

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 16, 2024

Board of Education

Mrs. Branwen MacDonald, President
Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr., Vice President
Mr. Eric Rekeda
Mr. Michael Simpkins
Ms. Amy Vele
Mrs. Jillian Villon

Central Office

Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent
Ms. Cynthia Hawthorne, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Jamal Lewis, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services
Mr. Eudes Budhai Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education
Mrs. Rebecca Aviles-Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education
Mrs. Carmery Mendez-Battle, District Clerk

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President MacDonald. at 6:05 p.m. in the George Birdas Room.

A. Recording of Attendance

Allen Jenkins, Jr. (6:09) arrived late. Pamela Hallman-Johnson was absent.

2. Proposed Executive Session Subject to Board Approval

A. Open Meeting

*(Note: The Board will enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular contractor(s) and employment history of particular person(s) for the following positions: Certified Stipend Positions. The Board will (or may) take action after the executive session. 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: Jillian Villon

Second: Amy Vele

Yes: Branwen MacDonald

No: _____ Abstained: _____

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 7:45 p.m.

Motion to Re-Open Meeting

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Second: Amy Vele

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon

3. Resume Public Meeting – 7:50 p.m.

- Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was reconvened in the Ford Auditorium.

4. Report of President/Superintendent

A. Superintendent's Report

- [Peekskill Pride](#)
- [Diversity Recruitment Update](#) – Jamal Lewis

5. Hearing of Citizens

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

6. Superintendent's Report Continued

A. Superintendent's Report Continued

- [Educational Plan and Budget Adoption](#) – Cynthia Hawthorne

7. Old Business

8. New Business

A. Adoption of 2024/2025 Proposed Budget

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Education hereby adopts the budget for the 2024/2025 school year in the amount of \$123,052,908 and directs the District Clerk to present the adopted budget as a proposition on the ballot to be presented to the residents of the school district at the annual budget vote and election to be held on May 21, 2024.

B. [2024/2025 Property Tax Report Card](#)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Education adopts the attached Property Tax Report Card and directs the Superintendent of Schools to submit the Property Tax Report Card to the State Education Department by the end of the business day immediately following the Board's adoption, but no later than twenty-four (24) days prior to the date of the annual budget vote and election dated May 21, 2024, as required by Education Law Section 1716(7).

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Agenda items 8.A. - 8.B.

Motion: Amy Vele

Second: Jillian Villon

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon

C. Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES Administrative Budget Vote - 2024/2025
WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Putnam/Northern Westchester County (hereinafter "BOCES") has proposed its tentative administrative budget for the 2024-2025 school year (July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025), now therefore
BE IT RESOLVED, that the BOCES tentative administrative budget for the 2024-2025 school year in the amount of \$11,596,000 be, and hereby is, approved by the Board.

D. 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 four (4) 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, 2024 - June 30, 2027. The candidates are:
Neal Haber
Catherine Lilburne
James Ryan
Michael Simpkins

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Agenda items 8.C. - 8.D.

Motion: Eric Reveda
Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Eric Reveda
Amy Vele
Jillian Villon

Second: Amy Vele
No: _____ Abstained: Michael Simpkins

9. Policy Readings

10. Accepting of Minutes

- A. Business Meeting March 19, 2024
- B. Business Meeting/Work Session April 9, 2024
- C. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the following minutes:
Business Meeting March 19, 2024
Business Meeting/Work Session April 9, 2024

Motion: Michael Simpkins
Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Eric Reveda
Michael Simpkins
Amy Vele
Jillian Villon

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr
No: _____ Abstained: _____

11. Consent Agenda - Personnel

A. Personnel Agenda

Certified:

I. Resignation:

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

1. Name: Eric Maldonado
Position: Assistant Principal
Location: Hillcrest Elementary
Action: Resignation
Effective Date: June 30, 2024 (Anticipated)
Last Date Worked: June 30, 2024 (Anticipated)

