To the Citizens of Pittsfield,

My name is Sarah Marston Duval and I am seeking election to the Pittsfield School Board for a one year term.

I was born and raised in Pittsfield and graduated from PHS in 1997. From there, I attended the University of New Hampshire and earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Communication in 2001. Professionally, I work in Administration at Concord Eye Center, where I have worked for 16 years and I am very involved in the American Society of Ophthalmic Administrators (ASOA), holding an elite credential called the Certified Ophthalmic Executive (COE) and I sit on the National Board for the Certification of Ophthalmic Executives, recently having been voted Vice President. I also hold a clinical certification, the Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA). I am very involved in various committees within ASOA and I am a contributing author to the industry magazine, Administrative Eyecare.

My son, John, is a seventh grader at PMHS, where he plays on the Middle School basketball and baseball teams. We live on the family farm on Webster Mills Rd. Growing up on the farm and around the school bus company instilled a strong work ethic in me as well as a love of family and community, which I will bring with me to the Board, should I be elected to serve.

I seek a seat on the Pittsfield School Board because I see the challenged that our school district faces, as well as its downfalls, and I want to be a part of the solution to help move us forward. I feel strongly that curriculum needs to be improved from the bottom up, and that we need to focus on getting our Elementary students on grade level. That will, in turn, help to better position our high school students to ensure that they are well prepared for their future. I do not think that fault should lie solely on the high school and, given what I know currently, I am not in favor of closing Pittsfield High School. A school is the heartbeat of its community, and I believe that we can do the hard work to turn our high school around, and I ask for your vote on Tuesday, March 8, so that I may play a part in that process for the future of our town and our students. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Marston Duval

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