learning Academy School (VLACS) as its  
308 primary remote option.
- 309  
310 iii. **'Learning Loss'**  
311 The District will address gaps with instruction for those students who need help. The District has already  
312 implemented a voluntary summer program and will offer after-school support for students who need  
313 more help. Dr. McGee added that Federal Funds would be used to include a late bus.
- 314

315 **iv. Other Changes**  
316 Dr. McGee stated that the other changes are mainly technical, and the information will be included in the  
317 Family Guide for Reopening.  
318

319 **Social-Emotional Impacts**

320 The District will continue to use Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL).

321 The three signature practices for CASEL are:

- 322
- 323 i. **Universal Interventions (Tier 1)** – All students receive this intervention.
  - 324
  - 325 ii. **Targeted Interventions (Tier 2)** – Small group targeted interventions will be designed to meet the needs  
326 of students for whom the universal interventions are not sufficient.
  - 327
  - 328 iii. **Intensive Interventions (Tier 3)** – These more intensive interventions are designed to meet the needs of  
329 students who require individualized interventions. These interventions may include but are not limited to  
330 Individual Counseling and Referrals to Community Mental Health or other providers.  
331

332 **Future Decision Making**

333 Dr. McGee mentioned that he hoped that the District could put the pandemic in the rearview mirror. He  
334 added that it is a good idea to plan for the possibility of the pandemic returning to be safe. The District has a  
335 plan about how to make decisions if circumstances change.  
336

337 Dr. McGee reviewed the metric scales with the Board. He noted that the Superintendent would make all the  
338 operational decisions, but the School Board would continue to oversee every decision being made. The metric  
339 scale for the school year 2021-2022 will include both Hillsborough County (excluding Nashua) and Pelham  
340 data. The data will help the District make decisions regarding physical distancing, masks, and remote learning.  
341

342 Dr. McGee noted that going forward, if a student has a positive case of COVID-19, it will be the family's  
343 responsibility to contact trace. The NH-DHHS will not require contact tracing and exclusions of students  
344 exposed while in school. Ms. Larson provided an example of a student testing positive for COVID-19 and how  
345 the District is not responsible, per NH-DHHS, for informing anyone in that student's class. The District will only  
346 inform the community that a student within the Pelham School District has a positive case of COVID-19.  
347

348 Mr. Bressette asked how the District will determine 'clusters' in the School District without using contact  
349 tracing. Dr. McGee stated that the District would not place the burden on the School Nurses, and the District  
350 will instead use the School Liaison from the NH-DHHS and rely on their expertise to determine if there is a  
351 'cluster.'  
352

353 Dr. McGee stated that a 'cluster' is defined as three or more individuals confirmed with COVID-19 who are  
354 part of a related group of individuals who had the potential to transmit the infection to each other through  
355 close contact within the last 14 days. Two or more clusters are defined as those with onset within 14 days of  
356 each other.  
357

358 Dr. McGee mentioned that the School District would not be reporting positive COVID-19 test results to the  
359 State unless there is a positive case in the school. He noted that the families would report any positive COVID-  
360 19 tests.  
361

362 Ms. Greenwood asked if the Town of Pelham had hired a Health Officer. Dr. McGee stated that the Town had  
363 not filled the position, but Ms. McGlynn has offered her services to help the District remotely until the position  
364 is filled.  
365

366 Mr. Gellar asked if anything was going to be done to identify learning loss during the school day. Dr. McGee  
367 mentioned that most of the recovery from the learning loss would occur during the school day, and he added

368 that the teachers are used to students starting the school year on different levels of preparedness. Ms. Larson  
369 noted that PES and PMS have blocks of time built into the schedules to allow teachers to work with students  
370 regarding their learning loss. Dr. McGee confirmed that Social-Emotional Learning would be a priority right out  
371 of the gate.

