

**Pelham School Board Meeting
September 15, 2021
Pelham Elementary School
6:30 pm**

In Attendance:

School Board Members: 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

Absent: Megan Larson, Chair

Also in Attendance: Brian Sands, Director of Facilities; Holly Doe, Director of Technology; and Brendan Hoffman, Director of Student Services

1. Call to Order:

Vice-Chair Troy Bressette called the meeting to order and requested that everyone stand for The Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Public Input @ 6:31 pm:

None

Public Input closed at 6:32 pm.

b. Opening Remarks:

Student Representative:

Lily Chafe commented that the School District had an early release for the students today. She mentioned that on September 18 and 19, the Town will celebrate 'Old Home Day,' and next week is 'Homecoming-Spirit Week.' Ms. Chafe stated that one of the events next week is the 'Canned Food Drive,' she noted that if students bring in food, they can receive points for their Advisory.

Ms. Chafe commented that Friday, October 15, is the 'Turn Out the Lights on Pediatric Cancer' football game. The 'Blackout' shirts are still available online and will be sold at all PHS events.

Ms. Chafe mentioned that Math Lab is returning to PHS and will usually occur during Advisory on Tuesday through Friday in Room 114. She added that the Art Club is starting up, and the club is starting next Monday, September 20, from 2:30 pm until 3:30 pm in Room 5. The students can also go after school for math support on Wednesday or Thursday in the library from 2:30 pm until 3:30 pm.

Superintendent:

Superintendent Chip McGee commented that this weekend is 'Old Home Day' and will be the first one he sees in Pelham. Dr. McGee noted that next weekend is the groundbreaking ceremony at PMS. The ceremony will be in front of PMS at 1:00 pm. The ceremony will have speakers, music and an ice-cream truck.

Dr. McGee mentioned that the second half of today's early release was used as a Professional Development Day for the Teachers. The District had an in-house presentation on using student data out of IReady to personalize the mathematics instruction. He noted that the District was sending home free and reduced lunch

52 applications and the lunches are at no cost for anyone this year. Dr. McGee stressed that parents and
53 guardians fill out the application because it is beneficial for the District.
54

55 Dr. McGee mentioned that he was overwhelmed today by what the Boys' Soccer Team did. He mentioned
56 how Bow, NH lost two students in a car accident in Concord, NH, and the father is still gravely injured. The
57 Pelham soccer team made shirts with the name Ouelette on the back of the shirts. He added that the gesture
58 meant a lot to the residents of Bow.
59

60 **2. Presentations:**

- 61 a. No Presentations
62

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

- 64 a. **The Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Presentation:**
65

66 **Brian Sands, Director of Facilities:**

67 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette invited Brian Sands, Director of Facilities, to present his budget. Mr. Sands thanked
68 Business Administrator Deb Mahoney and Facilities and Technology Administrative Assistant Karen Churchill
69 for helping to prepare the budget. Mr. Bressette went over the best way to present the budget and asked Mr.
70 Sands to allow the Board to ask questions after each page.
71

72 DW - Facilities Operations

73 Mr. Sands mentioned that line item 580, Travel and Mileage has a requested budget of \$4,300 to cover the
74 cost of attending the National SchoolDude Conference. SchoolDude is the software that the District uses to
75 allow Facilities Management to work tickets. Tom Gellar asked if this was a one-time event or an annual
76 conference. Mr. Sands stated that it is helpful to attend the conference annually.
77

78 DW – Building Services

79 Mr. Sands mentioned that line item 275, Workshops Non-Union has a requested budget of \$1,650. He
80 commented that the increase was to help pay for the Science of Cleaning Online Training Class for custodial
81 onboarding. The course would go over procedures in cleaning and why the District does what it does.
82

83 Mr. Sands commented that line item 446, Rental/Lease Software has a requested budget of \$8,500. The
84 increase would cover the license fee for the SchoolDude software.
85

86 Mr. Gellar asked why there was a decrease in line item 330, Professional Services budget of \$4,720? Ms.
87 Mahoney stated that the District carried a budget for Solar Investigation, and the line item is level budgeted
88 except for the Solar Investigation.
89

