

# SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 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, January 10, 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, Julie Strenn, and Lisa Schulz. Administration present: Terry Reynolds, District Administrator; John Olig, High School Principal; JoAnn Sondelski, Elementary Principal; Jeff Gast, Finance Director; Dick Koshaell, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Chris Nepper, Computer Technologies; 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 Lisa Schulz, seconded by MaryAnn Lippert, to approve the agenda for the January 10, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Pittsville School Board of Education. Item XI was moved to after Closed Session. Motion carried.

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

### VI. Student/Staff Reports

#### A. Distance Learning Lab Project/Greenhouse Project

Bill Urban, Karlette Kumm, Todd Steward, and FFA alumni were present to support the new green house project, and to discuss the additional student opportunities a new green house would provide. The Board also was provided further information on the Distance Learning Lab and the SCING Network out of CESA 5. The Board has requested to make an on-sight visit to see an area school's Distance Learning Lab.

#### B. Go Pittsville School Band Initiative

Amanda Lewin and Steve Zdun were present to explain a new initiative the Band Boosters are planning to help support the Instrumental Music Program here. The initiative will center on the Music Boosters soliciting for donated instruments for students to use at minimal cost.

### VII. Consent Agenda Items

#### A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 13, 2010

#### B. General Fund Invoices

#### C. Approve Updates to Policy 731.1: Control of Keys/Access Cards

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

### VIII. Financial

#### A. Financial Status of the District

A handout of the financial status of the District was presented and discussed with the Board. Information on the financial status of our Food Service program was shared. Both the breakfast and lunch programs are maintaining a positive balance, due mainly to the support that we have received from the Federal Government.

The Board received preliminary 2011-12 budget information. Much of this budget centers on what happens in the legislature in the months ahead. An anticipated deficit of at least \$162,718 is predicted at this time, with current staffing and budget allocations. This figure could rise as high as \$480,000 if the legislature lowers the current per pupil revenue limit increase from \$200 to \$0, and eliminate sparsity aid funding. The Administration and Board decided to schedule Finance Committee meetings to begin discussing the necessary cuts in order to balance next year's budget with multiple financial scenarios. A January 31 at 7:00 date was set for this first meeting.

## IX. Reports

### A. Director of Buildings and Grounds

- The winter weather has left plenty to do maintaining the walkways and parking lots. This also brings extra work to the custodial staff to keep the building's interior safe and clean.
- We had to replace the hot water heater that services the east end of the administration building at our expense. The warranty had run out.
- The company out of Milwaukee that repairs stage curtains is suppose to be on sight January 5 or 6. We have been waiting much too long for the repair, but that seems to be our limited option.
- We have had to repair the walk-in cooler at the elementary school. The compressor had to be replaced and a defrost timer added. This should keep the unit going for quite some time.
- The main office heat pump at the high school needs the compressor replaced. Parts have been ordered for some time. J.C.I. said that the parts for that unit have to come from the manufacturer. That is the reason for the hold up.

### B. Food Services

- We had our annual county health inspection on December 16. Both kitchens did very well. Copies of the inspection were given to the board and posted in both kitchens.
- We sampled coleslaw and home grown carrots in the cafeteria on December 20, then served the coleslaw on the menu the 21<sup>st</sup>. We will continue to serve coleslaw on this menu day using locally grown cabbage and carrots when available.
- This month we will be featuring Wisconsin potatoes. The plan is to visit some of the classrooms explaining how and where potatoes are produced, then pass out samples in the cafeteria and serve them on the menu January 21.

### C. Computer Technologies

- **Destiny Library Software.** Before winter break, our Destiny library software database backup program did not work correctly. Security access settings on the server were scrambled and could not be fixed. The database was moved off the server in order to rebuild the server from scratch, then restore the database. Our new virtual system worked as it was supposed to and the transferring of our library database from one server to another went flawlessly. All of this was done remotely over the Internet. This is one of the reasons why we invested in this virtual server technology and it has already paid off for us.
- **Electronic Door Locks.** Installation has been completed and the door locks are now operating across our network.

### D. Elementary School

- We will be registering students for 4K beginning January 31-February 11. Screening of children will be February 17<sup>th</sup> and February 18<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to meeting and getting to know these children, and we encourage parents to take advantage of getting their child registered early for our 4K program.
- Jeanie Moore will represent our school at the Every Child a Graduate Conference in Madison, January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Thursday's Keynote Address: *Teaching, Learning, and Leading, in the 21st Century* will focus on the importance of students being able to analyze new information and apply it to new situations in a "global knowledge economy." Friday's Keynote Address: *Learning Technologies and the Future of Schools* will focus on how education will change in the decades ahead as technology continues to have an impact on the way we teach and learn.
- Junior High Forensics is in full swing under the direction of Jodie Sanken and Tracy Neve. We have 60 students who are participating. Competition dates this year are February 3<sup>rd</sup> in Eau Claire and February 21<sup>st</sup> in Nekoosa. We are proud that so many students participate in this activity.