II. Termination:

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

III. Retirement:

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

IV. 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

V. Appointment:

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

#	Employee:	Position / Program:	Effective Date/s:	Stipend:
1.	Woodley, Staci	Elementary WIN Targeted Tutoring - Admin Substitute	2023 - 2024 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
2.	Cardona, Amanda	Elementary WIN Targeted Tutoring - Admin Substitute	2023 - 2024 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract

3.	Budds, Ana	Elementary WIN Targeted Tutoring - Admin	2023 - 2024 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
4.	Fuego, Lidia	Changemakers Capstone Lead Advisor	2023 - 2024 School Year	\$3,900

VI. Correction:

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

1. Name: Jamye Gooding
Position: Co-Ed Pioneer Club Advisor/Coach
Effective Dates: Spring 2023
Action: Correct stipend amount
Stipend: \$2836
2. Name: Tyrone Searight, Jr.
Position: Co-Ed Pioneer Club Advisor/Coach
Effective Dates: Spring 2023
Action: Correct stipend amount
Salary: \$2836

Classified:

I. Resignation:

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

II. Termination:

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

III. Retirement:

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

IV. 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

V. Appointment:

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

VI. Correction:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff correction(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.

^ Appointment is contingent upon successful completion of the onboarding process and contingent upon obtaining required certification by the start date.

12. 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 47 students for declassification, classification, review and/or placement.
- B. Contract - Hawthorne Cedar Knolls
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Hawthorne Cedar Knolls, commencing July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025. Interim School rate \$67,462. 2024/2025 summer school program will be \$11,060.
- C. Contract - Green Chimneys Children's Services
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Green Chimneys Children's Services commencing July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025. Applicable tuition rate set by the State Education Department, based on the child's program.

13. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance

- A. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the Month of February 2024
That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer's Report for month of February 2024.
- B. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month of February 2024
That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the month of February 2024.
- C. [Budget Appropriation Transfers](#) - April 2024
That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for the month of April 2024.

14. Other Agenda Items

- A. Side Letter of Agreement - Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Regarding Stipend Positions
That the Board of Education approve the Side Letter of Agreement dated April 16, 2024 with Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) regarding adding the following stipend position:
Pioneer Club/two (2) Assistant Coaches
- B. Lacrosse Merger
That the Board of Education approve the merger of Peekskill City School District Boys Lacrosse Team, for the 2024/2025 school year, with Ossining School District, due to the insufficient number of participants.
- C. Swim Team Merger
That the Board of Education approve the merger of Peekskill City School District Boys Swim Team, for the 2024/2025 school year, with Haldane and Hendrick Hudson School Districts, due to the insufficient number of participants.
- D. Letter of Intent - Merritt Brown and Carol Mitchell-Brown Scholarship
That the Board of Education approves the Letter of Intent dated April 2, 2024, for two (2) \$500 Scholarships for the following:
Merritt Brown - Math or Science Fields
Carol Mitchell-Brown - Nursing or Hospitality Fields
The two (2) scholarships for \$500 apiece will be annual for 25 years after the death of Merritt Brown.
- E. Field Trip Over 100 Miles - Howe Caverns, Howes Cave, NY
That the Board of Education approve the field trip over 100 miles for PHS Pace and Rise Programs will be visiting Howe Caverns, Howes Cave, NY on April 30, 2024.

F. Overnight Field Trip - Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY

That the Board of Education approve the overnight field trip for PHS MBK Fellows to travel to Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY, May 29 - 30, 2024.

15. Approving Consent Agenda

A. Approving Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Consent Agenda items 11.A. - 14.F.

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Second: Michael Simpkins

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon

16. Committee Reports/Board Reflections

Michael Simpkins commented the Gala for Peekskill's 100 years centennial was awesome. The staff enjoyed themselves.

17. Executive Session

18. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, President MacDonald asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Amy Vele

Second: Eric Rekeda

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Carmery Mendez-Battle
District Clerk

Minutes taken by Debra McLeod
Deputy District Clerk