90 Ms. Mahoney commented that line item 521, Insurance Property and Liability has an increase of \$5,158. She
91 mentioned that the District usually has a cap that Primax would provide, but the cap agreement has expired.
92 She noted that a 10% increase is an appropriate amount.
93

94 Mr. Sands stated that line item 626, Gasoline/Diesel, has a proposed budget of \$2,000. He noted that the
95 increase was to cover the expected cost for fuel in the future.
96

97 PES – Building Services

98 Ms. Mahoney mentioned that line item 411, Utilities-Water is where the District starts the budget for the
99 utilities, water, septic, and disposal for PES. She noted that they budgeted for the current billing of water plus
100 the inflationary rate. The septic and disposal are level budgeted in all three school buildings. David Wilkerson
101 asked how often the District has the septic pumped? Ms. Mahoney commented that she thought it was twice
102 a year, and Mr. Sands agreed.
103
104

105 Mr. Sands commented that line item 430, Repairs and Maintenance has a requested budget of \$21,640. The
106 amount reflected a one cent per square foot increase in General Repairs and Maintenance. Ms. Mahoney said
107 that she would correct the memo regarding a significant decrease due to the allocation of money online 430.
108

109 Mr. Sands stated that line item 432, Boiler Repair and Maintenance has a proposed budget of \$12,582. He
110 mentioned that the increase was caused by an annual water treatment contract and a rooftop equipment
111 maintenance plan.
112

113 Mr. Sands mentioned that line item 610, Supplies has a requested budget of \$49,799. He stated that the
114 increase is to help cover the incremental rise in costs. Ms. Mahoney commented that line item 622, Utilities –
115 Electric, and line item 623, Utilities – Natural Gas, are estimates because FY2020 and FY2021 were not typical
116 years. Ms. Mahoney stated that she wanted the Board to know that she would review the electricity and
117 natural gas numbers and modify the budget. Mr. Bressette asked if Ms. Mahoney would have the numbers
118 finalized by the meeting on September 29? Ms. Mahoney confirmed that the Superintendent's Budget would
119 have the actual totals.
120

121 Mr. Sands said that line item 734, Equipment – Additional has a proposed budget of \$2,000. The increase will
122 be used to purchase two additional pieces of custodial equipment. He mentioned that line item 738,
123 Equipment – Replacement, has a requested budget of \$19,877 to replace the fire alarm control panel. Mr.
124 Bressette stated that he understood that this to mean that PES has a fully functional fire alarm control panel
125 at present. Furthermore, Ms. Greenwood asked if this was the cause of the lightning strike? Mr. Sands
126 confirmed that the lightning-caused the issue with the fire alarm control panel.
127

128 PMS – Building Services

129 Ms. Mahoney said that line item 411, Utilities – Water is the same 10% increase based on the current year and
130 inflation rate.
131

132 Mr. Sands stated that line item 430, Repairs and Maintenance has a proposed budget of \$11,089. The increase
133 is caused by carrying a one cent per square foot increase for Buildings Maintenance. He added that half of this
134 is carried over to the Non-Instructional – Equipment like the other two schools.
135

136 Mr. Sands stated that line item 432, Boiler Repair and Maintenance has a proposed budget of \$11,200. He
137 mentioned that the increase was caused by an annual water treatment contract and a rooftop equipment
138 maintenance plan.
139

140 Mr. Sands mentioned that line item 610, Supplies has a requested budget of \$25,515. He stated that the
141 increase is to help cover the costs of annual custodial supplies, uniforms, and miscellaneous building supplies.
142

143 Mr. Sands commented that line item 734, Equipment – Additional has a requested budget of \$9,000. The
144 budget will be used to purchase a Chariot Floor Scrubber. Ms. Mahoney mentioned that the Chariot Floor
145 Scrubber is in the FY2023 Budget because the additional space in PMS will be available at that time.
146

147 PHS – Building Services

148 Mr. Sands stated that line item 432, Boiler Repair and Maintenance has a proposed budget of \$16,400. He
149 mentioned that the increase was caused by boiler repairs, an annual water treatment contract, and a rooftop
150 equipment maintenance plan.
151

152 Mr. Sands mentioned that line item 610, Supplies has a requested budget of \$46,672. He stated that the
153 increase is to help cover the costs of annual custodial supplies, uniforms, miscellaneous building supplies, and
154 charcoal filters for the auditorium.
155

156 Mr. Bressette suggested that using a more recent year's consumption would provide a better baseline. Ms.
157 Mahoney agreed with his suggestion.

