

# PITMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Board of Education Meeting

January 17, 2024

### Minutes

***Motion - Pappalardo  
2nd - Farrell***

"That the Pitman Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m."

***All in Favor***

#### **Executive Session**

***Motion by: Pappalardo  
2nd: Higbee Ionno***

"That the following Resolution is adopted:

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Pitman Board of Education that pursuant to the Open Public

Meetings Law (NJSA 10:4-1 et. seq.) that it shall immediately enter into an Executive Session to discuss a matter that the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy and a matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation performance, promotion or disciplining of any prospective or current public officer or employee.

The information discussed at this meeting can be disclosed to the public only upon formal written request to the Secretary of the Board of Education at the next Special or Action meeting to disclose the information discussed."

**Carried by Voice Vote**

#### **Return to Public Meeting:**

***Motion by: Pappalardo  
2nd: Farrell***

"The Pitman Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 pm"

#### **Notice of Meeting per Sunshine Law Requirements**

Notice of this Regular Meeting of the Pitman Board of Education was advertised in the South Jersey Times, posted at Borough Hall, a copy thereof delivered to all Pitman Schools to be posted, and posted on the district's web site. Further, notice was posted and filed as required by law stating that the Board would meet in Executive Closed Session at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Pitman High School Media Center. The President shall entertain any objections, with support reasons, to the conduct of this meeting on the grounds it violates the Open Public Meetings Act.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

April Miller - President  
Stacey Pappalardo - Vice President  
Rebecca Higbee-Ionno - Member  
Melissa Farrell - Member  
Natalie Pote - Member  
Sara Boulton - Member  
Steven Crispin - Superintendent  
Carisa Rose - Board Secretary

Absent - David Grossman - Member

**PRESENTATIONS**

Presentations

- All State Chorus Jacket Presentation
- Staff Spotlight - Jr./Sr. High School
  - ❖ Sarah Mickle

Break starting at 7:40 pm  
Returning to session at 7:44 pm

**Public Comment - No Comment**

**Correspondence - No Correspondence**

**Approval of Minutes**

***Motioned by: Miller  
2nd: Farrell***

December 13, 2023  
December 13, 2023 Executive Session  
January 3, 2024 Reorganization

***All in Favor***

**President's Report**

This BOE is committed to supporting the operation of Pitman Public School Districts in grades preschool through 12th grade. We are unanimous and NOT supportive of closing the high school.

We recognize the value of Pitman High School and educational experiences that it continues to provide to our students. We are appreciative of the staff, administrator, etc.

I will not be speaking to the specifics of ANY of the various rumors, but I will be providing some information that I think could be helpful to members of the public when they hear these rumors.

- Should Pitman close the high school or become a non-operating district in grades preschool -12th, we are still responsible for the cost of educating the students we send out of our district, inclusive of special education costs, transportation, alternative placements, etc.
- What a regional high school tax allocation looks like per the NJ DOE, which governs the allocation of what each municipality pays as their portion in a regional high school. This is a six part formula. I will also share some of GloCo's numbers to demonstrate that a regional tax base does not equal a cost savings to homeowners in many area communities. I will also share the tax costs associated with a K-6 or K-8 that some area municipalities pay, demonstrating that reducing our population served to a K-6 or K-8 will not likely be a cost savings measure. Another item of note, if Pitman were to regionalize with an area community where a large portion of the other community's real estate included a college campus, that portion of the other community's real estate holdings are not ratables. The ratables are the driving factor in allocation of municipal tax burdens in regional high schools, with the equalization valuation. Therefore, Pitman would likely have a larger tax burden than the other municipality/community, particularly if the other municipality had further declining enrollment (another factor in the regional tax allocation) or socio economic factors.
- I will highlight the statute on terminating a sending and receiving relationship in the state of the NJ and some of the various court cases. The petitioning district MUST prove that there is no educational, financial or racial impact on the district to end a sending and receiving relationship.
- I will also briefly expand on the aid differential within the state funding formula. I think that the LFS and enrollment related funding formula discrepancies are certainly the primary topic we have focused on in the past but that categorical aid and SDA/ROD district differentials are important for members of the public to understand as well.

### Superintendent's Report

1. HIB
2. Security Drills
3. Playground Update
4. Possible Referendum
5. HIB Semi-Annual Report
6. High IMPact Tutoring
  - a. Catapult is working hard to staff so they can begin the tutoring in our district

### Student Representative Report

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#### **DATA AD HOC COMMITTEE - Farrell, Pote, Miller**

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#### **CSA SEARCH AD HOC COMMITTEE - Boulton, Farrell, Miller**

- December 20th meeting to discuss interview questions
- January 6 th meeting to review the preliminary candidates and the interview process
- January 22nd, 24th, and 25th are interview dates.

#### **FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE – Grossman, Boulton, Miller**

***Motioned by: Boulton***

***2nd: Higbee Ionnon***

1. Approve all line-item transfers be approved for the month of December 2023.
2. Approve the Board Secretary's Report which is in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of December 2023. The Board Secretary certifies that no line-item account has been over

expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10(c)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. The Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10(c)2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.

