

AGENDA for Meeting of the Pelham School Committee
Tuesday, June 27, 2017
5:45 PM
Library, Amherst Regional High School

Welcome

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Minutes of June 7, 2017

Announcements and Public Comments

New and Continuing Business

- 1) Superintendent Evaluation (Vote)
- 2) Bill S223 Foundation Budget Resolution (Possible Vote)
- 3) Regionalization Exploration (Possible Vote)

Adjournment

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Pelham School Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 7, 2017
Community Room, Pelham Library

IN ATTENDANCE

Ron Mannino, Vice-Chair	Mike Morris, Interim Superintendent
Emily Marriott	Lisa Desjarlais, Principal
Jesse Jean-Louis	Doreen Cunningham, Assistant Superintendent of Diversity, Equity & Human Resources
ABSENT:	Debbie Westmoreland, Recorder
Cara Castenson	

1. Call to Order and Approve Minutes **6:32 p.m.**

Mr. Mannino called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Ms. Marriott moved to approve the minutes of May 16, 2017. Ms. Jean-Louis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

2. Announcements and Public Comment **6:34 p.m.**

There were no announcements or public comments.

3. Principal's and Interim Superintendent's Update **6:34 p.m.**

DOCUMENT: Interim Superintendent's Update to the Pelham School Committee dated June 7, 2017

Dr. Morris introduced Doreen Cunningham, the districts' new Assistant Superintendent of Diversity, Equity and Human Resources. Ms. Cunningham briefly shared some of the work she plans to do for the district, particularly around issues of equity. Dr. Morris then highlighted several items from his update including the Furthering Diversity Conference he attended; upcoming district events including ARHS graduation, STARS in Special Education, the Employee Recognition Event, and the Pelham Moving Up ceremony; and the immigration rights and support meeting scheduled for next Wednesday, June 14 at the ARMS library. Ms. Desjarlais recognized Pelham teachers Kate Thurston, Tom Fanning and Sara Mattison-Buhl for attaining professional status in the Pelham district. Teachers who are retiring include Meg Gallagher and Virginia Servos, and Nettie Harrington is moving to Virginia. William Lawrie has been hired to teach kindergarten, Carol Schotte will be teaching preschool, Sarah LaPlante will be teaching third grade, and Catherine Havens will be the new speech and language pathologist. Ms. Marriott welcomed Ms. Cunningham, noting that she is excited to have her in this new position in the district.

4. New and Continuing Business **6:45 p.m.**

A. Defining Membership and Process for the Exploratory Working Group on Innovative Small School Models

Dr. Morris reminded the committee that they discussed moving forward with exploring innovative small school models at their last meeting. He noted that he worked with Ms. Castenson to develop draft language for recruiting membership in the working group as follows:

On May 16, 2017, the Pelham School Committee voted unanimously to form an exploratory working group to investigate innovative small school models. The working group will be comprised of parents/guardians, **including choice families**; staff members; and School Committee members who will explore sustainable models in which small elementary schools remain attractive and viable in similar rural communities. The working group will study different models, take site visits to innovative schools, and share their findings and feedback with the Pelham School Committee and Pelham school community. The working group is expected to begin in the fall and conclude by next spring; please contact Debbie Westmoreland at westmorelanddd@arps.org or 413-362-1810 if you are interested in participating on this important group that may influence the future of our beloved Pelham Elementary School.

Ms. Jean-Louis suggested that choice parents should be included in the group if they wish to participate and that change was made to the text (in bold). Discussion followed regarding ways to disseminate the request for membership.

Suggestions include:

- the district all-call system
- the Town of Pelham website
- the *Pelham Slate*

Discussion followed regarding the make-up of the committee. Ms. Marriott suggested inviting the PGO to send a representative and Ms. Desjarlais noted that having two faculty members would be sufficient.

B. School Options Committee Update/Recommendations

DOCUMENT: School Options Committee Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2017

Dr. Morris read the vote taken by the School Options Committee, which was to recommend to the School Committee to pursue a potential K-6 regionalization with Amherst as the best possible options for the sustainable financial future of Pelham School with the understanding that the top priority for Pelham in any such discussions will be to ensure that Pelham School continues to serve students for as long as possible. He noted that Ms. Castenson's hope is that this item can be discussed and potentially voted on at the June 27 meeting. Dr. Morris briefly reviewed the process that is required for regionalization, which includes votes at each Town Meeting. He noted that there would be fewer challenges to an Amherst/Pelham Regionalization than there would have been to the K-12 regionalization that was last studied. Dr. Morris expressed appreciation that the School Options Committee reached a unanimous decision for a recommendation to the School Committee.

C. Policy: Protection of Undocumented Students

DOCUMENT: Students: Protection of Undocumented Students

Ms. Marriott moved to approve Policy JII: Protection of Undocumented Students. Ms. Jean-Louis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

D. Timeline for Superintendent Evaluation

Ms. Marriott noted that members have received the link to the evaluation instrument, and the deadline for completion is June 13.

