

SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 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, November 14, 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, with MaryAnn Lippert present via conference call but unable to cast any votes. Administration present: Terry Reynolds, District Administrator; John Olig, High School Principal; JoAnn Sondelski, Elementary Principal; Jeff Gast, Finance Director; Dick Koeshall; Chris Nepper, Computer Technologies.

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 MaryAnn Lippert, seconded by Jane Wesely, to approve the agenda for the October 10, 2011 meeting of the Pittsville School Board of Education. Motion carried.

V. Public Comments - no public comments.

VI. Strategic Planning - Communication Action Plan Presentation

Cindy Schooley of the Communication Action Plan Committee presented an Action Plan proposal for the Board to consider. The Board will review/study the plan further and make a decision on the plan at their next meeting.

VII. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 10, 2011
- B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 19, 2011
- C. General Fund Invoices

Motion was made by Connie Potter, seconded by Lisa Schulz, to approve the consent agenda items. 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.

B. Approve Resolution to Short Term Borrow 2011-2012

Motion was made by Jane Wesely, seconded by Connie Potter, to approved a Resolution to Short Term Borrow through November 2012. Motion carried.

IX. Reports

A. Elementary School

- The PTO has created a Need It/Give It Away board in the Elementary staff room on the chalkboard. If there is something you need for your classroom, write it and your name on a Post It and place it under the Need It category. If there is something you no longer need/want to give away, please write it and your name on a Post It and place it under the Give It Away category. We are hoping to create our very own "Craigslist" within the school to promote recycling reuse of school items.

- On Thursday, November 3rd, families had the wonderful opportunity to participate in a variety of math activities. A few of the activities children were able to partake in that evening were: create origami figures, construct 3-D shapes with toothpicks and marshmallows, sort and graph noodles, play number Bingo, work with hundreds chart, and manipulate tangrams. Families were able to learn about our new math program and how to access it online. SmartBoards and I-Pads were available for students to practice IXL and other math websites. Door prizes were handed out to the Rayburn, Weigel, and Knudson families. A math quilt, consisting of 21 math questions, challenged the children to think of how math is related to the everyday world. Math and numbers are all around us!! We had so many smart children AND adults!
- Gloria Young recently attending Association of American School Librarians in Minneapolis October 26-October 29. One of the most interesting sessions attended was on what the Internet is doing to our brains. Specifically, contributing the inability to focus and retain information in our long term memory. Despite that alarming information, the conference focused on many positive aspects of social media and how it can be utilized in education. This was an excellent convention and the opportunity to attend was greatly appreciated and beneficial.
- We have a record number of names to be displayed for our Veterans' Day Wall of Honor with approximately 650. The wall will be put up on November 8th.
- The Kindergarten students will be walking to the Veterans' Memorial on Friday. The children will look at the monuments, talk about the different flags that are displayed there, talk about who a veteran is and the children will see names on bricks of residents who have been or are currently in the service. They will also take time to look at the Veteran's wall near the auditorium and the children can find names of veterans on the wall that they know.
- Our 5th grade students under the direction of Tracy Neve have prepared our Veterans' Day Ceremony this year. The students have prepared an hour long program that will include many presentations by the students including music by the kindergarten students and the looping students. We look forward to this program every year and want to thank Mrs. Neve and her group of students for their leadership in the program this year.
- Our November Panther Diner will be held on November 8th. Mrs. Petersen's Tuesday and Thursday group of 4K students will be our guests.
- Students in Grades 2-3 will participate in Healthy Smiles on November 16th. This program sponsored by a grant through our county and with the help of Dr. Casey John provides sealants to children as a way to keep their teeth healthy.
- Our 8th grade students have the opportunity of attending 3-0 Day at the Mead Hotel in Wisconsin Rapids. 3-0 day stands for Our bodies, Our Selves, Our Responsibilities. There are ten different workshops of which each student will attend four. The workshops range in topics from depression and suicide to Internet safety and most everything in between. This is a unique opportunity that we are excited to offer our 8th grade students. This event will be chaperoned by Mrs. Niemann and Mrs. Sondelski.