372  
373 Mr. Bressette commented that responding in a dynamic environment is essential, but the absence of time-  
374 frames in which decisions are made caught his eye, and he wanted to know if the time-frames were something  
375 that would be addressed. Dr. McGee mentioned that creating a timeline was something that he tried to do,  
376 but he found that he could not do what he wanted within the allotted time frame. Dr. McGee added that  
377 providing families with a time frame would be false, and he acknowledged that every family does better with  
378 advance notice. Dr. McGee noted that he does not want to make rapid changes because they are too  
379 disruptive to the families and do not help the public health issue.

380  
381 Dr. McGee commented that Mr. Carter had asked about the Level of School Impact Matrix and how the three  
382 indicators combine. Dr. McGee mentioned that the NH-DHHS defines this as 'whichever is highest in the  
383 overall definition.' He requested that the Board not follow that definition and allow the District to be more  
384 flexible and steady. Mr. Carter's next question was, 'why is staff capacity a determining factor for physical  
385 distancing and masks?' Dr. McGee stated that if the District has a staffing capacity issue, then physical  
386 distancing and masks will not be the answer. Mr. Carter's follow-up question was, 'Are there % values to  
387 determine when the level of staff capacity is at each of the three categories?' Dr. McGee stated there are no  
388 percent values, and using percent values would limit the flexible capacity to stay open.

389  
390 Mr. Carter's next question was 'what is the District's methodology for determining 'clustering' in school  
391 settings?' Dr. McGee stressed that the NH-DHHS would address clustering through the School Liaison and not  
392 by the School Nurses.

393  
394 Mr. Bressette mentioned that the Decision Grid reads 'Masks and Distancing' when the Level of School Impact  
395 is 'High,' and the Level of Community Transmission is 'Minimal.' He wanted to know if there was something  
396 that could be eliminated or revised. Dr. McGee agreed that the Decision Grid could be changed to read  
397 'Emphasis on Pelham Data.'

398  
399 Dr. McGee commented that the Decision Grid was a version of the Family Choice Model versus Primarily  
400 Remote Learning. He noted that masks and physical distancing would be put in place if there was a substantial  
401 Level of Community Transmission, and if the Level of Community Transmission were moderate, there would  
402 have to be a subjective decision made. Dr. McGee added that the District would look at Pelham data when  
403 making subjective decisions.

404  
405 Mr. Bressette mentioned that decisions needed to be made regarding VLACS and the GPA calculation. He  
406 asked how early families would need to make decisions and how it would be helpful to provide the timing for  
407 the decisions. Dr. McGee stated that the District would provide families with information as quickly as  
408 possible, pending the approval of the Reopening 2021 Plan. Dr. McGee commented that the District did not  
409 set a deadline for families to enroll with VLACS, and the District is assuming the students will remain with the  
410 Pelham School District unless otherwise informed.

411  
412 Assistant Superintendent Sarah Marandos said that VLACS has agreed to do informational sessions for parents  
413 interested in learning about the content and curriculum of VLACS. She added that the District would provide  
414 parents with contact information for VLACS once the parents contact the Administration.

415  
416 The Board discussed how VLACS works, how the student's transcript is forwarded to the Pelham School  
417 District, and how the student receives instruction from VLACS. Dr. Marandos mentioned that the partnership  
418 between VLACS and the Pelham School District offers counseling through VLACS and progress monitoring by  
419 the Pelham School District Counselors. She added that the counseling service provided by VLACS would  
420 provide the parents and students with course information.



421 Dr. McGee stated that the MOA with PESPA and PEA expired at the end of the Fiscal Year and commented that  
422 he had not been contacted by either PESPA or PEA about a new MOA but added that this did not mean an  
423 MOA would not happen. Dr. McGee mentioned that on Wednesday, July 14, the District would have a  
424 community presentation of the Reopening 2021 Plan. The presentation will occur on ZOOM.

425  
426 Mr. Bressette made a procedural request and asked Dr. McGee to list the revisions that the Board provided.  
427 He added that the Board could then approve the Reopening 2021 Plan, as amended, based on the Board's  
428 discussion. Dr. McGee said the only change that he heard was regarding the Decision Grid. He will change  
429 'Masks and Distancing' to 'Emphasis on Pelham Data' regarding High Level of School Impact and Minimal Level  
430 of Community Transmission.