E. Meeting Schedule (late June and Next Year)

A meeting is scheduled for June 27 for the purpose of the public evaluation of the Superintendent. It was agreed that the Pelham School Committee will meet separately and discussion followed about the time. The discussion was for a 10:00 a.m. meeting on the 27th in the Pelham Community Room if it is agreeable to Ms. Castenson. There was also discussion about making Pelham meetings on the first Tuesday of each month next school year and there was consensus agreement to do so.

F. Appropriate Technology Use

Ms. Marriott noted that she is interested in having a better understanding of the school's approach to technology and media, including how decisions are made regarding appropriate use. Mr. Mannino asked how Chromebooks are used. Dr. Morris noted that the main ways technology is used in our districts are for adaptive technology use for students with special needs, for teaching technology as a life-skill, and in places where technology can replace more traditional methods to make learning more engaging and for efficiency. He noted that technology is not used just for technology's sake. Dr. Morris explained that Chromebooks gives students access to incredible resources outside of school and teachers can provide active feedback as students are working. Ms. Marriott noted that it seems that it can be tricky to find the balance between that type of interaction between students and teachers and direct interaction. Dr. Morris said that promoting more physical teacher movement around the room and away from the screen can be helpful. Ms. Desjarlais said she sees the white boards used in grades K-6 and the Chromebooks used more in grades three through six. She said she likes what she sees the Pelham teachers doing with technology, noting that they are using it in a way that makes the learning engaging but they are not overusing it. Ms. Marriott asked if the districts have any formal way of assessing the effectiveness of technology use. Dr. Morris noted that it has been more informal through staff surveys. Effectiveness for students with special needs is monitored through IEP goals. In the other uses of technology, the effectiveness is judged in a much more anecdotal nature. Ms. Marriott asked if there is a policy that guides use of technology as a reward or treat. Ms. Desjarlais said there is not an articulated policy, noting that she does not think it has been an issue requiring such a policy. Dr. Morris noted that technology as an incentive is sometimes used as part of a behavioral plan for a student. Ms. Desjarlais offered to have Mr. Fanning come to a future meeting to share information about how technology is used in Pelham School and the committee expressed their desire to have him come to present.

G. SC Representative to the Collaborative

Dr. Morris described the role of the representative to the Collaborative for Educational Services. None of the members present are able to commit to serving in the role at this time.

H. Approve the UFCW Recognition Agreement

DOCUMENT: Recognition Agreement (with United Food and Commercial Workers Union, Local 1459, Public Employee Division

Dr. Morris reviewed the agreement that is being proposed with UFCW since the Regional School Committee voted to move to an in-house food service program. The food service workers who currently work for Whitsons will become employees of the district, and this agreement will allow those employees to unionize. Dr. Morris noted that food for Pelham students is cooked at Fort River and delivered to Pelham. Ms. Marriott moved to accept the enclosed recognition agreement between the Pelham School Committee and the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, Local 1459. Mr. Jean Louis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

G. Accept Gifts

DOCUMENT: Memo to Pelham School Committee from Jill Berry, Region Treasurer, dated May 31, 2017

Ms. Marriott moved to accept \$50 from anonymous for the Pelham music program for use at the teacher's discretion. Ms. Jean Louis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. Adjourn

8:08 p.m.

Ms. Jean-Louis moved to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Ms. Marriott seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbie Westmoreland

SENATE No. 223

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sonia Chang-Diaz

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act modernizing the foundation budget for the 21st century.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/26/2017</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/26/2017</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/27/2017</i>
<i>Solomon Goldstein-Rose</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/27/2017</i>
<i>Kenneth J. Donnelly</i>	<i>Fourth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Leonard Mirra</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>	
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Jose F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Robert M. Koczera</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>

<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Adam G. Hinds</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>	<i>Second Suffolk and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Bud Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>RoseLee Vincent</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Eileen M. Donoghue</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Daniel Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Juana Matias</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Joseph A. Boncore</i>	<i>First Suffolk and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Kate D. Campanale</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>James E. Timilty</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

<i>Cynthia S. Creem</i>	<i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Natalie Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Geoff Diehl</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Kevin J. Kuros</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Peter V. Kocot</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>William Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>4th Berkshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>2/8/2017</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>	<i>3/3/2017</i>
<i>Marc R. Pacheco</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>3/29/2017</i>
<i>John H. Rogers</i>	<i>12th Norfolk</i>	<i>4/3/2017</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>4/7/2017</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>	<i>4/7/2017</i>
<i>Kathleen O'Connor Ives</i>	<i>First Essex</i>	<i>4/11/2017</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	<i>4/13/2017</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>5/30/2017</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>6/1/2017</i>

