

# SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2011

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE

## OFFICIAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

### I. Call to Order

A regular monthly meeting of the Pittsville School Board of Education was held on Monday, April 11, 2011. The meeting was called to order by President Wesely at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Center.

### II. Establish Quorum

Members present: Jane Wesely, Connie Potter, MaryAnn Lippert, Lisa Schulz, and Julie Strenn. Administration present: Terry Reynolds, District Administrator; John Olig, High School Principal; and JoAnn Sondelski, Elementary Principal.

### III. Meeting Notice Certification

Meeting notice was posted on the doors at the Elementary School, High School, and Administration Area and meeting notice was sent to the official newspaper, the *Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune* and also to the *Marshfield News Herald* and the *Pittsville Record*.

### IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Lisa Schulz, seconded by Connie Potter, to approve the agenda for the April 11, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Pittsville School Board of Education. Motion carried.

### V. Public Comments - no public comments.

### VI. WKCE Results

Principals JoAnn Sondelski and John Olig, accompanied by staff members, Julia Backus, Kelly Look, Sarah Freedlund, Nancy Brux, and Cheryl Hartwig highlighted this year's WKCE results and what testing initiatives were put in place this year to help improve scores.

### VII. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 14, 2011
- B. Minutes of Special Meeting of March 21, 2011
- C. General Fund Invoices
- D. Requests for Early Graduation
- E. Retirement of Support Staff Member (Kathy Skon)

Motion was made by Julie Strenn, seconded by Connie Potter, to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Motion carried.

*The Board would like to thank Kathy Skon for her many years of dedicated service to the district.*

### VIII. Financial

#### A. Financial Status of the District

A handout of the financial status of the District was presented and discussed with the Board.

#### B. Notifications of Changes in 2010-2011 Adopted Budget

Motion was made by Lisa Schulz, seconded by Jane Wesely, to approve budget reallocation of funds in the adopted budget to cover the cost of the HVAC and roofing project to be completed this summer. Motion carried.

### IX. Reports

#### A. Elementary School

- 5th grade really enjoyed the opportunity to attend overnight camp this year. All students who were able to attend did so. We would like to try again next year but are concerned about the funding. This year, PTO provided the transportation. The \$45.00 fee for each student was paid in part by unit

funds derived from a previous fund raiser and student contribution. Great learning experience was had by all!

- We are looking forward to hosting area senior citizens for our annual senior citizen day luncheon. In the past we have had a great response and are hoping for the same this year as well.
- For the past two years, Leslie Niedfeldt and Katie Craig have been co-teaching a social skills class that is aimed at increasing, not only social skills, but self-confidence, good behaviors, self-concepts, motivation, organizational skills, study skills, and listening skills. They work with a variety of students who receive either special education or speech services in the district. Katie and Leslie have targeted subjects such as respect, responsibility, characteristics of a good friend, how to be a good friend, and giving and receiving compliments in their class. Each week, students write behavioral, social, or academic goals for themselves. The student tracks their progress toward meeting their weekly goal on a calendar. At the end of each month, the students are involved in choosing and planning their monthly reward for achieving their goals. Katie and Leslie have been able to pool district resources in order to provide the highest level of academic support for students in their program. It has been a very beneficial program that many parents have shown great interest in when offered the option for their child to attend a social skills class.
- Pittsville Elementary School is participating in Screen Free Week during the week of April 18-21. Tammie Cramer, our school health coordinator, is leading the charge.
- Mrs. Doering reports that sales of the pendants that the art club has been selling to raise funds for their trip to Europe have done very well. Overall gross sales have hit \$5,000. We look forward to a report from our students who will be traveling to the Visioneers competition in Milwaukee on April 14 and 15th. And looking ahead--the student art show is May 5th.
- 62 junior high forensics members and parents attended Annie at Fort Atkinson's Fireside Dinner Theater on March 24. Students enjoyed this presentation in the theater in the round format and were treated to a theater workshop before the dinner and play.
- Mrs. Moore's submits this report on her 4th grade classes which have been involved in a research project which incorporates both English Writing and Wisconsin Topics. The focus question to answer is: Why is the topic you chose important to Wisconsin? The students have been practicing and showing ability in utilizing the BadgerLink and Citation Machine which helps to automatically print their sources that they use for their report. Mrs. Young has been a backup support person for this success.
- The Board received a packet that contains the charts depicting our students' overall proficiency scores on the WKCE. The information relates not only how our students did overall but how they compare to students across the state. Overall we see that 89% of our students are proficient in reading and 80% are proficient in math. While there are areas of concern, we also note that in the past year we have seen a significant gain in achievement in math at the 7th grade level of 14 percentage points. There are also gains in math achievement at the 8th and 5th grade. In reading we saw significant gains in 5th and 7th grades and gains at 6th grade as well.

