

Peekskill City School District  
1031 Elm Street  
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
DECEMBER 20, 2022

Board of Education

Mrs. Branwen MacDonald, President  
Mrs. Pamela Hallman-Johnson  
Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Mr. Eric Rekeda  
Mrs. Jillian Villon

Central Office

Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent  
Ms. Cynthia Hawthorne, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Mr. Eudes Budhai Interim Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education  
Mrs. Rebecca Aviles-Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education  
Ms. Debra McLeod, District Clerk (Virtual)

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

Samuel North and Michael Simpkins were 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: Per Diem Substitute Teacher; Elementary After School Substitute Administrator; Elementary After School Teacher; CSE/CPSE Specialist; Stipend Positions; and School Monitor (Lunch). 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: Eric Rekeda

Second: Jillian Villon

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

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

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Jillian Villon

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 7:10 p.m.  
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson  
Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Branwen MacDonald  
Eric Rekeda  
Jillian Villon

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

3. Resume Public Meeting – 7:14 p.m.
4. Report of President/Superintendent
  - A. Superintendent's Report
    - [Peekskill Pride](#)
5. Hearing of Citizens
  - A. Public Participation at Board Meetings  
There were no citizens wishing to be heard.
6. Superintendent's Report Continued
  - [Educational Plan & Budget Workshop #1](#) – Dr. Mauricio, Cynthia Hawthorne and Dr. Ahunna Akoma
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Policy Readings  
First Reading: Policy [#6680 Internal Audit Function](#)
10. Accepting of Minutes
  - A. Business Meeting November 15,2022
  - B. Business Meeting/Work Session December 6,2022
  - C. Approval of Minutes  
BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the following minutes:  
Business Meeting November 15,2022  
Business Meeting/Work Session December 20,2022

Motion: Eric Rekeda  
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson  
Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Branwen MacDonald  
Eric Rekeda  
Jillian Villon

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
No: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

11. 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:

1. Name: Darlene Molina  
 Position: Mathematics Teacher  
 Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District  
 Effective: January 6, 2023 (Last day worked 1/6/2023)
  
2. Name: Anchala Sobrin  
 Position: Director of STEM  
 Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District  
 Effective: January 17, 2023 (Last day worked 1/17/2023)

II. Retirement:

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

1. Name: Sharon Grey  
 Position: Teaching Assistant  
 Action: Retirement from the Peekskill City School District  
 Effective: December 31, 2022 (Last day worked: 12/23/2022)

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:

1. Name: Emily Esposito  
 Position: Elementary Teacher  
 Action: Non-Paid Leave of Absence  
 Effective: February 27, 2023 - June 30, 2023

IV. Appointment:

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

1. Name: Nicole Fry  
 Position: Per Diem Substitute Teacher  
 Certification: ESOL, Professional  
 Effective Start Date: December 12, 2022  
 Effective End Date: June 23, 2023  
 Salary: \$120 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days per week or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)
  
2. Name: Felix Flores  
 Position: Elementary After School Substitute Administrator  
 Certification: School Administrator/Supervisor, Permanent

- Effective Start Date: December 16, 2022  
Effective End Date: June 23, 2023  
Salary: \$140 per day as worked (ARP Grant Fund)
3. Name: Danielle Perry  
Position: Elementary After School Teacher  
Certification: Special Education, Permanent  
Effective Start Date: December 5, 2022  
Effective End Date: June 23, 2023  
Salary: \$55.33 per hour as worked, without benefits
4. Name: Romelle Smith  
Position: CSE/CPSE Specialist  
Certification: Special Education, Permanent  
Effective Start Date: July 1, 2022  
Effective End Date: June 30, 2023  
Salary: \$46.81 per hour as worked, without benefits
5. Name: Denise Oquendo  
Position: CSE/CPSE Specialist  
Certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial  
Effective Start Date: July 1, 2022  
Effective End Date: June 30, 2023  
Salary: \$46.81 per hour as worked, without benefits
6. Name: John Tamborski  
Position: Science Teacher (.2 FTE, 6th Assignment)  
Certification: Biology 7-12, Professional  
Location: Peekskill High School  
Effective Start Date: November 2, 2022  
Effective End Date: January 20, 2023  
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
7. Name: William Thompson  
Position: Science Teacher (.2 FTE, 6th Assignment)  
Certification: Biology 7-12, Initial  
Location: Peekskill High School  
Effective Start Date: November 2, 2022  
Effective End Date: January 20, 2023  
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract

8. Name: Nicholas Agnello  
 Position: Science Teacher (.2 FTE, 6th Assignment)  
 Certification: Students with Disabilities - Grades 7-12 - Generalist, Professional  
 Location: Peekskill High School  
 Effective Start Date: November 2, 2022  
 Effective End Date: January 20, 2023  
 Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
9. Name: Breigh Garulli  
 Position: Science Teacher (.2 FTE, 6th Assignment)  
 Certification: Earth Science 7-12, Professional  
 Location: Peekskill High School  
 Effective Start Date: November 2, 2022  
 Effective End Date: January 20, 2023  
 Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract

	Employee:	Position/Program:	Effective Dates:	Stipend:
10.	Dejea Shelton	Basketball Intramurals Coach	Winter 2022-2023	\$2,550
11.	Alexei Silva Nuevo	Modified (Boys) Track Coach	Spring 2023	\$3,142
12.	Shawna Robinson	Score Keeper	December 21, 2022 - June 30, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
13.	Therese Wood- Chang	Woodside After School Program Teacher	December 1, 2022 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
14.	Michele Saperstein	Oakside After School Program Teacher Aide	December 5, 2022 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the PTAO contract
15.	Oswal Perez	Woodside After School Program Teacher Aide	December 1, 2022 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the PTAO contract

16.	Matilde Broadbent	Woodside After School Program Teacher	December 1, 2022 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
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V. Correction:

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

1. Name: Nicole Fry
- Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher
- Certification: ESOL, Professional
- Effective Start Date: August 30, 2022
- Effective End Date: October 25, 2022
- Salary: \$155 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days per week or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)
- Action: Correct effective end date

Classified

I. Resignation:

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

1. Name: Daria Wells
- Position: Classroom Teacher Aide
- Location: Woodside Elementary School
- Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
- Effective: December 15, 2022 (Last day worked: 12/15/2022)

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:

1. Name: George Rios Sr.
- Position: Custodial Worker
- Location: Peekskill High School
- Action: Non-Paid Leave of Absence
- Effective: December 28, 2022 through December 30, 2022

IV. Appointment:

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

1. Name: Katherine Villalta Ramirez  
Position: School Monitor (Lunch)  
Location: Oakside Elementary School  
Probationary Start Date: December 12, 2022  
Probationary End Date: December 11, 2023  
Salary: \$15.00/hour. As worked, without benefits.
  
2. Name: Aylin Calderon Perez  
Position: Classroom Teacher Aide  
Location: Woodside Elementary School  
Probationary Start Date: December 20, 2022  
Probationary End Date: December 19, 2023  
Salary: \$16,740.00 (Prorated)
  
3. Name: Carmen Freed  
Position: Testing Coordinator  
Effective Dates: November 16, 2022 through August 23, 2023  
Stipend: \$4,000

V. Correction:

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

1. Name: Lynn Holliman  
Position: Security Aide  
Program: 2022-2023 Before and After School Program  
Location: Woodside Elementary School  
Dates Effective: 2022-2023 School Year  
Days/Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM-9:00 AM and 3:40 PM-6:00 PM  
Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Schools Security Aides Association (PSSAA) contract (Grant Fund: LEAP, United Way, ARP.)  
Correction: Correct end date to 12/12/2022 due to interest being rescinded

Student Teachers, Volunteers, Interns:

I. Appointment:

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

1. Name: Kayla Weir  
Request: Student Teaching

Location: Oakside Elementary School  
Assigned to: Tara Platt  
College: SUNY New Paltz  
Effective Dates: January 23, 2023 - March 17, 2023

2. Name: Meaghan Platania  
Request: Student Teaching  
Location: Peekskill Middle School  
Assigned to: Benjamin Bloom  
College: SUNY New Paltz  
Effective Dates: January 23, 2023 - March 17, 2023

3. Name: Leah Alper  
Request: Student Teaching  
Location: Peekskill Middle School  
Assigned to: Michael Tanzi  
College: SUNY New Paltz  
Effective Dates: March 20, 2023- May 17, 2023

4. Name: Taylor Burnett  
Request: Student Teaching  
Location: Woodside Elementary School  
Assigned to: Gloria Cordova  
College: SUNY Cortland  
Effective Dates: March 20, 2023- May 17, 2023

5. Name: Ashley Volpe  
Request: Internship - Occupational Therapy  
Assigned to: Sara Simone & Alison Iamiceli  
College: Dominican University  
Effective Dates: January 2, 2023 - March 31, 2023