SENATE No. 223

By Ms. Chang-Diaz, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 223) of Sonia Chang-Diaz, Jack Lewis, Jason M. Lewis, Marjorie C. Decker and other members of the General Court for legislation to modernize the foundation budget for the 21st century. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act modernizing the foundation budget for the 21st century.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 5B the following section:-

3 Section 5B½. (a) Annually, not later than January 15, the secretary of administration and
4 finance shall meet with the house and senate committees on ways and means and jointly
5 determine an implementation schedule to fulfill the recommendations filed on November 2,
6 2015, by the foundation budget review commission established in section 4 of chapter 70. The
7 implementation schedule shall establish a foundation budget as defined in section 2 of said
8 chapter 70 and incorporating the recommendations made by the commission relative to the
9 categories of tuitioned-out special education rate, assumed in-school special education
10 enrollment, low-income increment, low-income enrollment, foundation benefits, retired
11 employee health insurance and English language learner increment; provided, however, that in
12 the first year of the term of office of a governor who has not served in the preceding year, the

13 parties shall determine an implementation schedule not later than January 31 of that year. In
14 determining the implementation schedule, the secretary of administration and finance and the
15 house and senate committees on ways and means shall hold a public hearing and receive
16 testimony from the commissioner of elementary and secondary education and other interested
17 parties. The schedule may be amended by agreement of the house and senate committees on
18 ways and means in any fiscal year to reflect changes in enrollment, inflation, student populations
19 or other factors that would affect the remaining costs in the schedule. The implementation
20 schedule shall be included annually in a joint resolution and placed before the members of the
21 general court, not later than February 15, for their consideration along with any proposed
22 legislation necessary to execute and implement the schedule. The implementation schedule shall
23 be subject to appropriation. Upon completion of the implementation schedule, a joint resolution
24 shall be placed before the members of the general court affirming that the recommendations of
25 the commission have been fulfilled; provided that upon the adoption of such resolution the
26 determination of an annual implementation schedule shall no longer be required.

27 SECTION 2. Chapter 70 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section
28 2, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

29 Section 2. As used in this chapter and in chapters 15, 69 and 71, the following words
30 shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

31 "Administration allotment", the amounts allotted within a district's foundation budget for
32 administration in any fiscal year; provided, however, that the fiscal year 2017 administration
33 allotment, based on a sum of the following rate calculations, shall be the base year, adjusted
34 annually by the foundation inflation index:

35 (i) \$182.01 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-
36 day kindergarten enrollment;

37 (ii) \$364 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment, the foundation
38 elementary enrollment, the foundation junior high or middle school enrollment, the foundation
39 high school enrollment, and the foundation vocational enrollment; and

40 (iii) \$2,512.26 multiplied by the assumed in-school special education enrollment and the
41 assumed tuitioned-out special education enrollment.

42 "Assumed in-school special education enrollment", 4 per cent of the total foundation
43 enrollment in a district not including vocational or preschool enrollment, plus 5 per cent of
44 vocational enrollment.

45 "Assumed tuitioned-out special education enrollment", 1 per cent of the total foundation
46 enrollment in a district, not including vocational or preschool enrollment.

47 "Base Aid", in a fiscal year, the total amount of chapter 70 aid provided in the general
48 appropriation act of the previous fiscal year.

49 "Board", the board of elementary and secondary education.

50 "Chapter 70 aid", the sum of a district's base aid, foundation aid increment, if any, and
51 minimum aid increment, if any, in a fiscal year; provided, however that non-operating district
52 shall receive chapter 70 aid in an amount greater than the district's foundation budget.

53 "Classroom and specialist teachers allotment", the amount allotted within a district's
54 foundation budget for classroom and specialist teachers in a fiscal year; provided, however, that
55 the fiscal year 2017 "classroom and specialist teachers allotment", based on a sum of the

56 following rate calculations, shall be the base year, adjusted annually by the foundation inflation
57 index:

58 (i) \$1,507.26 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-
59 day kindergarten enrollment;

60 (ii) \$3,014.51 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment;

61 (iii) \$3,014.47 multiplied by the foundation elementary enrollment;

62 (iv) \$2,652.75 multiplied by the foundation junior high or middle school enrollment;

63 (v) \$3, 901.09 multiplied by the foundation high school enrollment;

64 (vi) \$8,289.83 multiplied by the assumed in-school special education enrollment; and

65 (vii) \$6,631.89 multiplied by the foundation vocational enrollment.

66 "Combined effort yield", the sum of a municipality's equalized property valuation
67 multiplied by the uniform property percentage and its income multiplied by the uniform income
68 percentage.

69 "Commissioner", the commissioner of elementary and secondary education.

70 "Department", the department of elementary and secondary education.

71 "District" or "School district", the school department of a city or town or a regional
72 school district.

73 "Effort reduction percentage", the percentage of excess effort to be reduced in any given
74 year.