158 Mr. Sands commented that line item 734, Equipment – Additional has a requested budget of \$2,000. The
159 budget will be used to purchase two cordless vacuums. He mentioned that the upright vacuum is in disrepair.
160 Mr. Bressette suggested moving the request for an upright vacuum to line item 738, Equipment –
161 Replacement. Mr. Bressette asked what a burnisher is? Mr. Sands said that a burnisher is an equipment used
162 to provide a wet, glossy, wax look on an already waxed floor. Mr. Sands mentioned that he would have to
163 research whether the burnisher could be used in the gymnasium.

164
165 DW – Grounds Services

166 Mr. Sands mentioned that line item 433, Contracted Repair and Maintenance rose because of the increase in
167 the snow plowing contract. The contract increased from \$48,000 last year to \$50,880 this year. Line item 734
168 Equipment – Additional increased to \$26,800. The purpose of the increase is to bring online and repurpose the
169 PES generator for the SAU and Pre-School.

170
171 Mr. Bressette asked when the last time that the District put out an RFP for the grounds maintenance was? Ms.
172 Mahoney mentioned it was done before working in the Pelham School District and has not been done in the
173 eight years she has worked for the District. Mr. Sands commented that he believed the District was receiving
174 great value regarding the winter maintenance contract. He explained that if the District hired a new contractor
175 and the winter was difficult, the District might not receive the same service as the current contractor provides.
176 Mr. Sands added that he would stay with Boyden because of their institutional knowledge of the Pelham
177 School District.

178
179 Mr. Sands commented that line item 738, Equipment – Replacement, has a proposed budget of \$38,000. The
180 budget will be used to replace a 2006 Ford F-350 District truck and plow. Mr. Wilkerson asked what liability
181 the School District faced if they drove a vehicle that did not pass inspection on School District property? Ms.
182 Mahoney responded by saying that the truck is not road-worthy and someone might buy it to use as a farm
183 truck.

184
185 PES – Grounds Services

186 Mr. Sands stated that line item 433, Contracted Repair and Maintenance has a requested budget of \$6,400.
187 The budget will cover the parking lot repairs and the seal coating and striping of the parking lots.

188
189 Mr. Wilkerson asked what substance was used to make the playground play chips? Mr. Sands mentioned that
190 they were made of Playsafe play chips. He noted that he was willing to look into using plastic chips instead of
191 wood chips.

192
193 PMS – Grounds Services

194 Mr. Sands said that line item 430, Repairs and Maintenance, was removed because of the reconstruction of
195 PMS.

196
197 PHS – Grounds Services

198 Mr. Sands stated that line item 430, Repairs and Maintenance has a requested budget of \$2,500. The budget
199 will cover the cost of the ground maintenance and repair of the fence.

200
201 PES – Non-Instructional Equipment

202 Ms. Mahoney commented that line item 433, Contracted Repair and Maintenance for pest management, is
203 overstated because it does not align with the District's contract. The Superintendent's budget will be cutting
204 the amount down so to align with the current contract. Mr. Sands stated that line item 738, Equipment –
205 Replacement, has a proposed budget of \$43,439, which includes \$3,200 to purchase a wireless scoreboard for
206 the PES gymnasium. Ms. Mahoney mentioned that the scoreboard was previously cut from the previous
207 budget and forwarded to this budget.