431  
432 Mr. Bressette motioned to approve the Reopening 2021 Plan, as amended. Mr. Wilkerson seconded the motion.  
433 The motion passed (5-0-0).

- 434  
435 b. **Pelham Memorial School Project Update:**
- 436 i. **Building Committee**  
437 Superintendent Chip McGee said that the Building Committee had their second meeting. The  
438 groundbreaking celebration date is set for Saturday, September 25. The Building Committee looked at  
439 Phase I and the pick-up and the drop-off of students.
  - 440  
441 ii. **Pre-Construction**
    - 442 a. Bids for the site work are under review by BP&S.
    - 443 b. The Project Management Team is dealing with temporary storage issues, and they are dealing with  
444 moving the books and musical instruments out of the portables.
    - 445 c. Steel bids are going to be issued by July 15.
  - 446  
447 iii. **Design**
    - 448 a. Temporary septic and water connections across gas lines are ready for when the portables are  
449 moved.
    - 450 b. Bonnette, Page and Stone reconfigured the Phase I construction to allow access for food service  
451 deliveries and improved access to the front of the building.
  - 452  
453 iv. **Planning and Permitting**
    - 454 a. The Alteration of Terrain (AoT) permit was approved.
    - 455 b. The Project Management Team presented the plans at the Planning Board meeting. The Team was  
456 reminded to be careful with the new sidewalks along Marsh Road.
  - 457  
458 v. **Price Escalation**
    - 459 a. Dr. McGee mentioned that the Project Management Team is looking at bids for steel and foundation.  
460 He was informed of the impact that the Amazon corporation construction projects have had on steel  
461 prices. The order for steel may be postponed until the steel prices come back down.

462  
463 Business Administrator Deb Mahoney mentioned that the packet for the bond sale would arrive either on July  
464 14 or 15. Ms. Mahoney added that she would need the members of the Board to stop by the SAU late on July  
465 15 or on the 16 to sign the documents. Ms. Mahoney will send an email out to the Board when the documents  
466 are received. Ms. Mahoney stressed that she needs every member of the Board to sign the documents. Mr.  
467 Bressette asked Ms. Mahoney to look into the use of PandaDoc, in case of conflicts.

- 468  
469 c. **Student Performance Indicators SAT and NH State Assessment System (SAS):**  
470 Assistant Superintendent Sarah Marandos stated that she was presenting the New Hampshire State  
471 Assessment System and the SAT Benchmarks. She mentioned that the student's performance on these tests  
472 provides the District with a way to measure students' progress. Dr. Marandos acknowledged that the

473 assessments were disrupted by COVID-19 but noted that the District has enough information to decide where  
474 improvement is needed.

475  
476 Dr. Marandos commented that the report helps to set goals for the next school year and to help prioritize the  
477 investments in the Fiscal Year 2023 budget. She added that the District would continue to analyze the results  
478 based on the school, the grade, and the student.

479  
480 Dr. Marandos said that the NH-SAS measures student performance in reading, writing, and mathematics for  
481 grades three through eight. The NH-SAS is based on the State established standards for grades three through  
482 eight, and she noted that there are three caveats for this year's testing.

- 483 i. NH-SAS was not offered in 2019 -2020 because of the pandemic.
- 484 ii. Statewide data will be for the 2021 administration in September.
- 485 iii. Fewer students were assessed in the spring of 2021 because the State did not offer a remote option.

486  
487 Dr. Marandos stated that the trend has been for fewer students to meet the standard over the last four years.  
488 She acknowledged that the data provided a starting point for the District. The District has analyzed the data  
489 and decided to focus on mathematics, and she added that the District was prioritizing mathematics before the  
490 pandemic. Dr. Marandos mentioned that the percentages were based on the number of students who took  
491 the test.

492  
493 The Board discussed possible reasons for the decline, and one of the reasons provided was that fewer  
494 students took the test in 2021 than in a typical school year. Dr. Marandos mentioned that parents could sign a  
495 form to have their child opt-out of taking the assessment. She commented that a typical school year has one  
496 or two opt-outs, and this year there were many opt-outs.