75 "Employee benefits and fixed charges allotment", the amount allotted within a district's
76 foundation budget for employee benefits and fixed charges; provided, however, that for fiscal
77 year 2019 and thereafter, the employee benefits and fixed charges allotment shall be the
78 employee health insurance rate multiplied by the number of active employees for whom the
79 district provides health insurance, plus the retired employee health insurance rate multiplied by
80 the number of the district's retired employees, plus the product of .29 and the sum of the
81 employee health insurance rate and the retired employee health insurance rate.

82 "Employee health insurance rate", the employer share of the average group insurance
83 commission premium for all plans for the 3 previous fiscal years; provided, however, that the
84 group insurance commission shall annually, not later than June 30, provide the department with
85 data necessary for the determination of such rate or any increase thereof.

86 "English language learner enrollment", the number of students identified as English
87 language learners pursuant to chapter 71A, including students enrolled in vocational and
88 technical schools.

89 "English language learner expanded program increment", the amount allotted within a
90 district's foundation budget for additional services for English language learners, including those
91 enrolled in vocational and technical schools; provided, however, that the increment for fiscal
92 year 2017 shall be \$2,361 multiplied by the number of English language learners in the district,
93 adjusted annually thereafter by the foundation inflation index.

94 "Enrollment categories", any of the following categories in which a student, including
95 students enrolled in special education programs and students attending a school in another
96 district, pursuant to section 12B of chapter 76, who resides in the district and who attends either

97 a public school in that district or a school for which the district of residence pays tuition, is
98 placed; provided, however, that any such student shall be placed in only 1 enrollment category
99 depending on the grade and program to which the student is assigned; provided further, that
100 English language learners and low-income students shall be placed in 1 of the following
101 enrollment categories and shall be counted for the purposes of calculating the English language
102 learners increment and the low-income expanded program increment:

103 (i) “elementary enrollment”, number of students enrolled in grades 1 to 5, inclusive, and
104 not enrolled in English language learner or vocational programs in a district;

105 (ii) “high school enrollment”, the number of students enrolled in grades 9 to 12,
106 inclusive, and not enrolled in English language learner or vocational programs in a district;

107 (iii) “junior high or middle school enrollment”, the number of students enrolled in grades
108 6 to 8, inclusive, and not enrolled in English language learner or vocational programs in a
109 district;

110 (iv) “kindergarten enrollment”, the number of students enrolled in kindergarten and not
111 enrolled in English language learner or vocational programs in a district; provided, however, that
112 in any district in which kindergarten students attend school for a full day in a program that does
113 not charge tuition or fees, the foundation kindergarten enrollment used to calculate the
114 foundation budget amount described in this section shall be 2 times the kindergarten enrollment
115 number that would otherwise be used for such calculations if the district and all towns
116 responsible for appropriating for the district so request;

117 (v) “preschool enrollment”, the number of students enrolled in preschool programs in a
118 district; and

119 (vi) “vocational enrollment”, the number of students enrolled in vocational, education
120 programs or an agricultural school in a district.

121 “Equalized property valuation”, the most recent equalized property valuation for a
122 municipality as determined by the department of revenue pursuant to sections 9, 10 and 10C of
123 chapter 58.

124 "Excess effort", the positive difference, if any, between a municipality's target local
125 contribution and its preliminary contribution.

126 "Foundation aid increment", the positive difference between a district's foundation budget
127 and its required district contribution; provided, however, that from fiscal years 2019 to 2025,
128 inclusive, both the district foundation budget and the required district contribution shall be
129 calculated based on the implementation schedule agreed to pursuant to section 5B ½ of chapter
130 29.

131 "Foundation budget", the sum of the administration allotment, instructional leadership
132 allotment, classroom and specialist teachers allotment, other teaching services allotment,
133 professional development allotment, instructional materials, equipment and technology
134 allotment, guidance and psychological allotment, pupil services allotment, operations and
135 maintenance allotment, employee benefits and fixed charges allotment and tuitioned-out special
136 education tuition allotment and the English language learners expanded program increment and
137 the low-income expanded program increment; provided, however, that the base year for
138 calculating the foundation budget shall be fiscal year 2017; provided further, that the base year
139 foundation budget shall be calculated according to the formulas in this section using foundation
140 enrollment as described in this section; and provided further that, for fiscal years thereafter, the

141 foundation budget shall be the base year foundation budget, as adjusted for enrollment and for
142 inflation as set forth in section 3.

143 "Foundation enrollment", the student enrollment of a district in any fiscal year; provided,
144 however, that the "foundation enrollment" shall be the sum of the foundation kindergarten,
145 elementary, junior high or middle school, high school and vocational enrollment plus 1/2 of the
146 foundation preschool enrollment, including students enrolled in the program for the elimination
147 of racial imbalance under section 12A of chapter 76; and provided further, that annually, not
148 later than March 1 of each calendar year, the department shall certify the foundation enrollment
149 for the next fiscal year as the actual enrollment as reported the previous October.