	Name of Partner Agency Worker:	Location:	Organization/Program:	Effective Dates:
6.	Jenny Fernandez	Hillcrest / Oakside	(LEAP) Inner Being Yoga	2022-2023
7.	Annette Kirlew	Woodside / Hillcrest / PKMS	(LEAP) Inner Being Yoga	2022-2023
8.	Maria Vele	PKMS	(LEAP) Cornell Cooperative - CATCH Curriculum	2022-2023
9.	Alex Smith	PKMS	(LEAP) Music Class	2022-2023



10.	Justin Wingenroth	Hillcrest / PKMS	(LEAP) Tap Class	2022-2023
11.	Michael Czerwinsk	PKMS	(LEAP) Guitar Class	2022-2023
12.	Natasha Hogg	Woodside	(LEAP) NECS - Art Education	2022-2023

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.

## 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 49 students for declassification, classification, review and/or placement.

## 13. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance

### A. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the Month of October 2022

That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer's Report for month of October 2022.

B. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month of November 2022

That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the month of November 2022.

C. [Budget Appropriation Transfers - December 2022](#)

That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for the month of December 2022.

D. Contract - Catapult Learning Services LLC

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Catapult Learning LLC commencing November 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023. Not to exceed \$22,773.

E. Contract - Leading with Hearts and Minds

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Leading with Hearts and Minds, commencing December 6, 2022 - April 11, 2023. Not to exceed \$7,500.

F. Contract - Management Advisory Group Business Operations, Inc. (MAGBO)

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Management Advisory Group Operations, Inc. (MAGBO) commencing July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$125.

G. Agreement - City of Peekskill

That the Board of Education approve the rental agreement with the City of Peekskill for the 2022/2023 school year at \$0 cost to the District.

H. Amended Contract - Peekskill Be First Boxing

That the Board of Education approve the amended contract dated October 26, 2022 with Peekskill Be First Boxing. The amount increased shall be \$2,400. Not to exceed \$25,900.

I. Change Order - MDS HVAC-R, Inc.

That upon the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent for Business, in accordance with the change in scope of work on capital construction projects policy number 7335, the following change order is presented to the Board of Education:

MDS HVAC-R, Inc.

- Change Order MC-04 – credit for material cost to replace UV louvers which the MC provided in the wrong color at Hillcrest Elementary School in the amount of \$3,500.00

14. Other Agenda Items

A. Overnight Field Trip - Washington, D.C.

That the Board of Education approve the overnight field trip for 44 PHS students to visit historic sites, as well as the National Museum of American History and HBCU Howard University in Washington D.C., April 19 - 21, 2023.

B. SEQRA Resolution

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District desires to embark upon the following capital improvement: renovations to Hillcrest Elementary School cafeteria (hereinafter the "Project"); and  
WHEREAS, said capital improvement is subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(1)); and WHEREAS, replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or a facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(2); and WHEREAS, routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings, are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(10)); and

WHEREAS, the SEQR Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQR; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the capital improvement projects and has determined that the Projects are classified as Type II Actions pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1), (2), and (10) of the SEQR Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, after a review of the proposed action and the opinion provided by Mosaic Associates Architects, D.P.C., hereby declares that the Projects are Type II Actions, which requires no further review under SEQR; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the listed project from the New York State Education Department.

C. Resolution - Expenditure of Excess School Lunch Fund Monies

WHEREAS, the Peekskill City School District's (the "School District") School Lunch Fund currently has an excess balance of One Million Seven Hundred Eighty-Eight Four Hundred Thirty-Five (\$1,788,435.00) Dollars;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that the excess monies in the School Lunch Fund would be better utilized by the School District to purchase new kitchen equipment and to perform alterations to the cafeterias and serving areas at the School District's Hillcrest Elementary School;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the expenditure of excess School Lunch Fund monies to purchase new kitchen equipment and to perform alterations to the School District' cafeterias and serving areas.

15. Approving Consent Agenda

A. Approving Consent Agenda

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

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson  
Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Branwen MacDonald  
Eric Rekeda  
Jillian Villon

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

16. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Speak to the Board of Education

17. Committee Reports/Board Reflections

President MacDonald wished everyone a happy and safe week.

18. Executive Session

19. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

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

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson  
Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Branwen MacDonald  
Eric Rekeda  
Jillian Villon

Second: Eric Rekeda  
No: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained:\_\_\_\_\_

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Debra McLeod  
District Clerk