208
209
210

211 PMS – Non-Instructional Equipment
212 Mr. Sands said that line item 433, Contracted Repair and Maintenance has the same issue with the pest
213 management contract.
214
215 PES – Emergency Management
216 Mr. Sands mentioned that line item 738, Equipment – Replacement included replacing an iPad for Emergency
217 Preparedness connected to the Pelham School District Cellular Service Plan.
218
219 PMS – Emergency Management
220 Ms. Mahoney stated that line item 610, Supplies, was budgeted for \$1,500 in Emergency Response Supplies.
221
222 PHS – Emergency Management
223 Ms. Mahoney stated that line item 610, Supplies, was budgeted for \$2,000 in Emergency Response Supplies,
224 backpack contents, signage, and two replacement radios.
225
226 SAU – Emergency Management
227 Ms. Mahoney commented that they budgeted \$500 for line item 610, Supplies.
228
229 PMS – Building Acquisition
230 Ms. Mahoney mentioned that line item 441, Rental/Lease Buildings has a proposed budget of \$44,838 for
231 payment 5 of 6.
232
233 DW – Building Improvements
234 Ms. Mahoney mentioned that line item 442, Rental/Lease Equipment has a proposed budget of \$140,725 for
235 payment 4 of 14.
236
237 PMS – Building Improvement
238 Ms. Mahoney said that line item 450, Construction Cost, has a proposed budget of \$1 as a placeholder.
239
240 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette thanked Director of Facilities Brian Sands for presenting his budget to the School
241 Board.
242
243 **Holly Doe, Director of Technology:**
244 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette invited Holly Doe, Director of Technology, to present her budget.
245
246 DW – Computer Instruction
247 Ms. Doe reviewed line item 442, Rental/Lease Equipment. She mentioned that Year One Lease for four grades
248 was 480 Chromebooks. Year Three Lease for two grades was 300 Chromebooks, and Year Two Lease for three
249 grades is 430 Chromebooks. The total budget came to \$108,000, a decrease of \$23,000 from FY2022.
250
251 Ms. Doe mentioned that line item 610, Supplies has a proposed budget of \$14,2000, a reduction of \$3,000.
252
253 PES – Computer Technology
254 Ms. Doe stated that line item 738, Equipment – Replacement, has a proposed budget of \$36,800 to replace
255 Prometheon Boards for PES classes. David Wilkerson asked if they had talked about the Prometheon Boards
256 during the PES Budget? The Board members stated they talked about it during the PMS Budget.
257
258 Mr. Bressette asked what the District was replacing in the 16 classrooms? Ms. Doe stated that the classrooms
259 have ceiling-mounted projectors over ten years old and will be replaced. The District will also install a set of
260 speakers above the whiteboards.
261
262 PHS – Computer Technology

263 Ms. Doe mentioned that line item 738, Equipment – Replacement, has a proposed budget of \$137,500. The
264 budget will purchase 50 business lab computers, 25 AV equipment for the classrooms, and 50 security
265 cameras.
266

267 Mr. Wilkerson asked if PHS currently has 50 security cameras that need to be replaced or if the school needs
268 to have 50 security cameras? Ms. Doe stated that PHS has 50 security cameras that will be replaced. He then
269 asked who would consume the output of cameras? Ms. Doe commented that the Principals and IT staff would
270 only have access to the cameras.
271

272 DW –Technology Services

273 Ms. Doe commented on line item 430, Repairs and Maintenance has a requested budget of \$45,900. The
274 increase in the budget is for increased support with the District’s firewalls.
275

276 She mentioned that line item 532, Data Communications, has a proposed budget of \$26,195. The increase is
277 due to backup/spillover service for the internet.
278

279 Ms. Doe stated that line item 650, Software has a requested budget of \$90,259. She said that the increase in
280 the Software line was due to general increases in cost for the software. Ms. Does comment that part of the
281 increase was the purchase of Google Enterprise Licenses for enhancement. Mr. Bressette asked if the Google
282 Enterprise License was purchased last year? She mentioned that she understood it was purchased through
283 grant funding when the school was in remote learning. He requested that 'New' be removed from the memo
284 section.
285

286 Ms. Doe commented that when there was an issue with Google Meets, the problem tended to be with the
287 device and not with Google.
288

289 Ms. Doe mentioned that line item 738, Equipment – Replacement, has a proposed budget of \$104,550, which
290 is a decrease of \$22,750. She said the reduction was because the District has a storage replacement project
291 this year that cost \$63,000 last year, and the only primary replacement for FY2023 is the Teacher's laptops.
292