150 "Foundation inflation index", in fiscal year 2017, the foundation inflation index shall
151 equal 1.000; provided, however, that in fiscal year 2018 and in each fiscal year thereafter, the
152 foundation inflation index shall equal the prior year's foundation inflation index multiplied by the
153 minimum of: (i) the ratio of the value of the implicit price deflator for state and local government
154 purchases in the first quarter of the prior fiscal year to its value in the first quarter of the year 2
155 years prior; or (ii) 1.045.

156 "General revenue sharing aid", the amount of assistance from the commonwealth to be
157 received by a city or town in a fiscal year from the following local aid programs: (i) payments in
158 lieu of taxes for state-owned lands distributed pursuant to section 17 of chapter 58; (ii) the
159 distribution to cities and towns of the balance of the State Lottery and Gaming Fund in
160 accordance with the clause (c) of the second paragraph of section 35 of chapter 10; and (iii)
161 additional assistance distributed pursuant to section 18E of chapter 58.

162 "Guidance and psychological allotment", the amount allotted within a district's
163 foundation budget for guidance and psychological services; provided, however, that the fiscal
164 year 2017 guidance and psychological allotment, based on a sum of the following rate
165 calculations, shall be the base year, adjusted annually by the foundation inflation index:

166 (i) \$109.66 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-
167 day kindergarten enrollment;

168 (ii) \$219.36 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment and the
169 foundation elementary enrollment;

170 (iii) \$291.99 multiplied by foundation junior high or middle school enrollment; and

171 (iv) \$366.02 multiplied by the foundation high school enrollment and the foundation
172 vocational enrollment.

173 "Income", total income from all sources as reported by the residents of a municipality on
174 income tax returns submitted to the department of revenue for the most recent available calendar
175 year.

176 "Income percentage", the uniform percentage of each municipality's total income which
177 yields 1/2 of the statewide total of combined effort yields in any fiscal year.

178 "Instructional leadership allotment", the amounts allotted within a district's foundation
179 budget for instructional leadership in a fiscal year; provided, however, that for fiscal year 2017,
180 the "instructional leadership allotment" shall be the sum of the following rate calculations; and
181 provided further, that for subsequent fiscal years, "instructional leadership allotment" shall be the
182 sum of the following rates annually adjusted by the foundation inflation index:

183 (i) \$328.72 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-
184 day kindergarten enrollment; and

185 (ii) \$657.42 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment, the foundation
186 elementary enrollment, the foundation junior high or middle school enrollment, the foundation
187 high school enrollment and the foundation vocational enrollment.

188 "Instructional materials, equipment and technology allotment", the amount allotted within
189 a district's foundation budget for instructional materials, equipment and technology; provided,
190 however, that the fiscal year 2017 instructional materials, equipment and technology allotment,
191 based on a sum of the following rate calculations, shall be the base year, adjusted annually by the
192 foundation inflation index:

193 (i) \$ 218.16 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-
194 day kindergarten enrollment;

195 (ii) \$436.31 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment, the foundation
196 elementary enrollment and the foundation junior high or middle school enrollment;

197 (iii) \$698.10 multiplied by the foundation high school enrollment;

198 (iv) \$349.05 multiplied by the assumed in-school special education enrollment; and

199 (v) \$1,221.66 multiplied by the foundation vocational enrollment.

200 "Low-income enrollment", the number of children attending school in a district regardless
201 of residence or tuition-paying status, with a family income at or below 185 per cent of the federal
202 poverty level; provided, however, that a low-income child or low-income student shall mean a
203 child who meets these eligibility standards; and provided further, that in determining the total

204 number of low-income students, the department shall use the preceding year's actual number of
205 low-income elementary, junior high or middle school, high school and vocational students and $\frac{1}{2}$
206 of the preceding year's actual number of low-income kindergarten and preschool students.

207 "Low-income expanded program increment", the amount allotted within a district's
208 foundation budget for each student with a family income at or below 185 per cent of the federal
209 poverty level; provided, however, that the department shall rank each district and divide the
210 districts into septiles; provided further, that each district shall be assigned a low-income septile
211 based on its low income percentage which shall be calculated as its number of low-income
212 students divided by the total foundation enrollment; provided further, that each septile shall be
213 assigned a low-income rate where the rate for the lowest percentage septile shall be \$3,474 and
214 each subsequent septile shall increase by equal amounts up to the highest percentage septile rate
215 of \$8,179; and provided further, that the rates for each septile shall be annually adjusted
216 according to the foundation inflation index.

217 "Minimum aid", the positive difference between a district's foundation aid, and the
218 product of \$25 multiplied by the district foundation enrollment.

219 "Maximum local contribution", 82.5 per cent of a municipality's foundation budget.

220 "Municipal foundation budget", a city or town's local district's foundation budget plus the
221 sum of its share of the foundation budgets at regional districts or at agricultural schools of which
222 it is a member; provided, however, that a city or town's share of the foundation budget at
223 regional districts or at agricultural schools shall be based upon its share of the total foundation
224 enrollment from all member municipalities at those districts and schools.

