

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

**BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 20, 2021**

Board of Education

Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr., President
Mrs. Jillian Villon, Vice President
Mrs. Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Mrs. Branwen MacDonald
Mr. Samuel North
Mrs. Maria Pereira
Mr. Michael Simpkins

Central Office

Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent
Ms. Robin Zimmerman, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Dr. Joseph Mosey, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services
Mr. Daniel Callahan, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education
Dr. Mary Keenan Foster, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education
Ms. Debra McLeod, District Clerk

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jenkins, Jr. at 6:13 p.m. In accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202 relating to the COVID-19 emergency, the Board of Education met at PHS auditorium but, In-person attendance will NOT be permitted. The District will provide video-conference links online, translated into Spanish, as well as a section for public comments via our BoardDocs website.

A. Recording of Attendance

Vice President Villon and Michael Simpkins arrived late.

2. Proposed Executive Session

A. Open Meeting

*(Note: The Board will enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters regarding the appointment of a particular contractor(s) and employment history of particular person(s) for the following positions: CPSE Specialist; Homebound Tutor; Summer Guidance Days. The public part of the meeting will open at approximately 7:00 p.m.)

B. Adjourn to Executive Session

Motion to Adjourn Meeting in order to enter to Executive Session

Motion: Maria Pereira

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Second: Samuel North

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Samuel North
Maria Pereira

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 7:03 p.m.
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

Motion: Samuel North	Second: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson	No: _____ Abstained: _____
Allen Jenkins, Jr.	
Branwen MacDonald	
Samuel North	
Maria Pereira	
Michael Simpkins	
Jillian Villon	

3. Resume Public Meeting – In Person Attendance is Not Permitted
The meeting was reconvened at 7:03 p.m. in the PHS auditorium.
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Superintendent/Board President Report
 - A. [Peekskill Pride](#)
5. Hearing of Citizens
There were no citizens wishing to be heard.
6. Old Business
7. New Business
 - A. Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES Administrative Budget Vote - 2021/2022
WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Putnam/Northern Westchester County (hereinafter "BOCES") has proposed its tentative administrative budget for the 2021-2022 school year (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022), now therefore
BE IT RESOLVED, that the BOCES tentative administrative budget for the 2021-2022 school year in the amount of \$9,866,988 be, and hereby is, approved by the Board.

Motion: Branwen MacDonald	Second: Maria Pereira
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson	No: _____ Abstained: _____
Allen Jenkins, Jr.	
Branwen MacDonald	
Samuel North	
Maria Pereira	
Michael Simpkins	
Jillian Villon	

- B. Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES Board Member Election
BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District cast one vote for each of the two (2) candidates regarding vacancies on the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of the Sole supervisory district of Putnam and

Northern Westchester Counties for a three-year term from July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024. The candidates are: Catherine Lilburne and Michael Simpkins.

Motion: Branwen MacDonald
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Maria Pereira
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

Second: Maria Pereira
No: _____ Abstained: _____

8. Policy Readings

9. Accepting of Minutes

- A. Business Meeting March 16, 2021
- B. Special BOE Meeting March 23, 2021
- C. Special BOE Meeting March 30, 2021
- D. Business Meeting/Work Session April 6, 2021
- E. Special BOE Meeting April 8, 2021
- F. Special BOE Meeting April 13, 2021
- G. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the following minutes:
for Business Meeting March 16, 2021
Special BOE Meeting March 23, 2021
Special BOE Meeting March 30, 2021
Business Meeting/Work Session April 6, 2021
Special BOE Meeting April 8, 2021
Special BOE Meeting April 13, 2021

Motion: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Maria Pereira
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

Second: Samuel North
No: _____ Abstained: _____

10. Consent Agenda - Personnel

A. Personnel Agenda
Certificated

I. Resignation:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following faculty resignation(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

II. Retirement:

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following retirement resignation(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

III. Leave of Absence:

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following faculty non-paid leave of absence(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

IV. Appointment:

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following faculty appointment(s) to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Name: Denise Oquendo
Position: CPSE Specialist - General Education
Certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial
Effective Start Date: April 21, 2021
Effective End Date: June 30, 2021
Salary: \$45.55 per hour (as worked, without benefits)
2. Name: Rachele Rice
Position: Homebound Tutor
Effective Dates: 2020-2021
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract

	Employee:	Position/Program:	Effective Dates:	Stipend:
3.	Paul Coster	Summer Guidance Days	Summer 2021 (11 days)	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
4.	Jose Fernandez	Summer Guidance Days	Summer 2021 (13 days)	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
5.	Jacqueline Kilanowski	Summer Guidance Days	Summer 2021 (11 days)	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
6.	Noel Cabassa	Summer Guidance Days	Summer 2021 (13 days)	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
7.	Lisa Dorado	Summer Guidance Days	Summer 2021 (11 days)	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
8.	Margaret Ellis	Summer Guidance Days	Summer 2021 (11 days)	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract

9.	Sheree Gilchrest	Summer Guidance Days	Summer 2021 (11 days)	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
10.	Michelle Rios	Summer Guidance Days	Summer 2021 (11 days)	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract

V. Correction:

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following correction(s) of appointment(s) to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Name: Jason Belafonte
Position: My Brother's Keeper Mentor
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Effective Dates: 2020-2021
Salary: \$1,500 - MBK Challenge Grant Fund
Action: Rescind Appointment

2. Name: Alexis Ferris
Request: Student Teacher
Location: Peekskill High School
Assigned to: Elizabeth Tabone
College: SUNY New Paltz
Effective Dates: January 20, 2021 - April 13, 2021
Action: Correct effective end date

3. Name: Marisa Nessier**
Position: Speech Therapist
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Certification Status: Speech/Language Pathologist
Tenure Area: Speech
Probationary Start Date: September 5, 2017
Probationary End Date: September 4, 2022
Length of Probation: Four (4) years
Action: Correct probationary end date due to non-paid leave

3. Name: Solia Alvarado-Vidal
Position: Teaching Assistant
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Certification Status: Teaching Assistant, Level III
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Probationary Start Date: September 20, 2017
Probationary End Date: September 19, 2022
Length of Probation: Four (4) years

Action:

Correct probationary end date due to non-paid leave

Classified

I. Resignation:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff resignation(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

II. Retirement:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff retirement resignation(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

III. Leave of Absence:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff non-paid leave of absence(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

IV. Appointment:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff appointment(s) to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Name:	Ivette Rodriguez-Acevedo
Position:	Office Assistant (Automated Systems) (Spanish Speaking)
Location:	Woodside Elementary School
Probationary Start Date:	April 26, 2021
Probationary End Date:	April 25, 2022
Salary:	\$45,155.00 (Prorated)

V. Correction:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff correction(s) of appointment(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

Student Teachers, Volunteers, Interns:

I. Appointment:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following appointment(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

Using an asterisk (*) at the end of the individual appointment resolutions with the following quoted language as a legend at the end of the personnel resolutions or as a legend below the consent agenda:

*For Volunteers- As per Volunteer Board Policy 4532 - the following volunteers are approved for 10 or less events for current school year

** The appointment resolutions for classroom teachers (or building principal) are conditioned upon meeting the requirement of the current tenure laws

and pursuant to the provisions of Regents Rule §30-1.3. Accordingly, to be eligible for tenure consideration the probationer must have at least three years of effective or highly effective APPR ratings pursuant to §3012-c and/or §3012-d of the Education Law during the four-year period under review and may not receive an ineffective rating during the last year of probation.

*** For classroom teachers with prior tenure as a teacher (or administrators appointed after June 30, 2020) with prior tenure as a teacher or administrator in a New York public school district or BOCES, the probationary term will be three years if there is proof of prior tenure and an APPR rating during the final year of service in the previous school district or BOCES.

**** Classroom Teachers with two years of Jarema Act Credit in this school district shall serve a two-year probationary term if during the two years of Jarema Act service they received APPR ratings pursuant to §§3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law. Where the probationary term is shortened, to be eligible for tenure conferral, the probationer must have at least three effective and/or highly effective APPR ratings and the APPR rating in the final year of probation may not be an ineffective rating.

B. Medical Examination

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Education Law §913, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the employee discussed in executive session is directed to report for a medical examination in order to determine the mental/physical capacity of such person to perform his/her duties as an employee of the Peekskill City School District. Said medical examination shall be before Dr. Andrew Levin, at his office located at 280 N. Central Avenue Suite 309 Hartsdale, New York 10530-1839 on Thursday, May 6, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. and/or any subsequent days Dr. Levin may require to complete said exam; and IT IS HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED, that the employee is directed to produce at said medical examination any and all medical records related to the present state of his/her health for the past three (3) years.

C. Substitute Clerical Rate Increase

That the Board of Education herewith approves to raise the daily rate of the Substitute Clerical position to \$21 per hour effective April 21, 2021.

D. Resignation

That the Board of Education herewith accepts the resignation for personal reasons, from Employee No. 1799, effective June 30, 2021.

11. Consent Agenda - Special Services

A. Special Services/Committee on Special Education

That the Board of Education approve the Recommendation of the District's Committee on Special Education one hundred seventy-two (172) students for declassification, classification, review and/or placement.

B. Contract - SAIL at Ferncliff Manor

That the Board of Education approve the contract with SAIL at Ferncliff Manor commencing July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021.

C. Contracts - Hendrick Hudson Central School District

That the Board of Education approve the contracts with Hendrick Hudson Central School District to provide special education programs and services for eight (8) students with disabilities for the 2020-21 school year. Rate is set by New York State.

12. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance

A. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the Month of February 2021

That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2021.

B. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month of March 2021

That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the month of March 2021.

C. Budget Appropriation Transfers - April 2021

That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for the month of April 2021.

D. Extraclassroom Activities - March 2021

That the Board of Education, accept the March 2021 financial statements for the Peekskill High School and Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Accounts.