293 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette thanked Director of Technology Holly Doe for presenting her budget to the School
294 Board.
295

296 Ms. Doe stated that the Director of Technology, Lee Depres, came up with a new Chromebook replacement
297 plan last year. Mr. Depres planned to consistently replace the Chromebooks for Grades One, Five, and Nine.
298 She added that his plan was dependable.
299

300 **Brendan Hoffman, Director of Student Services:**

301 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette invited Brendan Hoffman, Director of Student Services, to present his budget. Mr.
302 Hoffman introduced himself and stated that he had been part of the community for nine years, and this is his
303 first full year as the Director of Student Services. Mr. Hoffman thanked Business Administrator Deb Mahoney
304 for helping him put the budget together.
305

306 Mr. Hoffman stated that this budget reflects 331 students, increasing from last year's 315 students. He noted
307 that some of the increases were that the District had nine Out-of-District (OOD) placements, and now they are
308 projecting 15 OOD placements. He added that this reflects an increase in the charter school enrollments from
309 9 to 16. Mr. Hoffman mentioned that the budget is contingent on the IEP Team Process. This process obligates
310 the District to provide services under State and Federal Law.
311

312 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette thanked Mr. Hoffman for framing the dialogue and putting it in good and essential
313 context for the School Board.
314
315

316 DW – Special Education

317 Mr. Hoffman stated that line item 330, Professional Services has a proposed budget of \$137,934. He
318 mentioned that this is an increase of \$73,116.95. The majority of the budget is spent on contracted Orton
319 Gillingham Reading Services, required by IEP. He also mentioned the contracted services for Feeding and
320 Swallowing.

321
322 Mr. Bressette asked, other than Orton Gillingham, what other alternatives were considered? Mr. Hoffman said
323 they had looked into leveraging the staff, and the challenges were the scheduling and caseloads. He noted
324 that because they are required to provide the service, they looked to contract the work.

325
326 Mr. Wilkerson asked what it is with the IEP that mandates using Orton Gillingham? Mr. Hoffman stated that
327 the decisions are made at an IEP Team Level. Once the Team makes the decision, the District must provide the
328 service because of State and Federal Law.

329
330 Mr. Hoffman noted that the intent behind the IEP Team Level was to retain students in the District, and if the
331 District cannot offer the service, they are obligated for OOD placements. He added that the IEP Team could
332 provide a service to other Pelham School District Students by contracting with Orton Gillingham. Mr.
333 Wilkerson pointed out that the School District could wind up spending more money by having OOD
334 placements than by paying for the Orton Gillingham Services.

335
336 Tom Gellar asked what an IEP Team is? Mr. Hoffman stated that an IEP Team is a group of professionals
337 required to participate in a dialogue. Each member of the IEP Team has different roles and responsibilities.

338
339 Mr. Hoffman stated that line item 332, Tutor Services has a proposed budget of \$135,650. He pointed out that
340 16 students attending Charter Schools will cost the District \$115,650, and 1:1 required by IEPs for Charter
341 Schools for one student cost \$20,000.

342
343 Mr. Hoffman mentioned that line item 564 Tuition to Private School has a proposed budget of \$844,053. He
344 pointed out that the Valley Collaborative and Crest Collaborative budgets are similar to FY2022's budget.
345 FY2023 adds St. Ann's Home, Anticipated Valley Collaborative (2), and Anticipated Landmark School.

346
347 Superintendent Chip McGee commented that Mr. Hoffman had to be careful with his responses to questions.
348 The District has to be careful and not talk about any individual students.

349
350 Mr. Hoffman commented that another significant line item is 569, Tuition Residential. Tuition Residential has a
351 proposed budget of \$498,147.

352
353 Mr. Hoffman said that line item is 643, Informational Access Fees, has a proposed budget of \$10,191. The ACE
354 ABA Curriculum is now budgeted for 15 students. Mr. Bressette mentioned that 15 students at 39.95 are
355 \$599.25, and he asked why \$7,191 was budgeted for the ABA Curriculum? Mr. Hoffman said that he would
356 need to get back to the Board with an answer.

