

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, March 8, 2010 7:00 PM

PPMS Library, 1 Route 164, Preston, CT 06365

I. Call to Order	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
II. Pledge of Allegiance	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
III. Approval of Minutes	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
IV. Public Communications and Comments	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
V. Board of Education Committee and Other Reports	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
VI. Superintendent Reports and Recommendations	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Welch (Superintendent)
VI.A. BOE Expenditure/Projection Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Welch (Superintendent)
VI.B. Preston Cafeteria Profit and Loss Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Welch (Superintendent)
VII. New Business	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
VII.A. Votes Required	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
VII.B. Discussion	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
VIII. Old Business	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
VIII.A. Votes Required	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
VIII.B. Discussion	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
IX. Information	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)
X. Executive Session	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Pauline Andruskiewicz (Board Chair)

## **Board of Education Regular Meeting**

February 08, 2010 07:00PM

Preston Veterans' Memorial School Library

### **1. Call to Order**

Pauline Andruskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. **Other Members Present:** James Jancewicz, Sandra Gauthier and Charles Raymond. Deborah Burke-Grabarek arrived at 7:04pm. John Moulson arrived at 7:34pm. Daniel Harris was absent. **Also Present:** Dr. Welch; Superintendent, Gloria Homiski; Recording Secretary, Ivy Davis; Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education, Kathryn Walsh; Principal PVMS, Michael House; Director of Buildings and Grounds, Gary Miller; Interim Business Manager, Emile Levasseur; Technology Coordinator, Patricia Hibbard; Transportation Coordinator, Amy Campbell, Sue Hess, Bob Maurice, Charlotte Fenton, Patti Daniels, Becky Boenig, Kevin Mercik, Representative Reynolds, Senator Maynard, Sally Kropp, and Attorney Nick Grello.

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Moved, to approve the minutes of 1/11/10 as presented. Gauthier/Jancewicz. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

### **4. Public Communications and Comments**

Representative Tom Reynolds and Senator Andrew Maynard addressed the Board. The state of Connecticut will have a 6 billion dollar deficit in the upcoming budget years. They hope to maintain level funding for municipalities and educational budgets. The Mohegan Pequot Fund took the greatest hit as far as municipal aid goes and excess cost sharing was affected on the school side. 18-20 percent of state revenues have disappeared. Both Representative Reynolds and Senator Maynard are hoping for positive leadership change and structural reform.

Sally Kropp from Kropp Environmental also addressed the Board. She gave the Board members and audience members an update with regard to the oil spill. Interested audience members visited the art room, and hallway outside the boiler room to see well pumps in action and get a better understanding of the long term decisions that need to be made for the future of the school.

CSEA Grievances were presented by Kevin Mercik; CSEA Union Representative. Mr. Mercik withdrew Alan Wunderlich's grievance on his behalf. He then presented the facts pertaining to Patti Daniels' grievance. The members do not agree with the way field trips are being posted and hope to change that process.

Moved, to take the agenda out of order to allow for Executive Session. Burke-Grabarek/Jancewicz. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

Moved, to convene in Executive Session in order to discuss strategy or negotiations with respect to Collective Bargaining and to discuss the employment of a public official. Burke-Grabarek/Andruskiewicz. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

Moved, to come out of Executive Session at 9:31pm. Andruskiewicz/Jancewicz. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

Moved, to deny the CSEA Grievance. Jancewicz/Raymond. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

Moved, to authorize the Board Chair and Attorney Nick Grello to enter into contract negotiations in order to extend the contract of the Superintendent. Andruskiewicz/Jancewicz. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

## **5. Board of Education Committee and Other Reports**

### **6. Superintendent Reports and Recommendations**

Dr. Welch reviewed the Town of Preston's Budget Appropriation for Education in fiscal year 2011. The BOE will be entitled to \$10,020,032 next year. This is the budgeted amount for this year and was the budgeted amount for last year as well.