B. Senior High School

- First quarter has been completed and report cards were sent home with students on Tuesday. The grades on these report cards will be used to determine student eligibility for high school athletics during the winter sports season.
- The winter sports athletic season begins on November 14. The 15 day period of ineligibility for competition for students begins the day after grades are due in the high school office. The teacher grades were due in the office on November 7; therefore, the first day a student was ineligible to compete was November 8. The actual period of ineligibility begins prior to the winter sports season. The first recheck of grades will be on November 30 (15 school days starting November 8). If a student is eligible on November 30, eligibility will be restored on December 1. November 24 and 25 are not counted due to Thanksgiving vacation. The 15 days of non-competition should be used by students to raise and maintain grades which will allow the student to be eligible for athletics. The students were reminded about grades and athletic eligibility at the start of the second quarter, November 8. Mr. Sanken will address this topic as well during the parent meeting on November 15 in the community room.
- For an athlete to be eligible to compete the student cannot receive a failing grade in any class and must maintain a grade point average of 1.75 or higher. A student's failure to maintain eligibility is most often due to failing grades not overall grade point average. For a student with

seven classes, generally speaking, the student needs to have at least two D's to be below the grade threshold of 1.75. I make these statements to help parents and students understand that one D on the report card is not a reason to panic. The student with a D or two usually offsets those grades with an A or B. Discussing these situations hopefully eliminates some of the anxiety caused by concern over the impact of quarterly grades on athletic participation. For students who are eligible to compete after the initial grade check, the next grade check is after semester grades are due in the office. The second quarter grades will then be used to determine eligibility.

- In a recent edition of *The Pittsville Record*, and in a future district newsletter, you will be able to see pictures of lettuce grown in the new green house. The students enjoyed this home grown lettuce on November 4 as part of our lunch program. Mr. Urban is working to make the process more cost efficient.
- November 14, the FFA will host a poverty supper for the high school students. The purpose of a poverty supper is to demonstrate what the majority of people eat for supper throughout the world.
- Selected English students will have the opportunity participate in the annual Writer's Workshop hosted by UW-Stevens Point on December 1.
- The high school Christmas Concert is December 11. The community is encouraged to come out and witness the talent of our music students. Their talent was displayed at the POPS concert on November 6.
- The annual Wisconsin Knowledge and Concept Examination (WKCE) was given to sophomores during the week of November 7. The sophomores are the only class in the high school required by the state of Wisconsin to take this test. The testing process began on November 8 when Mrs. Seevers, the interim guidance counselor, completed some goal testing with the sophomores. The goal setting helped the sophomores to understand some of the importance of the testing. The results from the testing should be used to plan future career choices and hopefully assist students in choosing classes while in high school to prepare for life after high school. The actual sophomore testing began on Tuesday. The sophomores tested during two or three class periods through Friday. The testing was completed during first through third hour or during fourth and fifth hour.
- In the near future the WKCE will be replaced by a new test which will be aligned with the new Common Core Curriculum. The new test will probably be given to juniors. There will be more information about the new test as it is developed.
- In November and December, the English teachers will be meeting with Pam Hillisheim-Setz, of CESA 5, to examine our curriculum and look for gaps in relation to the Common Core. We expect additional curriculum to be added to our current English curriculum. As a result some reading skills will be moved to the more appropriate content areas.

X. District Administrator Report

A. April 3, 2012

Julie Strenn's School Board position is up for re-election this year. Declaration of Candidacy paper work is due for the first Tuesday in January (January 3).

B. 2012-2014 School Calendar Survey Updates

The Board discussed the results of the 2012-14 School Calendar survey. It was evident the majority of the 194 people taking the survey preferred to continue to have a 5 day Spring Break. Mr. Reynolds will provide the Board with some calendar options in December to consider.

C. School Forest Update

The Board was updated on the latest developments of the School Forest Committee initiatives. The \$29,000 grant we received is being used to further develop the School Forest site. Trail development, Educational Shelter construction, and educational supplies highlight the grant initiatives.

D. WASB Board Policy Review Program

The Board considered two possible options for further policy development. WASB offers Policy Review services on an hourly basis or a Policy Resource Guide Program. The Board indicated they

preferred to use the Policy Resource Guide option. By selecting this service, the Board will have more flexibility in developing policies that are locally oriented.

E. WASB Convention Planning

The Board discussed participation at the WASB State School Board Convention in January.

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

Motion was made by Lisa Schulz, seconded by Connie Potter, 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	Absent
Connie Potter	Yes	Julie Strenn	Yes		

1) Personnel Matters - 19.85(1)(c)

- 1) Personnel and Other Related Matters -19.85(1)(c)
 - (a) PEA Base Salary Negotiations/Ratification

XII. Move out of Closed Session

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

XIII. Act upon Closed Sessions

Motion was made by Lisa Schulz, seconded by Connie Potter, to approve ratification of PEA Base Salary Agreement. Motion carried (4-0).

XIV. Adjourn

Motion was made by Lisa Schulz, seconded by Connie Potter, to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Connie Potter, Clerk