225 "Municipal revenue growth factor", the change in local general revenues calculated by
226 subtracting 1 from the quotient calculated by dividing the sum of: (i) the maximum levy for the
227 fiscal year estimated by multiplying the levy limit of the prior fiscal year by a factor equal to 102
228 ½ per cent plus the average of the percentage increases in the levy limit due to new growth
229 adjustments over the last 3 available years as certified by the department of revenue or as
230 otherwise estimated by the division of local services in the department of revenue where it
231 appears that a municipality may not be entitled to increase its minimum levy limit by 2 ½ per
232 cent; provided, however, that if the highest percentage during such 3 years exceeds the average
233 of the other 2 years' percentages by more than 2 percentage points, then the lowest 3 of the last 4
234 years shall be used for such calculation; (ii) the amount of general revenue sharing aid for the
235 fiscal year; and (iii) other budgeted recurring receipts not including user fees or other charges
236 determined by the division of local services to be associated with the provision of specific
237 municipal services for the prior fiscal year, by the sum of: (1) the actual levy limit for the prior
238 fiscal year; (2) the amount of general revenue sharing aid received for the prior fiscal year; and
239 (3) other recurring receipts not including user fees or other charges determined by the division of
240 local services to be associated with the provision of specific municipal services budgeted by the
241 municipality for the fiscal year preceding the prior fiscal year, if any; provided further, that for
242 the purposes of this calculation, the levy limit shall exclude any amounts generated by overrides
243 applicable to any year after the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993; provided further, that in the
244 absence of an actual levy limit for the prior fiscal year, the actual levy limit for the prior fiscal
245 year shall be estimated by multiplying the actual levy limit of the fiscal year preceding the prior
246 fiscal year by a factor equal to 102 ½ per cent plus the average of the percentage increases in the
247 levy limit due to new growth as specified above; and provided further, that in making any of

248 these required calculations, the division of local services may substitute more current
249 information or such other information as would produce a more accurate estimate of the change
250 in a municipality's general local revenues and the department shall use such growth factor to
251 calculate preliminary contribution, required local contribution and any other factors that directly
252 or indirectly use the municipal growth factor.

253 "Net school spending", the total amount spent for the support of public education,
254 including teacher salary deferrals and tuition payments for children residing in the district who
255 attend a school in another district or other approved facility, determined without regard to
256 whether such amounts are regularly charged to school or non-school accounts by the
257 municipality for accounting purposes; provided, however, that net school spending shall not
258 include any spending for long-term debt service, and shall not include spending for school
259 lunches and student transportation; provided further that "net school spending" shall also not
260 include tuition revenue or revenue from activity, admission, other charges or any other revenue
261 attributable to public education; provided further, that such revenue shall be made available to
262 the school district which generated the revenue in addition to any financial resources made
263 available by municipalities or state assistance; provided further, that the department, in
264 consultation with the department of revenue, shall promulgate regulations to ensure a uniform
265 method of determining which municipal expenditures shall be appropriated for the support of
266 public education and which revenues are attributable to public education in accordance with this
267 section; and provided further, that the regulations shall include provisions for resolving disputes
268 which may arise between municipal and school officials.

269 "Operations and maintenance allotment", the amount allotted within a district's
270 foundation budget for operations and maintenance; provided, however, that the fiscal year 2017

271 operations and maintenance allotment, based on a sum of the following rate calculations, shall be
272 the base year, adjusted annually by the foundation inflation index:

273 (i) \$418.55 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-
274 day kindergarten enrollment;

275 (ii) \$837.09 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment and the
276 foundation elementary enrollment;

277 (iii) \$907.52 multiplied by foundation junior high or middle school enrollment;

278 (iv) \$879.93 multiplied by the foundation high school enrollment;

279 (v) \$2,806.32 multiplied by the assumed in-school special education enrollment; and

280 (vi) \$1,646.82 multiplied by the foundation vocational enrollment.

281 “Other teaching services allotment”, the amount allotted within a district's foundation
282 budget for other teaching services; provided, however, that the fiscal year 2017 other teaching
283 services allotment, based on a sum of the following rate calculations, shall be the base year,
284 adjusted annually by the foundation inflation index:

285 (i) \$386.57 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-
286 day kindergarten enrollment;

287 (ii) \$773.16 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment and the
288 foundation elementary enrollment;

289 (iii) \$556.55 multiplied by the foundation junior high or middle school enrollment;

290 (iv) \$463.34 multiplied by the foundation high school enrollment and the foundation
291 vocational enrollment;

292 (v) \$7,740.10 multiplied by the assumed in-school special education enrollment; and

293 (vi) \$38.38 multiplied by the assumed tuitioned-out special education enrollment.