Dr. Welch addressed the Board with respect to Air Quality Testing. Five tests have been conducted to date since the onset of the oil spill. To date, PVMS is still using bottled water as a precautionary measure despite clean water testing.

Dr. Michael Schmoker will be presenting on 2-12-10 at PPMS from 8:30am to 11:30am. All Board members are invited to attend. Dr. Schmoker is the author of Results and Results Now.

#### **6.1. BOE Expenditure/Projection Report**

Gary Miller reviewed his expenditure/projection report to date with the board. He also talked about the acquisition of joint financial software for the Town and BOE. Three vendors answered the RFP and the committee is in the process of reviewing bids, etc.

#### **6.2. Preston Cafeteria Profit and Loss Report**

## **7. New Business**

### **7.1. Votes Required**

### **7.2. Discussion**

A presentation of the Be Safe System was given by Emile Levasseur; Technology Coordinator. Be Safe is a software program that provides floor plans, photos, live video and other unique building features and content that is easily accessible to police, fire, EMT's, and other first responders. The purchase of this software will be extremely useful in the event of an emergency at any one of our buildings.

## **8. Old Business**

### **8.1. Votes Required**

### **8.2. Discussion**

## **9. Information**

Dr. Welch stated that the Instrumental/Choral concert was very well attended at PPMS on 1-28-10. Congratulations to both students and Mrs. Feltes and Mr. Fitzgerald.

Dr. Walsh addressed the Board with respect to the Elementary Celebration of the Arts Festival held at the Aqua-Turf Club. Two 5<sup>th</sup> grade Preston students and their families and teachers were chosen to participate in this night of celebration hosted by the Connecticut Association of Schools.

## **10. Executive Session**

## **11. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**Monday, March 8, 2010**

7pm PVMS Library

12. Adjournment

Moved, to adjourn the meeting at 10:53pm. Andruskiewicz/Jancewicz. Unanimous.  
Motion Carries.

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Chairperson

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Superintendent

**ARTICLE 10**  
**Subcontracting**

Section 10.0

The Union recognizes that the Board has the management right, during the life of this Agreement, to decide to subcontract any or all work performed by bargaining unit employees. Such decisions shall however, be made only after the employer has conducted a formal feasibility study determining the potential costs and other benefits which would result from contracting out the work in question. The employer agrees to notify the Union within one week after its decision to conduct a feasibility study, indicating the job classifications and work areas affected. The employer shall provide the Union with no less than thirty (30) days notice that it intends to issue bids to contract out bargaining unit work where the decision would result in displacement of bargaining unit members. During the thirty (30) day period, the employer shall not release any bids and the Union shall have the opportunity to submit an alternate proposal. The notification by the employer to the Union of the results of the feasibility study will include all pertinent information upon which the employer based its decision to contract out the work including but not limited to the total cost savings the employer anticipates.

Section 10.1

If the Union's proposal would result in providing quality and savings equal to or greater than the identified in the management plan, the parties will agree in writing to implement the Union proposal. Further, that management's right to subcontract out bargaining unit work shall not be used for the purpose or intention of undermining the Union. The Board shall bargain over any impact on bargaining unit employees resulting from subcontracting. This Article shall be effective July, 1, 2000.

**ARTICLE 11**  
**Jury Duty**

Section 11.0

An employee who is called to jury duty shall promptly notify the Superintendent of Schools while school is in session. This leave shall not be deducted from sick leave or from personal days. The employee shall receive a rate of pay equal to the difference between the individual's salary and the jury fee for up to five (5) days.

**ARTICLE 12**  
**Seniority**

Section 12.0

Seniority is defined as the employee's continuous service with the Board from the employee's date of hire within the bargaining unit.

Section 12.1

Seniority may be deemed broken for any of the following reasons:

12.1.1 Termination for just cause or resignation.



## Ann-etta Cannon "READ - IN"



Dear Friends,

The Preston Veterans' Memorial School community is hosting our annual Ann-etta Cannon READ IN on Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

The purpose of the day is to instill in all of us a joy for reading and to send out the message loud and clear - Reading is FUN!