357
358 Mr. Hoffman mentioned that line item 810, Dues and Fees has a reduction of \$7,657. The reduction occurred
359 because of a conversation he had with the District's provider.

360
361 DW – Extended School Year (ESY)

362 Mr. Hoffman commented that line item 330, Professional Services has a requested budget of \$39,000. He
363 stated that the School District is required to offer these services, and the District is having a hard time hiring
364 people to fill the positions. He added that the rates are comparable to other School Districts, so they had to
365 contract the positions out.

366
367 Mr. Bressette asked if all 16 OOD placements also continuing to the Extended School Year? Mr. Hoffman said
368 they plan that the students need a higher level of care and fit the criteria for the Extended School Year.

369 Mr. Wilkerson asked at what age the District's legal responsibilities would end? Mr. Hoffman stated that the
370 range is between the ages of 3 until 21, or upon receiving a diploma.

371
372 DW – Psychological Services

373 Mr. Hoffman mentioned that line item 330, Professional Services has a proposed budget of \$293,000. He
374 commented that the District has two school psychologists, but per IEP needs, the District contracts a school
375 psychologist to work three days a week.

376
377 Mr. Bressette asked if this is an area that the District could hire an FTE or even a part-time psychologist. Dr.
378 McGee mentioned that when he reviews the salaries and benefits budget, the Board will see areas that they
379 have a choice to make.

380
381 Mr. Hoffman commented that the District does not have a BCBA, so the District has contracted a Board
382 Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA).

383
384 DW – Speech Services

385 Mr. Hoffman stated that line item 330 Professional Services has a requested budget of \$341,200. He
386 commented that the District has contracted for Pre-K SPL Services and Speech and Language Services for K-2.
387 The reason for contracting the positions was the difficulty in hiring for the position.

388
389 Mr. Gellar asked if the District filled these positions would they be union or non-union positions? Ms.
390 Mahoney stated that they would be non-union positions.

391
392 Mr. Gellar asked if the District found someone for one of the positions, would the District be able to move that
393 into a contracted position? Ms. Mahoney said that the District would offset the expense, for this one need, by
394 whatever the District has in the budget for the position.

395
396 Special Ed Transportation

397 Mr. Hoffman stated that line item 529, Transportation has a requested budget of \$580,200. The increase in
398 OOD placements causes an increase in the budget. Because New Hampshire does not have the number of
399 private schools Massachusetts has, the District finds itself finding placements with a significant drive.

400
401 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette thanked Director of Student Services Brendan Hoffman for presenting his budget to
402 the School Board.

403
404 Mr. Bressette asked if it was fair to categorize the 40% increase as the District's legal obligation? Mr. Hoffman
405 confirmed that the 40% increase is the District's legal obligation.

406
407 b. Pandemic Response:

408 i. Hillsborough County (excluding Nashua)

409 Superintendent Chip McGee commented that the District would remain fully open, the free on-site PCR testing
410 began last Wednesday, and the second session was today.

411
412 The Level of Community Transmission remains 'Substantial,' and the Level of School Impact is 'Medium.' He
413 noted that the rule is that anyone within three feet of another person, for more than an incidental amount of
414 time, must wear a mask. Otherwise, masks are not required, and this refers to the whole District. Dr. McGee
415 said the District identified a cluster on September 10 with the eighth grade downstairs team. This group will
416 have to wear masks, similar to last year, until September 28. A student, who was part of the cluster, was last in
417 school on September 14.

418
419 Dr. McGee said that the on-site PCR Testing during the first week had 83 participants, and of the 83
420 participants, all 83 tests came back negative within 24 hours. He thanked Bruce Van Auken and Zack Belanger,

421 who helped make the testing happen. Dr. McGee said that he also wanted to thank PSACC, the after-school
422 program.

423

424 **i. Hillsborough County**

425 The Covid-19 PCR test positivity as a 7-day average was 6.5% (Moderate) on September 1 and was 4.4%
426 (Minimal) on September 15. The number of new infections per 100,000 population for the prior 14 days was
427 270 (Substantial) on September 1 and was 343 (Substantial) on September 15.