- Junior High students are also preparing for solo/ensemble competition. Competition this year will be in Granton on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- The new Specific Learning Disability criteria took affect December 1<sup>st</sup>
- Jeannie Pavlik received word that she is the recipient of a \$470.00 grant from Donorschoose.org. This money will be used by all third grade teachers for the purchase of blank books that the students will use to create their own literary pieces.
- Coaches' training for PBIS is going to be held on January 19<sup>th</sup> in Plover. Jan Hiles and Paula Bisek, our PBIS coaches, will be attending this.
- The National Guard LEAP (Learning Experiential Education Program) will be working with 5th graders at the end of the month with dates yet to be confirmed. Barney the School Bus will be here the beginning of February hopefully. Mrs. Bisek is working with Marv Kohlbeck to arrange for this program to happen at the elementary school. Barney the School Bus is provided to schools through Burnett out of Spencer and teaches students about bus safety.
- Justin Loew will be here on January 27 at 10:15 to speak with the 3rd grade in the community room.
- Semester 1 is nearly done! Grades are due January 18<sup>th</sup> and will be sent home on January 20<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to an awesome second semester!

#### **E. Senior High School**

- We have reached the halfway point of the school year. The teachers are preparing for the end of the semester. The semester grades are the grades that are reported on the official high school transcript. These are the grades colleges look at prior to accepting students. In some cases, failing classes requires that class be made up. The second week of January is a busy week for students at Pittsville High School.
- The other important component at the end of the first semester is the fresh start students receive. This is not just a new start in grading; but in many cases, changes in the courses students take. With the start of the second semester on Tuesday, January 18, students will be able to make changes with a clear slate. Students have eight days to make schedule changes from the start of the new semester. However, second semester schedules will be handed out on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, so schedule changes can be made prior to the start of the second semester. Students are highly encouraged to change their schedules prior to the new semester so they can begin their classes at that time. With a New Year's resolution to do better in classes and a change in the schedule, students have an opportunity to see positive changes quickly pertaining to grade improvement.
- With the changes of semester, we will again be running the Work Experience Program for our seniors. The Work Experience Program allows seniors the opportunity to gain a high school credit by working a job during the semester. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn job-related skills. The grading process includes a written paper as well as employer feedback. The biggest reason interested students don't get into the Work Experience Program is because students are unable to find a job. Mr. Olig started speaking to interested seniors prior to the Christmas break about this opportunity.
- We also are looking to offer a bigger reward day for our students through Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support, PBIS. A large component of PBIS is to reward students who are demonstrating positive behavior. In the past, our reward day has pertained to movies or an opportunity to play board games. In February, we are looking to take interested students to Powers Bluff for an opportunity to tube, snowboard or ski. This reward day was discussed during the in-service time on December 23. The students will be responsible for paying for the lift ticket which is \$8.00. The students wishing to attend the rewards day will need five golden tickets. Golden tickets are earned when staff members notice positive behavior. The new twist is that students with five or more discipline referrals will need twice the number of golden tickets to participate in the rewards day. Students with eight referrals will not be allowed to participate. The referrals referred to are referrals received since the start of the New Year. The tentative target date for this reward day is February 4.
- Since the start of the last school year, we have been discussing the Health and Human Growth and Development Curriculum. During this discussion, we have discovered a number of mandated topics and other areas which we feel would build valuable content for a class. We found that necessary topics were placed into the health curriculum because of the requirement to be taught. In doing this, the content needed to be shortened. Mrs. Leonhardt will be teaching the new class, *Personal and Life Skills*, which will be offered next year to sophomores and juniors. We are looking at eventually requiring that all sophomores take the course. We would look to include state-required topics like suicide and dating relationships as well as allowing more timely discussion of certain human growth and development

topics focusing on adult relationships. This is an opportunity to discuss financial literacy. There will also be time devoted to health and wellness. We are still in the process of building the curriculum.

- Finally, earlier this year, Mr. Olig reported that Pittsville High School has been chosen to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress, commonly referred to as NAEP. This is the testing that is often used to measure the educational achievement of US students as compared to students from other countries. Thirty of our seniors were randomly selected to participate in this computer based writing assessment. The selected seniors will be tested in groups of 15 starting the morning of February 2<sup>nd</sup>. I will know more details about this testing after I meet with the NAEP representative during the second week of January.

**X. District Administrator Report**

**A. April 5, 2011 Election Information Update.**

The drawing for ballot order took place on January 5. Ballot Order for the election is: 1) Connie L. Potter, 2) Nancy Potter, 3) Lisa A. Schulz.

**B. Strategic Planning**

The Board received an update on the action planning phase of the Strategic Planning. The two Goals which will have Action Plans developed this year are: 1) Strengthen Communication and Partnerships 2) Improve Student Achievement. An organizational meeting for these two Action Plans will be held on February 2.

**C. Primary School AHU/Roof Project**

Grumman /Butkus Associates supplied a three phase plan that could be used to defer costs over three years. The District is waiting to receive further pricing options from other contractors. More information will be available at the February meeting.

**D. Nursing Services for 2011-2012**

The board learned that the District will need to find another source for our nursing services, as the County has indicated they will be dropping their existing school services. The Administration will bring recommendations to the Board in February or March.

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

Motion was made by MaryAnn Lippert, 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 Issues - 19.85(1)(c)

**XII. Move out of Closed Session**

Motion was made by Connie Potter, seconded by Julie Strenn, to move out of closed session. Motion carried.

**XIV. Act upon Closed Sessions**

Motion was made by Julie Strenn, seconded by Connie Potter, to approve decisions made in Closed Session. Motion carried.

**XV. Board Discussion - WASB Delegate Assembly Questions - no action taken.**

**XVI. Adjourn**

Motion was made by Lisa Schulz, seconded by Julie Strenn, to adjourn at 10:15 p.m. Motion carried.