We would like to invite you to be a visiting reader. You may volunteer to read during the morning, afternoon or both!

During the school day, the students will be participating in a variety of reading experiences. Activities will include individual silent reading, chorale reading and listening to books read aloud by our special guests - which means YOU!

You will be provided with books to read to groups of children, but if you have a special young children's book that you enjoy, you may bring it along. We will provide you with light refreshments in our Hospitality Room.

Please let us know if you can share the day with us, by sending an email to Anna Sobanski at [sobanskia@prestonschools.org](mailto:sobanskia@prestonschools.org) or leave her a phone message at 887-3113 X 104. We will need your response by Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, so that we can work on a schedule of readers for each classroom. Please let us know what time of day is best for you. We will contact you with your assignment when the READ-IN Schedule is complete.

We are excited about the Ann-etta Cannon READ IN on March 26<sup>th</sup>, and want to share our excitement with the community. Please consider joining us for this special event.

Sincerely,

The Ann-etta Cannon READ-IN Committee



**PRESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Office of the Superintendent of Schools**  
**325 Shetucket Turnpike**  
**Preston, Connecticut 06365-8631**

**John J. Welch, Ed.D.**  
*Superintendent of Schools*  
*welchj@prestonschools.org*

**(860) 889-6098**  
**FAX (860) 889-8685**

February 9, 2010

Mr. Robert Maurice  
51 Branch Hill Road  
Preston, CT 06365

Dear Mr. Maurice,

It has been brought to my attention, on several occasions, that the Board of Finance is not receiving Board of Education minutes and financials in a timely manner. In order to make certain that this is not the case, I will bring copies of both documents to the Preston Town Hall the day following our BOE meeting. I will address the package to you and leave it with Donna Kopetz in the Selectman's office.

I will also continue to email the documents to your Recording Secretary within 24 hours of our own meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Homiski".

Gloria Homiski  
BOE Recording Secretary

cc: Dr. Welch  
**Preston BOE**  
Mr. Robert Congdon

**Special Joint Meeting of the Preston Board of Education, Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen**

February 23, 2009 07:00PM

PVMS Library

**1. Call to Order**

**Bob Maurice took role call at 7:04pm. BOE Members Present:** Pauline Andruskiewicz, Charles Raymond and John Moulson. Deborah Burke-Grabarek, Daniel Harris, Sandra Gauthier and James Jancewicz were absent.

**Also Present:** Dr. John Welch; Superintendent, Gloria Homiski; Recording Secretary and Gary Miller; Interim Business Manager.

**2. Recommendation of the Sub-Committee regarding Financial Software**

Gary Miller addressed the Boards with respect to the consolidated software that the committee is recommending.

**3. Demonstration of Financial Software**

Two representatives from Phoenix presented this software to the Boards and audience members.

This software would tie in the Town accounts with the BOE accounts to enable a joint Financial Director to oversee both entities.

**4. Possible Action on Purchase of Financial Software**

No action was taken. Neither the Board of Finance nor the Board of Education had a quorum. Also, it was requested that Marcia Marien come to the next BOE meeting to give her opinion on this software purchase.

**5. Oil Spill @ PVMS**

Bob Congdon; First Selectmen, addressed the Board with regard to the oil spill at PVMS. He reviewed the current costs incurred and stated that an additional meeting would need to be scheduled in order to appropriate funds. To date, bills total approximately \$480,000.00.

**6. Board of Finance March Meeting - Scheduling or Canceling**

The Selectmen's regular meeting of February 25<sup>th</sup> was cancelled. The Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen scheduled a special joint meeting for Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at PVMS.

**7. Public Comment**

**8. Adjournment**

**Bob Maurice adjourned the meeting at 9:15pm.**