428

429 **ii. Town of Pelham**

430 The Covid-19 PCR test positivity as a 7-day average was 8.7% (Moderate) on September 1 and was 3.5%
431 (Minimal) on September 15. The number of new infections per 100,000 population for the prior 14 days was
432 473 (Substantial) on September 1 and was 579 (Substantial) on September 15. The 579 equates to 82 people
433 out of 14,000 people in Pelham

434

435 **iii. Level of School Impact**

436 The next metric that Dr. McGee reviewed was the Level of School Impact. Dr. McGee mentioned that the
437 transmission within schools on September 1 was 'Low' and was 'Medium' on September 15. He noted that the
438 level of student absenteeism was 4.6% (Low) on September 1 and 7.5% (Medium) on September 15. The staff
439 capacity on September 1 was considered 'Normal' and was considered 'Normal' on September 15.

440

441 **iv. Transmission Within Schools**

442 Dr. McGee mentioned that he has sent out several emails to the community regarding Covid-19. He noted
443 that he has sent out messages at the end of the day, the last two days. The emails were regarding five
444 positive tests for Covid-19 yesterday and another five positive tests today. He mentioned that a parent
445 suggested adding the total number of positive cases for the year to the Dashboard.

446

447 **v. The Big Seven**

448 The District will continue to follow the big seven mitigation steps:

- 449 a. Masks
- 450 b. Distancing
- 451 c. Hand Sanitation
- 452 d. Screening
- 453 e. Ventilation
- 454 f. Vaccines
- 455 g. PCR Testing

456

457 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette mentioned that the number of participants for PCR testing was 83 last week. He
458 asked how many people participated today. Dr. Marandos stated that 82 people participated today. Mr.
459 Bressette then commented that if the Board considered the 'Level of Community Transmission' as moderate,
460 the District would not be different from if the 'Level of Community Transmission' was substantial.

461

462 Darlene Greenwood mentioned how last year the District did not reach 'Medium' with regards to 'Transmission
463 within the school,' but already reached 'Medium' this year. She asked what the difference was between last
464 year and this year? Dr. McGee stated that this year they identified a cluster.

465

466 Ms. Greenwood noted that she believed they did not identify a cluster last year because staff and students
467 were wearing masks. She asked at what point the District would consider masking? Dr. McGee stated that the
468 District has already reached that point with the eighth grade downstairs.

469

470 Ms. Greenwood mentioned that she would prefer to see PES students wearing masks since they are too young
471 to receive the vaccination. Mr. Gellar commented that he researched the definition of a cluster, and he
472 believed there is a distinction between a cluster and an outbreak. He asked if the District identified an

473 outbreak, would that be a transition point on how the District deals with masks? Dr. McGee agreed and added
474 that it would be similar to having multiple unrelated clusters in the same building.
475

476 c. **Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Update):**

477 Assistant Superintendent Sarah Marandos mentioned that the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency
478 Relief (ESSER III) Funds support the Nation's schools in safely reopening and sustaining safe operations of
479 schools while meeting the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students resulting from
480 the pandemic.
481

482 Currently, Pelham has received \$519,878.70 in funds from this program, which is 2/3 of the allocation. The
483 District recently found out that they will receive their final 1/3 in the second week of October.
484

485 Dr. Marandos commented that the District had to submit a Use of Funds Plan in August 2021. She mentioned
486 that there are specific requirements for the funds, and the plan requires that the following be addressed:
487

- 488 1. The academic impact of lost instructional time using evidence-based learning loss interventions (20%)
489 a. The Pelham School District will offer after-school learning at all three schools.
490
- 491 2. Learner and community needs (80%)
492 a. The Pelham School District has received conceptual approval for air-conditioning at PES.
493 b. There is also an opportunity for the School Board and the community to offer input regarding the use
494 of the funds.
495

496 Dr. Marandos can be emailed at smarandos@pelhamsd.org.
497

498 Vice-Chair Troy Bressette requested that the District send out a message to the school families regarding this
499 opportunity.
500

