

Peekskill City School District  
1031 Elm Street  
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
DECEMBER 18, 2018

Board of Education

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

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 Simpkins at 6:07 p.m. in the George Birdas Room.

A. Recording of Attendance

Branwen MacDonald 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: Co-Curricular Athletic and Non Athletic; Great Potential; Home Bound Tutor; Per Diem Teacher Substitute; Senior Custodial Worker; Senior Office Assistant; Teacher Aides Stipends; and Teaching Assistant. 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: Samuel North

Second: Maria Pereira

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Samuel North

Maria Pereira

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

C. Adjourn Executive Session

## Motion to Re-Open Meeting

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

Second: Samuel North  
No: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Resume Public Meeting

#### A. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was reconvened in the Ford Auditorium at 7:20 p.m.

### 4. Hearing of Citizens

#### A. Public Participation at Board Meetings

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

### 5. Superintendent/Board President Report

#### A. [Superintendent's Report](#)

Hillcrest chorus showcased their talent by singing to the Board of Education.

Recognition - Superintendent Mauricio gave certificates to the students who participated in the 2018 Fall Youth for the Debate Tournament at Columbia University.

High School Principal Rodney Arthur gave certificates to the AP students who received scores of three (3) or higher on three (3) or more AP exams

- [Educational Plan & Budget #1/Capital Projects](#) – Presented by Dr. Mauricio and Ms. Robin Zimmerman.

#### B. Contracts Under \$10,000

Superintendent Mauricio read into the minutes the following contracts under \$10,000:

- Arts10566/PKMS, Oakside & Hillcrest: Participate in the Saturday Academy Initiative by offering family-friendly art workshops; Provide weekly after-school art program; 2018-19 School Year; Not to exceed \$8,000; Funding through MBK grant
- NAACP: Provide a mentoring program for up to 30 students. 2018-19 School Year; Not to exceed \$6,000; Funding thru MBK grant
- Peekskill Youth Bureau (PYB): Facilitate a mentoring and leadership program for 15 male youths; 2018-19 School Year; Not to exceed \$10,000; Funding thru MBK grant.

#### C. Grants/Donations Under \$5,000

- Mr. Matthew Adler/Peekskill High School: White Boards for the Math classrooms; Valued at \$300

### 6. Old Business

### 7. New Business

### 8. Policy Readings

#### A. Second Reading: Grant Compliance

Motion to waive second reading of Policy Grant Compliance

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

Second: Branwen MacDonald  
No: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

Maria Pereira  
Michael Simpkins  
Jillian Villon

B. Adoption of Policies

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the following policy:  
Grant Compliance

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

Second: Pamela Hallman-Johnson  
No: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Accepting of Minutes

- A. Business Meeting November 20, 2018
- B. Business Meeting/Work Session December 4, 2018
- C. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the following minutes:  
Business Meeting November 20, 2018  
Business Meeting/Work Session December 4, 2018

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
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 teacher resignation to the Board of Education for approval:

- 1. Name: Karine Agosto  
Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher  
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District  
Effective: December 21, 2018 (close of business day)
- 2. Name: Frederick Howard  
Position: Physical Education teacher  
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District  
Effective: February 1, 2019

3. Name: Frederick Howard  
 Position: Mentor  
 Program: My Brother's Keeper  
 Action: Resignation from Mentor position  
 Effective: December 17, 2018  
 Stipend: \$1,500 (pro-rated –September 4, 2018- December 17, 2018)
  
4. Name: Frederick Howard  
 Position: 2018-2019 Track Coach; Winter Season  
 Action: Resignation as the 2018-2019 Winter Season Track Coach  
 Effective: December 17, 2018  
 Stipend: \$5,733 (pro-rated –November 6, 2018- December 17, 2018)

II. Leave of Absence

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

III. Retirement

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following retirement resignations to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

IV. Appointments

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following appointments to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Name: Raul Ortiz  
 Position: Equipment Manager  
 Program: 2018-2019 Co-curricular athletics  
 Effective Dates: Fall Season – Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> – Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Stipend: \$2,565
  
2. Name: Catherine McCabe  
 Position: Scorekeeper/Timer  
 Program: 2018-2019 Co-curricular athletics  
 Effective Dates: Winter Season- Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>- Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Stipend: \$38 per hour in two (2) hour block of time
  
3. Name: Shannon David  
 Position: Basketball (V) Assistant Head Coach  
 Program: 2018-2019 Co-curricular athletics  
 Effective Dates: Winter Season- Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>- Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Stipend: \$4,662
  