## **B. Senior High School**

- This year our sophomores exceeded the state averages in all areas of the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concept Examination (WKCE). This is the test given to the sophomores annually as required by the state of Wisconsin. The sophomores are tested in five content areas: reading, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. In reading and language arts, the sophomores scored proficient or advanced with 89% and 81% of the class. In math, 93% of the class scored proficient or advanced. The state averages for reading is 74% and language arts is 71%. The state average for students proficient or advanced for math is 70%. In math and reading, our percentage of proficient and advanced students was 23% and 15% better than the state averages. Our current juniors, (last years sophomores), scored 9% and 8% better than the state averages for proficient and advanced students in math and reading.
- This year, to meet AYP in reading and math, the students' scoring advanced or proficient must be 80.5% of the class for reading and 68.5% of the class for math. Our percentage of students proficient and advanced was 89% and 93%, well above what is needed to meet AYP. To determine AYP, only students in the district for a full year are counted in the percentage. Schools that fail to meet AYP are schools which receive the negative publicity as a school in need of improvement. These schools will be listed later this spring. Next year, the percentages for AYP are raised to 87% for reading and 79% for math.

- When the current sophomores were in 8th grade, the state average for students scoring proficient or advanced was 84%. The tenth grade average for reading this year was 74%. In other words, the state average for the sophomores proficient or advanced dropped 10% as the students aged. In math, the percentage dropped 8%. The averages for the sophomores at Pittsville High School for students proficient or advanced dropped 2% and 1% in reading and math from eighth grade to sophomore year. This is far better than the decrease seen at the state level. Last year, the juniors actually had a higher percentage of proficient or advanced in four of the areas tested than as 8th graders. In reading, the juniors dropped 1% of students scoring proficient or advanced from 8th grade. The state average in reading dropped 8% over the same time period.
- The staff had taken steps to make the testing relevant in the classroom. Teachers made an effort to align our curriculum with the WKCE. Students are also tested on WKCE type questions. In addition, Mrs. Backaus, our guidance counselor, has worked with the sophomores on goal setting pertaining to test scores. This, coupled with Explore and Plan Testing offered by our district, helped the students take the testing seriously.
- Congratulations to Mindy Bakken, Amy Miner, and Walter Harris for being recognized as Teens of Distinction by the Marshfield YMCA. Three of the top ten students recognized were students from Pittsville High School. Congratulations go out to the following students on their successes at Science Olympiad on April 2; Summer Wilke and Mindy Bakken took 8th place in "Tower Building". Gavin Hautala and Olivia Wesely took 2nd place in "Write It, Do It".
- Spring sports are under way. Hopefully the snow will melt and the rain hold off so we can get all of our games in on time. State FBLA April 12, Vissioners is April 14, State Forensics is April 15, and FBLA will be going to Chicago on April 18 & 19. Also, large group choir at Spencer on April 7, large group band at Spencer on April 14, and the Spring Concert will be on May 2. Prom is set for April 30. Graduation caps, gowns, and announcements will be handed out April 19 at 7:30 AM.
- There will be no school on Friday, April 22, but Monday, April 25 will be a school day as that was set for the snow make-up day on the district calendar.

**X. District Administrator Report**

**A. 2011-2012 Nursing Services**

Motion was made by MaryAnn Lippert, seconded by Lisa Schulz, to pursue a Nursing Service agreement with Ministry SAINTS Health for 2011-2012. Motion carried.

**B. High School Horticulture Science Accreditation Approval**

Motion was made by Julie Strenn, seconded by MaryAnn Lippert, to approve application to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for Science Accreditation for the Horticulture Science Class. Motion carried.

**C. 2011 School Board Election**

The Oath of Office was taken and signed Connie Potter and Lisa Schulz.

**D. Employee Handbook and Policy Development Needs**

The Board agreed that additional legal assistance will be needed to develop new employee policies for next year. The District will seek proposals for these services.

**XI. The Board will move into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute**

Motion was made by Julie Strenn, seconded by Lisa Schulz, to move into Closed Session as per Wisconsin State Statute. President Wesely directed the Clerk to take a roll call vote:

Jane Wesely	Yes	Lisa Schulz	Yes	MaryAnn Lippert	Yes
Connie Potter	Yes	Julie Strenn	Yes		

Purpose: 1) Personnel Matters - 19.85(1)(c)  
a) Administrative Contracts

**XII. Move out of Closed Session**

Motion was made by MaryAnn Lippert, seconded by Lisa Schulz, to move out of closed session. Motion carried.

**XIII. Act upon Closed Sessions**

Motion was made by Julie Strenn, seconded by Connie Potter to approve personnel decisions discussed in closed session. Motion carried.

**XIV. Adjourn**

Motion was made by Connie Potter, seconded by MaryAnn Lippert, to adjourn at 11:00 p.m. Motion carried.

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*Connie Potter, Clerk*