501 d. **Policy Revision:**

502 The Board reviewed the below policies.
503

504 i. **First Reading:**

- 505 1. IHBH – Extended Learning Opportunities
- 506 2. IHBI – Alternative Learning Plan
- 507 3. IMBA – Distance Education
- 508 4. IMBC – Alternative Credit Options
509

510 ii. **Second Reading:**

- 511 1. GADA – Employment References and Verification
- 512 2. GCQA – Reduction in Instructional Staff Work Force
- 513 3. GCCBC – Family and Medical Leave Act
514

515 Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to approve the policies, as presented.; Ms. Greenwood seconded the motion. The
516 motion passed (4-0-0)
517

518 4. **Board Member Reports:**

519 i. David Wilkerson – Mr. Wilkerson mentioned that he has a Scout who is going in front of a Board to
520 evaluate his viability as a candidate for the rank of Eagle Scout. The Scout constructed a bridge for the
521 support of the cross-country team. Mr. Wilkerson will represent the School District as a Scout Master and
522 speak on Jack Hamlin's behalf.
523

524 ii. Troy Bressette – Mr. Bressette mentioned that some members brought in food to donate to the NH
525 Tackles Hunger effort.

526 **5. Housekeeping:**
527 a. **Adoption of Minutes**
528 i. September 1, 2021 – Draft Public Minutes
529
530 Mr. Gellar made a motion to adopt September 1, 2021, Public School Board Minutes.; Mr. Wilkerson seconded the
531 motion. The motion passed (4-0-0)
532
533 ii. September 1, 2021 – Draft Non-Public Minutes
534
535 Mr. Gellar made a motion to adopt September 1, 2021, Non-Public School Board Minutes, as amended.; Mr.
536 Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed (4-0-0)
537
538 iii. September 8, 2021 – Draft Public Minutes
539
540 Mr. Gellar made a motion to adopt September 8, 2021, Public School Board Minutes.; Mr. Wilkerson seconded the
541 motion. The motion passed (4-0-0)
542
543
544 b. **Vendor and Payroll Manifests**
545 i. 206 \$568,917.93
546 ii. PAY206P \$11,994.20
547 iii. AP091521 \$782,339.53
548 iv. BFPMS03 \$17,475.29
549
550 Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to accept the Vendor and Payroll Manifests, as presented.; Mr. Gellar seconded the
551 motion. The motion passed (4-0-0)
552
553 c. **Correspondence & Information**
554 i. None
555
556 d. **Enrollment Report**
557 i. None
558
559 e. **Staffing Updates**
560 i. **Leaves:**
561 a. None
562
563 ii. **Resignations:**
564 a. Melissa Mavrofrides PES Title 1 Tutor
565 b. Kalliope McNight PES Special Education Teacher
566
567 iii. **Nominations:**
568 a. Keeghan Fountain PMS Music Teacher
569
570 Superintendent Chip McGee mentioned that the resignations of two Teachers were very difficult. He
571 acknowledged that the reasons were external to the District and not internal.
572
573 Mr. Gellar made a motion to accept the resignations, as presented.; Mr. Wilkerson seconded the motion. The
574 motion passed (4-0-0).
575
576 Dr. McGee presented a nomination for Keeghan Fountain as the PMS Music Teacher. The candidate served in
577 a ‘Leave Position’ in the same job last year.
578

579 Mr. Gellar made a motion to accept the nomination of Keeghan Fountain at PMS.; Mr. Wilkerson seconded the
580 motion. The motion passed (4-0-0).

581

582 **6. Future Agenda Planning:**

583 a. None

584

585 **7. Future Meetings:**

586 a. 09/29/2021 – 6:30 pm School Board Meeting @ PES Library

587 b. 10/06/2021 – 6:30 pm School Board Meeting @ PES Library

588

589 Mr. Wilkerson stated that he would not be at the meeting on October 6.

590

591 **8. Adjournment:**

592 Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to adjourn the School Board Meeting at 8:51 pm; Mr. Gellar seconded the motion.

593 The motion passed (4-0-0).

594

595

596 Respectfully Submitted,

597 Matthew Sullivan

598 School Board Recording Secretary