4. Name: Nick Ceglio  
 Position: Modified Wrestling Coach  
 Program: 2018-2019 Co-curricular athletics  
 Effective Dates: Winter Season- Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>- Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Stipend: \$3,636
  
5. Name: Keren Larkin  
 Position: Scorekeeper/Timer

- Program: 2018-2019 Co-curricular athletics  
 Effective Dates: Winter Season- Nov. 5th- Feb. 25th  
 Stipend: \$38 per hour in two (2) hour block of time
6. Name: Francine Yeagley Mountain  
 Position: Co-curricular; Junior Class Co-Advisor  
 Location: Peekskill High School  
 Effective Dates: 2018-2019 school year  
 Stipend: \$1,282
7. Name: James Gerth  
 Position: PHS Technical Director  
 Location: Peekskill High School  
 Effective Dates: 2018-2019 Fall Production  
 Stipend: \$1,539
8. Name: Kevin Larsen  
 Position: Drama Assistant  
 Location: Peekskill Middle School  
 Effective Dates: 2018-2019 school year  
 Stipend: \$3,078
9. Name: Jean Spooner  
 Position: Home bound tutor  
 Effective Dates: December 19, 2018 through June 26, 2019  
 Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract.
10. Name: Mabel Vasquez  
 Position: Site Director  
 Program: Great Potential Program (Summit)  
 Effective Dates: 2018-2019 school year  
 Stipend: \$2,285, grant funded
11. Name: Jodi Fernandez  
 Position: Afterschool Tutor  
 Program: Great Potential Program (Summit)  
 Effective Dates: 2018-2019 school year  
 Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract. Grant Funded. Not to exceed 40 hours.
12. Name: Dontae Harris  
 Position: Teaching Assistant  
 Certification Status: Teaching Assistant; Level 1  
 Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant  
 Probationary Start Date: January 2, 2019  
 Probationary End Date: January 1, 2023  
 Length of Probation: Four (4) Years  
 Salary: \$31,335 (pro-rated for 2018-2019)

13. . Name: Relsiea Pruner  
Position: Substitute Teacher; Per Diem  
Certification: Childhood Education (1-6) and Students w/Disabilities (1-6); Professional  
Effective Dates: January 2, 2019 through June 26, 2019  
Stipend: \$120/day, as worked, follows school calendar, not to exceed four (4) days/week (28hrs/wk), no benefits.

V. Corrections:

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following corrections of appointments to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Name: Bjorn Bridgewater \*\*  
Position: Math Teacher  
Certification Status: Mathematics (5-9 & (7-12); Professional  
Tenure Area: Mathematics  
Probationary Start Date: January 2, 2019  
Probationary End Date: January 1, 2022  
Length of Probation: Three (3) Years  
Salary: \$95,511
  
2. Name: Ashley Fisher  
Position: Physical Education Teacher; LOA replacement  
Certification Status: Physical Education; Initial  
Effective Date: December 5, 2018  
End Date: February 15, 2019 (anticipated)  
Salary: \$244/day as worked. Follows school calendar; no benefits.

VI. Tenure

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

1. Name: Kimberly Pomerantz  
Position: Elementary Teacher  
Action: Tenure in the Peekskill City School District  
Effective Dates: November 29, 2018

Classified

1. Appointments

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following appointments to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Name: Grace Ojeda-Rivera  
Position: Teacher Aide; 1:1 Aide  
Reason: Additional Student Health Needs  
Effective: 2017-2018 School Year  
Stipend: \$800.00 (Pro-Rated)
  
2. Name: Grace Ojeda-Rivera

Position: Teacher Aide; 1:1 Aide  
Reason: Additional Student Health Needs  
Effective: 2018-2019 School Year  
Stipend: \$1,000.00

3. Name: Daniel Moran  
Position: Sr. Custodial Worker  
Effective: December 7, 2018  
Probationary Period Begins: December 19, 2018  
Probationary Period Ends: December 18, 2019  
Salary: \$59,696.00 (Pro-Rated)
4. Name: Nicholas Recuppio  
Position: Sr. Office Assistant (Automated Systems)  
Effective: November 26, 2018  
Probationary Period Begins: December 19, 2018  
Probationary Period Ends: December 18, 2019  
Salary: \$62,000 (prorated)

## II. Resignations

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following resignations to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