E. PNW/BOCES Cooperative Bid - 2021/2022

WHEREAS it is the desire of the participating school districts of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Putnam/Northern Westchester Counties, adopting this resolution to jointly request bids for commodities and services for the 2021/2022 school year,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT that the Peekskill City School District hereby agrees to participate with other school districts of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Putnam/Northern Westchester Counties, New York, in the joint bidding of commodities and services to be requested by the school district Purchasing Agent and approved by the Superintendent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the specifications as prepared by a Steering Committee of participating school districts and presented to this Board of Education will be used and that this Board, if it desires to purchase these commodities agrees to purchase said commodities at the lowest bid price recommended by the Steering Committee of the joint school districts; provided, however, that each participating Board of Education in exercising its legal responsibilities, has the right to reject and/or modify the recommendation of the Steering Committee in the awarding of the bid; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the invitation to bid will be advertised by BOCES in the Journal News in accordance with the provisions of Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

F. Contract - The Mediation Department of CLUSTER Community Services

That the Board of Education approve the contract with The Mediation Department of CLUSTER Community Services commencing April 14, 2021 - June 30 2021. Not to exceed \$22,500.

G. Contract - Dr. Marcia Delcourt

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Dr. Marcia Delcourt commencing February 1, 2021 - August 30, 2021. Not to exceed \$20,000.

H. Contract - PNW/BOCES Use of Facility

That the Board of Education approve the contract with PNW/BOCES. PCSD will provide at no charge to PNW/BOCES the use of one classroom at 400 South Street commencing on or about March 17, 2021 - June 30, 2021.

I. Contracts - Health and Welfare Services

That the Board of Education approve the following contract for Health and Welfare Services provided to the children residing in Peekskill and attending non-public schools, for the 2020/2021 school year:

Katonah-Lewisboro UFSD; \$1,271.62 per student; 7 students

Lakeland CSD; \$1,344.17 per student; 85 students

J. Award of Bid/Phase 1B - Pierotti Corp

WHEREAS, the Peekskill City School District (the "School District") requested sealed bids for the project entitled General Construction, Mechanical, Plumbing and Associated Hazardous Material Abatement and Electrical Work at Oakside Elementary School and Woodside Elementary School, Phase 1b Project; (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the District received and opened bid proposals for the provision of labor and materials for the Project on April 8, 2021; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby accepts and approves the recommendation of the Mosaic Associates Hamlin Design Joint Venture as followings:

General construction contract award to Pierotti Corp. the lowest responsible bidders, as follows:

- Base construction contract in the amount of \$1,389,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute a contract between the District and Pierotti Corp. upon approval of same by the District's Attorney. A copy of such contract shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

13. Other Agenda Items

A. [Disposal of Assets](#)

That the Board of Education approve the attached list of disposal property.

B. Boys Swim Team Merger

That the Board of Education approve the merger of Peekskill City School District Boys Swim Team, for the 2020 - 2021 school year, with Croton Harmon and Hendrick Hudson School Districts, due to the insufficient number of participants.

C. Donation - Devin and Mya Guardino

That the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Assistant Superintendent for Business that, in accordance with Education Law 1718(2), to accept from Devin and Mya Guardino a donation of two \$500 scholarships for two high school students.

D. [2021/2022 Instructional Calendar](#)

That the Board of Education approve the 2021/2022 Instructional Calendar.

E. MOA- PFA: 2021/2022 School Calendar

That the Board of Education approves the Superintendent of Schools to enter into an agreement with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) pertaining to the 2021-2022 School Calendar.

F. Appointment of Co-Deputy District Clerks

WHEREAS, due to extenuating circumstances, the District Clerk will need additional support and assistance throughout the School Budget vote process;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education herewith immediately appoints the following individuals to serve as co-Deputy District Clerks to assist the District Clerk throughout the School Budget vote process:

Nicholas Reccupio

Laura Belfiore

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said appointment as co-Deputy District Clerks shall conclude on May 31, 2021, unless further extended by way of Board of Education resolution.

14. Approving Consent Agenda

A. Approving Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Consent Agenda items 10.A. - 13.F.

Motion: Michael Simpkins

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Maria Pereira

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Second: Branwen MacDonald

No: _____

Abstained: _____

15. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Speak to the Board of Education

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

16. Committee Reports/Board Reflections

President Jenkins, Jr. is excited about the new Credit Union building in Peekskill. He thanked Branwen MacDonald for her advocacy work with the PTO.

Michael Simpkins thanked the staff members who came out for Ms. Susan Torres services. He did get to meet her. She was a wonderful lady to staff and kids.

17. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

B. Adjourn Executive Session

18. [Adjournment in Memory of Ms. Susan Torres](#)

A. Adjournment - Memory of Ms. Susan Torres

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Jenkins, Jr. asked for a motion to adjourn in memory of Ms. Susan Torres.

Motion: Branwen MacDonald

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Second: Jillian Villon

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Maria Pereira
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Debra McLeod
District Clerk