294 “Preliminary contribution”, the product of: (i) a municipality's required local contribution
295 for the prior fiscal year; and (ii) 1 plus the municipal revenue growth factor for the current year;
296 provided, however, that if a municipality's preliminary local contribution as a percentage of its
297 foundation budget is more than 2.5 percentage points lower than the target local share, the
298 preliminary contribution shall be recalculated using the municipality's revenue growth factor plus
299 1 percentage point; and provided further, that if a municipality's preliminary contribution as a
300 percentage of its foundation budget is more than 7.5 percentage points lower than the target local
301 share, the preliminary contribution shall be recalculated using the municipality's revenue growth
302 factor plus 2 percentage points.

303 “Professional development allotment”, the amount allotted within a district's foundation
304 budget for professional development; provided, however, that the fiscal year 2017 professional
305 development allotment, based on a sum of the following rate calculations, shall be the base year,
306 adjusted annually by the foundation inflation index:

307 (i) \$59.61 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-day
308 kindergarten enrollment;

309 (ii) \$119.28 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment;

310 (iii) \$119.30 multiplied by the foundation elementary enrollment;

- 311 (iv) \$129.32 multiplied by the foundation junior high or middle school enrollment;
- 312 (v) \$125.39 multiplied by the foundation high school enrollment;
- 313 (vi) \$399.90 multiplied by the assumed in-school special education enrollment; and
- 314 (vii) \$207.31 multiplied by the foundation vocational enrollment.

315 "Property percentage", the uniform percentage of each municipality's total equalized
316 property valuation which yields $\frac{1}{2}$ of the statewide total of combined effort yields in any fiscal
317 year.

318 "Pupil services allotment", the amount allotted within a district's foundation budget for
319 pupil services; provided, however, that the fiscal year 2017 pupil services allotment, based on a
320 sum of the following rate calculations, shall be the base year, adjusted annually by the
321 foundation inflation index:

322 (i) \$43.62 multiplied by the foundation preschool enrollment and the foundation half-day
323 kindergarten enrollment;

324 (ii) \$87.27 multiplied by the foundation full-day kindergarten enrollment;

325 (iii) \$130.90 multiplied by the foundation elementary enrollment and the foundation
326 English learner, full-day enrollment;

327 (iv) \$213.81 multiplied by foundation junior high or middle school enrollment; and

328 (v) \$493.03 multiplied by the foundation high school enrollment and the foundation
329 vocational enrollment.

330 "Required district contribution", a local district's share of the municipality's required local
331 contribution or, in a regional district or agricultural school, the sum of the member
332 municipalities' required local contributions apportioned to that regional district or agricultural
333 school.

334 "Required local contribution", the municipality's preliminary contribution minus the
335 product of its excess effort, if any, multiplied by the effort reduction percentage; provided,
336 however, that the "required local contribution" shall be apportioned to each district to which the
337 municipality belongs, in proportion to the municipality's foundation budget at those districts.

338 "Retired employee", an employee of a school district who retired while employed by that
339 district and who receives health insurance benefits through that district.

340 "Retired employee health insurance rate", the average group insurance commission
341 premium for all retiree plans for the 3 previous fiscal years; provided, however, that the group
342 insurance commission shall annually, not later than June 30, provide the department with data
343 necessary for the determination of such rate or any increase thereof.

344 "Statewide target local share", the sum of all municipalities' target local contribution, as a
345 percentage of the sum of all municipal foundation budgets, which shall be set at 59 per cent.

346 "Target aid share", for a local district, 100 per cent minus the municipality's target local
347 share; provided, however, that for a regional district or agricultural school, the "target aid share"
348 shall be 100 per cent minus each member municipality's target local share, multiplied by each
349 municipality's share of the regional district's enrollment, summed for all members of the district.

350 "Target local contribution", the lesser of a municipality's combined effort yield and its
351 maximum local contribution.

352 "Target local share", a municipality's target local contribution as a percentage of its
353 municipal foundation budget.

354 "Tuitioned-out special education allotment", the product of the tuitioned-out special
355 education rate and the assumed tuitioned-out special education enrollment.

356 "Tuitioned-out special education rate", 3 times the statewide foundation budget per-pupil
357 amount.

358 "Wage adjustment factor", an adjusted difference between the average annual wage for
359 all jobs in the labor market area in which a municipality is located and the average annual wage
360 in the commonwealth; provided, however, that average annual wage figures shall be published
361 annually by the division of employment and training; provided further, that the wage adjustment
362 factor shall be the sum of 1 plus a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the product of 1/3
363 and the difference resulting from subtracting the average annual wage in the commonwealth
364 from the average annual wage of the municipality, and the denominator of which shall be the
365 average annual wage in the commonwealth; and provided further, that the average annual wage
366 of the municipality shall be the sum of:

367 (i) .8 multiplied by the average annual wage for all jobs in the labor market area in which
368 the municipality is located; and

369 (ii) .2 multiplied by the average annual wage of the municipality; provided, however, the
370 wage adjustment factor in any community shall not be less than 1.

