BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARCH 24, 2020

Board of Education
Mrs. Maria Pereira, President
Mrs. Jillian Villon, Vice President
Mrs. Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Mrs. Branwen MacDonald
Mr. Samuel North
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 Pereira at 6:02 p.m. Until further notice, the Board of Education will conduct its future meetings by video conference. In-person attendance will NOT be permitted. The decision to meet via video conference has been made in accordance with Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 202 relating to the COVID-19 emergency. Video-conference links are available online via our BoardDocs website: (https://ensemble.lhric.org/Watch/peekskillboardmeeting)

A. Recording of Attendance
Pamela Hallman-Johnson, Allen Jenkins and Michael Simpkins arrived late.

2. Proposed Executive Session Subject to Board Approval 6:00 p.m.
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 position: Elementary Assistant Principal. 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: Jillian Villon
Yes: Branwen MacDonald
No: _____
Abstained:_____

Samuel North
C. Adjourn Executive Session – 6:45 p.m.
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

Motion: Branwen MacDonald
Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
No: ____
Abstained:____

Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Maria Pereira
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

3. Resume Public Meeting
A. Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

4. Superintendent/Board President Report
A. Superintendent’s Report
   • Update on COVID-19: District's Response
   • Budget Update – Robin Zimmerman
B. Contracts Under $10,000
   President Pereira read into the minutes the following contract under $10,000:
   • Manhattanville College/Woodside: Professional Development School (PDS) liaison; March 1, 2020 - February 28, 2021; $5,000.

5. Hearing of Citizens
A. Public Participation at Board Meetings. In-person attendance will NOT be permitted. (https://vevox.app/m#/118930580)
There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Policy Readings
9. Accepting of Minutes
   A. Business Meeting February 25, 2020
   B. BOE - Superintendent Retreat February 29, 2020
   C. Business Meeting/Work Session March 10, 2020
   D. Special BOE Meeting March 13, 2020
   E. Approval of Minutes
BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the following minutes:
Business Meeting February 25, 2020
BOE - Superintendent Retreat February 29, 2020
Business Meeting/Work Session March 10, 2020
Special BOE Meeting March 13, 2020

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

President Pereira asked for a motion to add Shannon O’Grady to the Personnel Agenda.

Motion: Branwen MacDonald Second: Michael Simpkins
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson No: _____ Abstained:_____ 

Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Maria Pereira
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

10. Consent Agenda - Personnel
   A. Personnel Agenda
      1. Name: Shannon O’Grady, Ed.D. **
      Position: Elementary Assistant Principal
      Certification Status: School District Administrator, Permanent
      Certificate
      Probationary Start Date: March 25, 2020
      Probationary End Date: September 15, 2023
      Salary: $131,993 (Step 15) (prorated)

Whereas Shannon O’Grady serviced as Acting Elementary Principal from September 16, 2019, to March 24, 2020, and this time will be counted as part of her probationary period.

** 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.

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 sixty-five (65) students for declassification, classification, review and/or placement.
   B. Contract – Theracare
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Theracare for the 2020-2021 School Year. Not to exceed $38,000.

C. Contract - Theracare (Extended School Year)
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Theracare for Extended School Year (ESY) 2020. Not to exceed $5,700.

12. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance
A. Treasurer’s Report and Financial Statements for the Month of January 2020
That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer’s Report for month of January 2020.

B. Internal Claims Auditor’s Report for the Month of February 2020
That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor’s Report for the month of February 2020.

C. Budget Appropriation Transfers March 2020
That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for the month of March 2020.

D. Contract - Dr. Marcia DelCourt
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Dr. Marcia Delcourt to be the evaluator of the Empire State After-school Program for the 2019-2020 school year. Funding not to exceed $30,000 thru Empire State grant.

E. Contract - Inner Being Yoga
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Inner Being Yoga at PKMS for the 2019-2020 school year. Funding is thru the Empire State grant.

F. Contract - New Era Creative Space (NECS)
That the Board of Education approve the contract with New Era Creative Space (NECS) for the 2019/2020 school year. Funding will be thru the Empire State grant not to exceed $10,000.

G. Contract - El US, LLC dba LearnWell
That the Board of Education approve the contract with El US, LLC dba LearnWell for the 2020-2021 school year.

That the Board of Education approve the contract renewal with Management Advisory Group Business Operations to provide 2020-21 Medicaid claiming services costing $13,006.

I. Contract - Arts 10566
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Arts 10566 for the 2019/2020 school year, not to exceed $7,650.

J. Contract - Peekskill Fencing Center, Inc.
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Peekskill Fencing Center, Inc. for the 2019/2020 school year not to exceed $1,700 per 10 class block.