497  
498 Dr. Marandos stated that New Hampshire uses the SAT as a State Assessment for juniors. She noted that the  
499 SAT is taken during the school day so that all juniors can take the test. There are two benchmarks for the SAT:

- 500 i. Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (ERW) consists of:
  - 501 a. History
  - 502 b. Literature
  - 503 c. Social Science
  - 504 d. Writing
- 505
- 506 ii. Mathematics consists of:
  - 507 a. Algebra
  - 508 b. Statistics
  - 509 c. Pre-Calculus
  - 510 d. Calculus

511  
512 Dr. Marandos mentioned that the 2019 SAT was offered to seniors in September 2020. She commented that  
513 the ERW results showed Pelham slightly below or matching the State performance for all three years. The  
514 results from mathematics showed Pelham was below the State performance for all three years, and she noted  
515 that results reinforced the prioritization towards mathematics.

516  
517 Dr. Marandos stated that the combined results show that Pelham students in 2021, for the first time, matched  
518 the Statewide level of readiness for college. Ms. Larson asked if this was the first year that students took the  
519 tests on a computer, and Dr. Marandos confirmed that students are now required to take the tests on  
520 Chromebooks.

521  
522 The Board discussed what the District is doing to help students and teachers and what needs to be done to  
523 assist the teachers and students. They also talked about how to measure improvement and set goals for the  
524 next school year.

525

526 d. **Solar Energy Task Force:**  
527 Superintendent Chip McGee mentioned that he was not proposing a subcommittee of the Board. He  
528 requested input from the Board and a consensus that the Solar Energy Task Force is a good place to start.  
529

530 **Solar Energy Task Commitment**  
531 **Commitment:**

- 532 i. An initial meeting in the week of August 2.
- 533 ii. Meetings will be bi-weekly through August and September of 2021.
- 534 iii. Meetings will be remote to reduce drive times for members.
- 535 iv. Members will need to allow for two to three hours for homework per week.
- 536 v. The report will be presented to the School Board at a September 2021 meeting.

537  
538 **Membership:**

- 539 i. School Board Member Selected by the School Board
- 540 ii. Town Official Selected by the Board of Selectmen
- 541 iii. Parent - Selected by the PES PTSA
- 542 iv. Student- Selected by the PHS Principal
- 543 v. Teacher/Educator Selected by the PEA
- 544 vi. Superintendent Chip McGee
- 545 vii. Business Administrator Deb Mahoney
- 546 viii. Director of Facilities Brian Sands
- 547 ix. Owner's Agent ex officio

548  
549 The Board agreed that the Task Force was a good idea. Troy Bressette mentioned that the Solar Task Force  
550 looked great, and he is excited about the prospects. He asked why the parent was going to be selected by the  
551 PES PTSA. Dr. McGee stated that was how they were organized, and he was hoping to get an elementary  
552 parent who would stick around for a long time. Mr. Bressette also expressed his interest in being part of the  
553 Task Force.  
554

555 e. **School Handbooks:**

556 Superintendent Chip McGee thanked the Principals, who were provided a deadline of June 30, and they were  
557 able to complete the handbooks by the deadline. He noted that he gave them direction to present the  
558 handbooks separate from the Reopening 2021 Plan. Dr. McGee stated there would be a Reopening Guide this  
559 year similar to the one from last year. He requested the Board provide feedback tonight, and he can bring  
560 back the finalized handbooks at the retreat.  
561

- 562 i. PES Handbook  
563 The Board reviewed the PES Handbook and provided suggested corrections.  
564
- 565 ii. PMS Handbook  
566 The Board reviewed the PMS Handbook and provided suggested corrections.  
567
- 568 iii. PHS Handbook  
569 The Board reviewed the PHS Handbook and provided suggested corrections.  
570

571 f. **Policy Revision:**

572 **Policy Revision – First Reading:**

573 The School Board reviewed the policies listed below.  
574

- 575 i. Policy DIA – Disaster Recovery - Rescind  
576
- 577 ii. Policy EHAB – Data Governance and Security  
578

579 iii. Policy DO/DIA – Fund Balance - Recode

580

581 iv. Policy EEAA – Video Surveillance on School Property

582

583 **Policy Revision – Second Reading:**

584 The School Board reviewed the policies listed below.

585

586 i. Policy IGE – Parental Objection to Specific Course Material

587 Dr. McGee confirmed that all the curriculum would be accessible via the website.

588

589 ii. Policy IHBG – Home Education Instruction and Access to Curricular and Co-Curricular Programs

590

591 Mr. Bressette motioned to approve those policies presented for the second reading. Mr. Wilkerson seconded the  
592 motion. The motion passed (5-0-0).

