

SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 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, December 12, 2011. The meeting was called to order by President Strenn at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Center.

II. Establish Quorum

Members present: Jane Wesely, Connie Potter, Lisa Schulz, Julie Strenn, and MaryAnn Lippert. Administration present: Terry Reynolds, District Administrator; John Olig, High School Principal; JoAnn Sondelski, Elementary Principal; Jeff Gast, Finance Director; and Joe Dostal, Food Service Director.

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 Jane Wesely, seconded by Connie Potter, to approve the agenda for the December 12, 2011 meeting of the Pittsville School Board of Education. Motion carried.

V. Public Comments - no public comments.

VI. Math Curriculum Presentation by K-12 Math Teachers

Steven Hadfield, Shane Lilly, Marlis Downs, Aneva Peterson, and Fay Niemann presented an overview of the curriculum and discussed recommended changes they have made to the Math curriculum to better prepare students. The Board expressed their appreciation for taking the time for the presentation and discussion.

VII. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2011
- B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 30, 2011
- C. General Fund Invoices

Motion was made by Lisa Schulz, seconded by MaryAnn Lippert, to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried.

VIII. Wrestling Cheerleader Policy Change Request

The Board discussed the request to change the policy to allow cheerleaders to cheer at the Individual WIAA Wrestling Sectional and State meets. No action taken.

IX. Financial

A. Financial Status of the District

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

B. 2012-2013 Budget Discussion

Preliminary figures show that we will need to cut approximately \$190,000 in expenditures for 2012-2013.

X. Reports

A. Elementary School

- We have had a great month of November and are looking forward to December and the learning opportunities that this month brings.
- The play *In the Nick of Time*, presented by our elementary students under the direction of Jodie Sanken and Sara Janz and with the help of many many parents, was very successful. We had over 50 students participate in this activity. Everyone did an awesome job, and we all need to be very proud of them.
- Our November Panther Diner Award winners are students from Miss Sischo's class. The students will be treated to a special dining event on December 7th.
- Our Junior High Forensics is set to begin. Students soon will be signing up to participate and searching for the right presentation piece. Mrs. Sanken and Mrs. T. Neve advise this group of public speakers.
- Our 6-8 band and choir concert was a success. We have 47 6-8 grade chorus members and the 50 6-8 band students who participate in these two programs at the elementary. We are proud of our school's musicians and look forward to seeing them in many future performances. Congratulations Miss Lewin on conducting this program for our enjoyment.
- We are looking forward to our Primary Winter Concert at Friday, December 16th. The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. in our auditorium. We hope you take the opportunity to join us to see our youngest stars take the stage. If the past is any indication, this is a program sure to please.
- A team of teachers from the district including elementary teachers Jodie Sanken, Cheryl Hartwig, and Becky Coon attended the SLATE conference in Wisconsin Dells on December 7-8.
- Doug Schultz, Nancy Brux, and JoAnn Sondelski will attend the 7:00 p.m. evening conference at UWSP presented by Doug Buehl on December 8. The presentation is on classroom strategies for interactive learning.
- Gloria Young shared some of her learning experience from attending the AASL convention.
- From all of us to all of you—we wish you a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

B. Senior High School

- This first semester, we have nine students taking online course work. We have two students taking Advance Placement (AP) Psychology and AP Biology; one student enrolled in AP Statistics, AP Micro Economics, AP European History, and AP Government; and one student taking Spanish 4.
- Online classes allow our students access to classes which would not otherwise be offered at Pittsville High School. There are two drawbacks consistently noted by the students involved in online courses. First, students miss the face to face interactions of the traditional classroom. Second, is these students' inability to diligently self-pace their course work to be ready for class on a daily basis. These students miss the daily reminders concerning upcoming tests or assignment due dates. Taking these courses has been a learning process in itself for these nine students.
- One of the more positive attributes is that students are learning about the need for self motivation. This is a skill that students often lack when they enter either a university or technical college. These online courses allow students to grow in areas beyond course content. Students learn to move forward with their course work without teachers prompting them, which is why some high schools have begun requiring students to take some form of an online class as part of the graduation requirements. In addition, many college classes contain a format similar to that of online classes, such as using online discussion boards.
- One of the more popular AP courses taken by our students has been AP Psychology. I have spoken to Todd Steward, our Biology teacher, about designing an AP Psychology course that could be taught at Pittsville High School. He has the required certification to teach Psychology at the high school level. We are also looking to offer AP Psychology class over the SCING Network next year.

- One of our challenges has been to offer classes which will allow our students to obtain not only high school credit, but post secondary credit as well. Students bound for a four-year university would be able to do so with the AP Psychology course. Also, Mark Denniston, our Chemistry teacher, is reviewing the Advanced Chemistry curriculum - looking to have it meet the approval of the College Board, so we can rename Advanced Chemistry to AP Chemistry. The College Board is the company which provides the AP Tests.
- The staff has articulated additional courses which allow students to receive credit at Mid State Technical College. We now have at least one class listed for transcribed credit in three of the four vocational areas. In the area of business, our students can receive transcribed credit for Microsoft Office-Introduction and College Accounting at Mid State. In the area of Family and Consumer Education, transcribed credit is available for Child Care and Health Career Connections. The equivalent classes at Mid State are foundations of Early Childhood Education and Health Careers Exploration respectively. In Agriculture, Introduction to Horticulture is equivalent to Flowers, Plants, and Horticulture at Mid State.
- For students to receive transcribed credit the student must earn a grade of B- or better while taking the course in high school. If a student receives transcribed credit and begins their post secondary education at Mid State but later transfers to a four-year university, the transcribed course can transfer. This is a good reason for the student who is searching for a post secondary path to begin the college process at a technical school and not the four-year university.
- We will potentially offer at Pittsville High School over the SCING network for the 2012/2013 school year AP Psychology. This course will potentially be offered during the 2nd semester along with Ecology 2. First semester, we will potentially offer Business Law and Ecology 1. I use the word potentially because we don't know if students from other schools have an interest in these classes. We will limit our offerings to two classes per semester to ensure a block of time to receive offerings from other schools.

C. Food Services

Joe Dostal, Food Service Director, updated the Board on how the breakfast and lunch programs are doing so far this year. The breakfast program has increased participation, but the lunch program has seen a decrease. This is not unusual this time of the year; however, lunch participation generally rises in January

XI. District Administrator Report

A. PEP Grant Update

The Board was informed that we have found another Grant writer out of CESA 6 to assist us in the grant writing process. We will be moving forward with this grant opportunity, which was started two years ago. Mr. Reynolds also informed the Board that we received notice that we have been chosen to receive a \$700.00 grant award from Target to use for field trips to the School Forest.

B. Approve 2012-2013 and 2013-2015 Calendars

Motion was made by MaryAnn Lippert, seconded by Lisa Schulz, to approve the 2012-13 and 2013-14 School Calendars as presented. Motion carried.

C. SLATE Conference Update

We had nine staff attend the State Technology (SLATE) Conference in Wisconsin Dells last week. Mr. Reynolds shared information on the conference with the Board.

D. Statewide Accountability System Update

The Board received a brief update on the Statewide Accountability system being developed by the State.

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

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

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

1) Personnel and Other Related Matters -19.85(1)(c)

XIII. Move out of Closed Session

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

XIV. Act upon Closed Sessions - No action taken.

XV. Adjourn

Motion was made by Jane Wesely, seconded by Connie Potter, to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Connie Potter, Clerk