K. Contract - Two by Two Zoo
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Two by Two Zoo for the 2019/2020 school year. Not to exceed $3,500.

L. Contract - 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 2019/2020 school year:
- Somers Central School District: $1188.11 per student; 62 students
- Katonah-Lewisboro Union Free School: $1288.18 per student; 4 students
NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Election and Budget Vote by County of Westchester, New York, will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at and in the election districts established by the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District, in the Peekskill High School, between the hours of 7:00AM and 9:00PM, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine upon the following items: for the purpose of (1) voting upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures for school purposes for the school year 2020 - 2021, (2) electing two members of the Board of Education, each for three-year terms. Upon taking the oath of office at the Annual Reorganization meeting, the terms will run through June 30, 2023, (3) voting upon such propositions as may be properly placed upon the ballot.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Education has prepared a detailed statement of the amount of money which will be required for the year 2020 - 2021 for school purposes, specifying the several purposes and the amount of each, and that copies of this statement may be obtained at a cost, by a qualified voter of the District at the office of the District Clerk, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, New York and at each other school building in the district beginning May 5, 2020, except Saturday and Sunday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. D.S.T.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing for the purpose of the discussion of the expenditure of funds, the budgeting thereof and presentation of the budget for the 2020 - 2021 school year will be held in the Administration Center, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, New York on Tuesday evening, May 5, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. D.S.T.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that nomination for Board of Education Members shall be made by petition which shall be directed to the Clerk of the Board of Education and shall be signed by at least 100 qualified electors of the District. Effective March 25, 2020, petition blanks may be secured at the Board of Education Office, 1031 Elm Street or online at www.peekskillschools.org. Vacancies on the Board of Education are not considered separate, specific offices; candidates run at large. Nominating petitions shall not describe any specific vacancy upon the Board for which the candidate is nominated. The petition shall state the name and residence of the candidate and the signer and shall in all respects comply with the provisions of Section 2608 of the Education Law. Each petition shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board of Education on or before the twentieth day preceding the day of the Annual School District Election. The last date for filing said petition is: 5:00 p.m., April 29, 2020.
The voting will be by ballot on voting machines as provided by the Education Law and the polls will remain open from 7:00 o’clock a.m. until 9:00 o’clock p.m. (D.S.T.) and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters then present to cast their ballots.
Pursuant to Section 2604 of the Education Law, the Board of Education adopted a resolution on March 1, 1955, dividing the Peekskill City School District into six school election districts. An accurate description of the boundaries of each district is on file at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Education at the Administration Center, 1031 Elm Street, and may be inspected during office hours. Voters in each election district should vote at the polling place therein as follows:

PEEKSKILL HIGH SCHOOL
ELECTION DISTRICT A (City Districts 1 & 2)
ELECTION DISTRICT B (City Districts 3, 4, 14, 15 & 21)
ELECTION DISTRICT C (City Districts 5, 6, 17, 18 & 23)
ELECTION DISTRICT D (City Districts 7, 8, 16, 19 & 22)
ELECTION DISTRICT E (City Districts 9, 10 & 11)
ELECTION DISTRICT F (City Districts 12 & 13)

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that personal registration of voters is required either pursuant to §2016 of the Education law or pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to §2016 of the Education Law and has voted at an annual or special district meeting within the last four (4) calendar years, he/she is eligible to vote at this election; if a voter is registered and eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law, he/she is also eligible to vote at this election. All other persons who wish to vote must register.

For the preparation of such a register of the qualified voters, the Board of Registration of said school district will meet at the Administration Center, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, New York, on April 29, 2020, from 1:00 o’clock p.m. to 5:00 o’clock p.m. (D.S.T.) to add to the registers the names of the qualified voters of the school district who shall present themselves personally for registration.

A person shall be entitled to register and vote in said Annual School District Election who is:
(A) A citizen of the United States
(B) At least 18 years of age
(C) A resident of the State and of the City School District of Peekskill for thirty days next preceding the election.

Any person who has not currently registered under permanent personal registration on or before this date and has not voted at a school district election this school year, must, in order to be entitled to vote in the upcoming annual school district election, present himself/herself personally for registration at the time and place stated above, or must make arrangements directly with the Board of Elections in White Plains, either by personally presenting himself/herself, or by mail, to permanently register himself/herself with the Board of Elections in White Plains within such time frame as will allow his/her name to appear on the
Board of Elections Registration List for verification on or before Election Day, Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

If a qualified voter is a resident of a school district and his name appears on a register as a resident of another district, a written sworn statement may be filed by such voter with the clerk of the district showing his correct residence and the name of such voter shall thereupon be stricken from such register and placed upon the proper register.