593

594 Mr. Gellar motioned to add an agenda item to discuss the July and August Manifests. Mr. Bressette seconded the  
595 motion. The motion passed (5-0-0)

596 **4. July and August Manifests:**

597 Business Administrator Deb Mahoney mentioned that the Board would have a large gap between this meeting  
598 and the next School Board meeting. She said that there would be a manifest drafted on July 21, and she  
599 requested that the signers sign off on the manifest. The signed document will then be added to the packet for  
600 the next School Board meeting.

601

602 **5. Board Member Reports:**

603 i. No Board Member Reports

604

605 **6. Housekeeping:**

606 a. **Adoption of Minutes:**

607 i. June 16, 2021 – School Board Meeting Public Minutes

608

609 Mr. Gellar motioned to adopt the Public Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2021; Mr. Bressette seconded the motion.

610 The motion passed (4-0-1) (Mr. Wilkerson abstained)

611

612 b. **Vendor and Payroll Manifests:**

613 i. 128 \$390,724.91 (signed)

614 ii. PAY128P \$14,680.89 (signed)

615 iii. AP062821 \$258,415.25 (signed)

616 iv. 129 \$269,556.24

617 v. PAY129P \$579,182.65

618 vi. PAY129M \$0.00

619 vii. AP062821 \$131,704.77

620 viii. 201 \$136,130.84

621 ix. PAY129 \$4,695.29

622 x. AP070721 \$1,897,330.41

623 Mr. Bressette made a motion to approve the Vendor and Payroll Manifests, as presented. Mr. Wilkerson seconded  
624 the motion. The motion passed (5-0-0)

625

626 c. **Correspondence & Information:**

627 i. None

628

629

630

631 d. **Enrollment Report:**  
632 i. Superintendent Chip McGee commented that he looked into the two W-27 withdrawals from PHS. Dr.  
633 McGee stated that one senior transferred to an adult education program, and the other entered the  
634 workforce. Dr. McGee will see if he can do anything to help the senior who entered the workforce.  
635

636 e. **Staffing Updates:**

637 i. **Leaves:**

638 a. None

639 ii. **Resignations/Retirements:**

640 a. Peter Tselios PES UA Teacher

641  
642 Dr. McGee mentioned that Mr. Tselios, Unified Arts Teacher from PES, was recruited away and will be very  
643 much missed.

644 Mr. Bressette motioned to accept the resignation of Kathryn Tselios. Mr. Wilkerson seconded the motion. The  
645 motion passed (5-0-0)

646

647 iii. **Nominations:**

648 a. Chelsey Grant PES School Counselor  
649 b. Kelly McNight PES Special Education Teacher  
650 c. Lauren Boulter PHS Special Education Teacher  
651 d. Tina Tanguay PHS Deputy Assistant Principal  
652 e. Madeline Perry District Speech Language Pathologist

653

654 Mr. Bressette motioned to accept the nominations as listed. Mr. Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion  
655 passed (5-0-0)

656

657 **7. Future Agenda Planning:**

658 a. None

659

660 **8. Future Meetings:**

661 a. 08/11/2021 – 5:30 pm School Board Retreat  
662 b. 08/18/2021 – 6:30 pm School Board Meeting @ PES Library

663

664 **9. Adjournment:**

665 Mr. Bressette made a motion to adjourn the School Board Meeting at 9:15 pm. Mr. Wilkerson seconded the  
666 motion. The motion passed (5-0-0)

667

668

669 Respectfully Submitted,  
670 Matthew Sullivan  
671 School Board Recording Secretary