- 3. Approve the Board of Education certification, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, that after review of the Board Secretary’s monthly financial report for the month of December 2023 and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10(b); and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- 4. Approve the Treasurer’s Report which is in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of December 2023. The Treasurer’s Report and Board Secretary’s Report are in agreement for the month of December 2023.
- 5. Approve all bills which are properly approved and certified to be paid.
- 6. Amend the following committee appointments which were originally approved at the January 3, 2024 reorganization meeting under Communication and Policy listed under motion 4 to the following appointments:

Gloucester County School Board Executive Committee Representative:	Stacey Pappalardo
NJSBA Delegate Voting Member: Alternate:	David Grossman Sara Boulton
Liaison to Borough Council:	April Miller

- 7. Retroactively approve the Business Administrator to solicit for proposals (RFP) for Bond Counsel.
- 8. Approve the submission of the Building Capacity in Careers Pathway Grant application for the 2024/2025 school year.
- 9. Approve the Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission’s 2024/2025 fee schedule.
- 10. Approve the McKinney Vento tuition contract for the following student who is not domiciled in Monroe Township for the 2023/2024 school year:

<u>Student ID#</u>	<u>Sending District</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>Effective</u>
1057796860	Monroe Township	\$11,726.39	12/1/23-6/30/24

- 11. Approve the agreement with The Wall Street Journal for a digital subscription for six months, \$100 a month, for a total cost of \$600 for the 2023/2024 school year.
- 12. Approve the disposal of outdated books at Pitman Jr./Sr. High School.

**Roll Call – 1-12**

**Yes 6:** Highbee-Ionno, Boulton, Farrell, Pappalardo, Pote, Miller

**Abstain 0:**

No: 0  
 Absent 1 : -Grossman

**CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE – Pappalardo, Pote, Boulton**

**Motioned by: Farrell**  
**2nd: Pappalardo**

1. Student Statistics December 2023:

Date	Memorial	PES	Jr./Sr. HS	Out of District	Alternate	Total
12/31/23	237	413	489	19	0	1158
11/30/23	237	414	489	19	0	1159
Date	Elementary	Middle	High	Out of District	Alternate	Total
12/31/22	554	254	324	15	0	1147

Suspensions/Reasons:

- Vandalism: 1
- Inappropriate Behavior: 1

2. Approve the Substitute List for the 2023/2024 school year.
3. Approve the travel and related expenses particular to attendance of staff and board members on the attached list of approved school business leaves (Conference/Workshop/Meeting/Staff Training) are justified and therefore reimbursable.
4. Approve all field trips as submitted.
5. Approve the Use of Facilities as attached.
6. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Pitman Board of Education and the Pitman Police Department for the 2023/2024 school year (documentation on file in the Board of Education Office).
7. Rescind the following extra service contract for the 2023/2024 school year effective February 1, 2024:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Heather Sherrill	FBLA advisor	\$1,500

8. Approve the following extra service contract for the 2023/2024 school year effective February 1, 2024, funded from the Building Capacity to Careers Pathway Grant.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Suzanne Granato-Castro	FBLA advisor	\$1,500 (prorated)

9. Rescind the following Student Voice Club advisors for the 2023/2024 school year (Title IV funds):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Laurie Boyle/Sarah Weng	Jr./Sr. High	\$1,000 each

10. Retroactively approve the resignation of Robert Fiscaro, Girls’ Tennis Volunteer Coach, effective January 3, 2024.

11. Approve Danielle Fiscella as a Computer Science Teacher at Pitman Jr./Sr. High School effective on or about January 18, 2024 through June 30, 2024 at a prorated annual salary of \$68,629 based on MA/Step 13 of the salary guide (pending receipt of proper paperwork).

Background: Replacing Christopher Hauer

12. Approve Mario Vitola as a replacement/long term substitute teacher for STEM at Pitman Jr. High School effective on or about January 18, 2024 through on or about March 15, 2024, to be paid the substitute rate of \$120 per day plus a stipend in the amount of \$40 per day through the duration of his placement in this assignment.

Background: Replacing Stephen Hare

13. Approve Isabelle Nicholas as a volunteer music director for the spring musical for the 2023/2024 school year (pending receipt of proper paperwork).

14. Approve the retirement resignation, with regret, of Diane Zimmerman, secretary at Memorial School, effective May 1, 2024.

15. Approve the reappointment of Deborah Raneiro as a secretary at Memorial School effective May 1, 2024 at a prorated annual salary of \$50,424, Step A of the ten-month secretary salary guide.

Background: Replacing Diane Zimmerman

16. Retroactively approve the following leave(s) of absence:

Employee	Location	Type of Leave	FMLA/FLA	Dates
14041560	PES	Medical	FMLA: 11/29/23-1/15/24	Paid Sick Days: 11/29/23-1/2/24 Unpaid: 1/3/24-1/15/24
13947940	Memorial	Medical	N/A	Revised: Paid Sick Days: 11/30/23-1/8/24
14041834	Jr./Sr. High School	Other	N/A	Paid Sick Days: 1/2/24-3/15/24

**Roll Call – 2-16**

**Yes 6:** Highbee-Ionno, Boulton, Farrell, Pappalardo, Pote, Grossman, Miller

**Abstain 1:** Miller (2)

**No: 0**

**Absent 1 :** Grossman

**COMMUNICATION & POLICY COMMITTEE - Higbee-Ionno, Farrell, Miller**

**Public Comment - No Comment**

Michael Razze - Echo the comments of Dr. Lombardo of Ms Mickle. Thanks Ms Miller on her comments and presentation on the school district. As a parent graduate and property owner I appreciate you stifling the rumors and the commitment to the district.

**Adjournment**

**Motion: Farrell**

**2nd: Pote**

“The Pitman Public Schools board meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm”

*All in Favor*