The register so prepared pursuant to §2606 of the Education Law will be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the School District at 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, NY, and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District beginning on May 12, 2020, between the hours of 8:00AM and 4:00PM, prevailing time, on weekdays, and each day prior to the day set for the election, except Sunday. Saturday will be by appointment only.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Education provides for absentee ballots for the election of Members of the Board of Education, the adoption of the annual budget, and referenda. Applications for absentee ballots are available in the office of the District Clerk, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on business days. An application for an absentee ballot must be received by the District Clerk no earlier than thirty (30) days before the Annual Election. An application for an absentee ballot on the form prescribed by Section 2018-a of the Education Law must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the Annual Election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the Annual Budget Vote/Election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter or his/her designated agent. Upon receiving a timely application for a mailed absentee ballot, the District Clerk will mail the ballot to the address designated on the application by no later than six (6) days before the Annual Election. Absentee ballots must be received by the District clerk no later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on May 19, 2020.

A list of persons to whom absentee ballots are issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District in the office of the District Clerk on and after May 1, 2020, between the hours of 8:00AM and 4:00PM on weekdays prior to the day set for the annual election. Any qualified voter present in the polling place may object to the voting of the ballot upon appropriate grounds for making his/her challenge and the reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls.

The Education Law also makes special provisions for absentee voting for “military” voters of the District. Specifically, the law provides a unique procedure for “military ballots” in school district votes. Whereas absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots must be received by the voter by mail, a military voter may elect to receive his/her absentee ballot application and absentee ballot by mail, email or facsimile. The military voter must, however, return his/her original military ballot application and military ballot by mail or in person. The Clerk of the Board shall transmit the military voter’s military ballot in accord with the military voter’s preferred method of transmission. The Clerk of the Board must then receive the military voter’s military ballot by mail or in person not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a rule adopted by the
Board of Education in accordance with §2035 and 2008 of the Education law, any referenda or propositions to amend the budget, or otherwise to be submitted for voting at said election, must be filed with the Board of Education at the Administration Building, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, NY, on or before April 20, 2020, at 4:00 PM prevailing time; must be typed or printed in the English language; must be directed to the Clerk of the School District; must be signed by at least 100 qualified voters of the District; and must state the name and residence of each signer. However, the School board will not entertain any petition to place before the power of the voters to determine, or any proposition which fails to include a specific appropriation where the expenditures of monies is required by the proposition.

By order of the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District.

Dated: March 24, 2020

Debra McLeod
District Clerk

1. The persons listed on the attached, who are qualified voters of the School District, are hereby appointed to act at such annual meeting as Inspectors of Election and Board of Registration as indicated. (Att. #1)
2. The School District Clerk is hereby authorized to give written notice of Registration.
3. The Clerk of the District is hereby authorized and directed to arrange for voting machines, to have the necessary ballot labels printed, and to make such other arrangements for the Annual Election and Budget Vote as are necessary and appropriate.
4. The Clerk of the District is further authorized to appoint qualified voters to fill any vacancies caused by the inability, refusal or failure of any person to serve at the annual election.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately

B. Authority to Change Dates in Legal Notice for Annual Budget Vote

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District, Westchester County, New York [the "District"], has called an annual district meeting of the registered voters of said School District to be held on the 19th day of May, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the District, along with other School Districts in New York State, are currently in a fluid situation with regard to the COVID-19 outbreak that resulted in the closure of all District schools and the administration building; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to provide for the adjustment of dates in the Legal Notice for said annual district meeting that may be required due to the COVID-19 outbreak and for possible legally required changes as may be mandated by New York State or New York SED;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District, Westchester County, New York, as follows:

1. In the event that the District Clerk determines that dates need to be adjusted
for the Legal Notice for the vote on May 19, 2020, the District Clerk shall have the authority to make those changes and publish them in accordance with NYS Education Law. This authority shall expire on May 19, 2020.

C. Donation - Entergy Indian Point
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 Entergy Indian Point a donation of $50,000 for the Student Centered Science Learning.

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

Motion: Samuel North  Second: Michael Simpkins
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 - In-person attendance will NOT be permitted. (https://vevox.app/m#/118930580)
There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

16. Committee Reports/Board Reflections
A. Executive Session - 8:50 p.m.
A. Executive Session
Motion to Move to Executive Session

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

B. Adjourn Executive Session - 9:15 p.m.
Motion to Adjourn Executive Session

Motion: Jillian Villon  Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson  No: _____  Abstained:_____
Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
18. Adjournment
A. There being no further business to come before the Board, President Pereira asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Debra McLeod
District Clerk