371 SECTION 3. The third paragraph of section 3 of said chapter 70, as so appearing, is
372 hereby amended by striking out the last sentence and inserting in place thereof the following 2
373 sentences:- The factors to be inflated by the foundation inflation index shall be the monetary
374 values for the administration allotment, the instructional leadership allotment, the classroom and
375 specialist teachers allotment, the other teaching services allotment, the professional development
376 allotment, the instructional materials, equipment and technology allotment, the guidance and
377 psychological allotment, the pupil services allotment, the operations and maintenance allotment,
378 the English language learner expanded program increment and the low-income student expanded
379 program increment. The rates established in section 2 shall serve as the basis, subject to the
380 foundation inflation index beginning in fiscal year 2018, for the implementation schedule
381 established annually under section 5B1/2 of chapter 29.

382 SECTION 4. Said chapter 70 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 4 the
383 following section:-

384 Section 4A. (a) The department, in consultation with the executive office of education,
385 shall a convene data advisory committee to promote the improved use of school-level data to
386 inform effective resource allocation decisions at the local level. The data advisory committee
387 shall include, but not be limited to, a representative from the following organizations: the
388 Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.; the Massachusetts Association of School
389 Superintendents, Inc.; the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials, Inc.; the
390 Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, Inc.; and the Massachusetts
391 Association of Regional Schools, Inc. The data advisory committee shall assist the department to
392 identify, advise and analyze cost-effective ways to achieve the following goals including, but not
393 limited to:

394 (i) streamlining financial reporting, eliminating duplicate reporting requirements and
395 improving data quality;

396 (ii) strengthening the department's capacity to analyze and report staffing, scheduling and
397 financial data in ways that support strategic resource allocation decisions at the district and
398 school level;

399 (iii) strengthening district capacity to use data to make strategic resource allocation
400 decisions; and

401 (iv) establishing a data collection and reporting system that:

402 (1) tracks funding allocated for English language learner and low-income students to
403 ensure that spending is targeted to the intended populations and to provide a data source for the
404 foundation budget review commission about the accuracy and adequacy of the low-income and
405 English language learner increments; and

406 (2) allows for access to school-level expenditures and data across all districts to inform
407 the public and policy-makers about effective school-level interventions and investments.

408 (b) The data advisory committee shall report its progress to the board, the senate and
409 house chairs of the joint committee on education and the chairs of the senate and house
410 committees on ways and means not less than semiannually, by December 1 and June 1, and shall
411 make recommendations as necessary for the department to achieve the goals of this section. The
412 department may, in consultation with the data advisory group, develop or procure the data
413 collection and reporting system under clause (iv) of subsection (a).

414 SECTION 5. Section 5 of said chapter 70 is hereby repealed.

415 SECTION 6. Section 6 of said chapter 70, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is
416 hereby amended by striking out, in line 6, the word "minimum".

417 SECTION 7. Said section 6 of said chapter 70, as so appearing, is hereby further
418 amended by striking out, in line 8, the words "but not including equity aid,".

419 SECTION 8. Section 7 of said chapter 70 is hereby repealed.

420 SECTION 9. Section 9 of said chapter 70 is hereby repealed.

421 SECTION 10. Said chapter 70 is hereby further amended by striking out section 10, as
422 appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

423 Section 10. Subject to appropriation, the amount of state aid to be paid to each
424 municipality in each fiscal year under this chapter shall be the sum of the base aid, the
425 foundation aid increment and the minimum aid to which the municipality may be entitled under
426 this chapter.



Pelham Elementary School District

School Committee
170 Chestnut Street
Amherst, MA 01002

413-362-1810 (phone)
413-549-6108 (fax)

**Resolution to Support Senate Bill 223:
An act modernizing the foundation budget for the 21st century**

Pelham School Committee

In light of the 2015 findings of the Foundation Budget Review Commission, the increasing urgency of school budgeting gaps across Massachusetts, and in support of Senate bill 223:

We are convinced that providing a high-quality education to every student within the Commonwealth regardless of wealth, income, educational background, or zip code is not only a matter of constitutional obligation but of generational responsibility.

We agree with the Foundation Budget Review Commission regarding both the constitutional obligation and generational responsibility the Commonwealth holds for all of our students. We recognize the ever-increasing gaps among schools and the increasing dependence of our municipalities on local revenue to fund our schools. We appreciate that it is this dependence, and the inequities that result from it, that the foundation budget was intended to alleviate. We share the concern that in continuing to postpone reform of the foundation budget, we jeopardize the good work of public education and thus the health of our democracy itself.

As such, we call for implementation of the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission with all available speed.

Respectfully,

Cara Castenson, Chair

Ron Mannino, Vice-Chair

Jessica Jean-Louis

Emily Marriott