## III. Corrections:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following corrections of appointments to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Name: Louise Vermandois  
Position: Teacher Aide; 1:1 Aide  
Reason: Additional Student Health Needs  
Effective: 2018-2019 School Year  
Stipend: \$300.00 (pro-rated)

## IV. Student Teachers, Volunteers, Interns

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following candidates for student teaching and internship to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Name: Karen Faulkner  
Request: Yoga for Middle School Students  
Location: Middle School  
Program: Saturday Academy  
Assigned to: Jamal Lewis; Principal  
Effective Dates: December 19, 2018 through June 26, 2019

2. Name: Annette Kirlaw  
Request: Yoga for Middle School Students  
Location: Middle School  
Program: Saturday Academy  
Assigned to: Jamal Lewis; Principal  
Effective Dates: December 19, 2018 through June 26, 2019

3. Name: Donald Bailey

Request: Yoga for Middle School Students  
Location: Middle School  
Program: Saturday Academy  
Assigned to: Jamal Lewis; Principal  
Effective Dates: December 19, 2018 through June 26, 2019

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 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. Settlement Agreement

That the Board of Education herewith approves and authorizes the Board President to sign a certain settlement agreement between the Board of Education and an Employee No. 1464.

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 for forty-seven (47) students for declassification, classification, review and/or placement.

B. Contract- Ossining Union Free School District

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Ossining Union Free School District to provide School Year 2018-19 educational program for two students with disabilities. Funding is from High Cost Tuition allocated from the General Fund.

12. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance

A. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the Month of October 2018

That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer's Report for month of October 2018.

B. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month November 2018



That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the month of November 2018.

C. Contract - NMG Evaluation

That the Board of Education approve the Contract with NMG Evaluation for the 2018-19 School Year to provide an evaluation of the NYSED MSP Math program. Not to exceed \$17,500. Funding thru Title IIB.

13. Other Agenda Items

A. Instructional Day Trip

That the Board of Education approve of the instructional day trip for PHS students to Temple University Hall, Philadelphia, PA on April 5, 2019.

B. External Audit Corrective Action Plan

That the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District accept the external audit correction action plan based on the annual external audit report for 2017-18.

C. Appointment of External Auditor - Cooper Arias, LLP

BE IT RESOLVED upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent for Business, that the Board of Education appoint Cooper Arias, LLP as the external auditor for fiscal years ending 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

D. MOA - Peekskill School Security Aides Association

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District hereby ratifies, effective December 18, 2018, the memorandum of agreement between the Board and the Peekskill School Security Aides Association, dated December 18, 2018; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to incorporate said memorandum of agreement into a more formal written agreement and further authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said formal written agreement.

14. Approving Consent Agenda

A. Approving Consent Agenda

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

Motion: Samuel North

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Maria Pereira

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

15. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Speak to the Board of Education

Victoria Kravitz inquired, where does the District stand with lead found in elementary schools water fountains? The water fountains have been shut down. Dr. Mauricio will follow up with Ms. Kravitz. She also was concerned with the rubbish in front of the schools. The District should consider a partnership with the City of Peekskill to help with the clean-up. Christopher Malanson inquired about the architectural bid process of which Ms. Zimmerman explained to him.

16. Committee Reports/Board Reflections

- A. Dr. Marucio visited the schools for different holiday concerts. PKMS will be having their concert tomorrow evening and will also be visiting Drum Hill Senior Resident. There will be a student representative sitting on the Board of Education. Dr. Mauricio wished happy holidays to everyone.

Upcoming events:

Mid-Hudson chapter of Jack and Jill Multicultural concerts: December 29, 1-5 p.m.

Peekskill Youth Bureau will hold a Kwanza Festival

Saturday Academy: January 26, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Peekskill's new fire house grand opening: December 19, 11 a.m. PHS band students will be performing.

President Simpkins thanked staff for coming and volunteering their time for the Academy. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas, a Happy Kwanza, Hanukkah and a Happy New Year. To the community, have a safe holiday,

17. Executive Session

- A. Executive Session
- B. Adjourn Executive Session

18. [Adjournment in Memory of Ms. Barbara Zamaloff](#)

- A. Adjournment in Memory of Ms. Barbara Zamaloff

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Simpkins asked for a motion to adjourn in memory of Ms. Barbara Zamaloff. Vice President Pereira read the resolution.

Motion: Samuel North

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Maria Pereira

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Debra McLeod  
District Clerk