

Peekskill City School District  
1031 Elm Street  
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MARCH 25, 2025

Board of Education

Mr. Michael Simpkins, President  
Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr., Vice President  
Mrs. Branwen MacDonald  
Mr. Eric Reveda  
Mrs. Jillian Villon  
Mrs. Christina Washington

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

A. Recording of Attendance

Amy Vele was absent.

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: 6th Assignment Science Teachers; Music and Elementary Leave Replacement Teachers; Pre-Kindergarten and Elementary Teachers; Clinical Substitute; Lead Program Advisor; Certified Stipend Positions; Security Aide; Clerical and Teacher Aide Substitutes (Per Diem); Teacher Aides, and Interns. 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: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Branwen MacDonald  
Eric Reveda  
Michael Simpkins  
Jillian Villon  
Christina Washington

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

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 7:01 p.m.  
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

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

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

2. Resume Public Meeting – 7:07 p.m.

- Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was reconvened in the Ford Auditorium.

4. Report of President/Superintendent

A. Superintendent's Report

- [Peekskill Pride](#)
- [Special Education and Pupil Services: \[https://youtu.be/9qy\\\_92wK5AI\]\(https://youtu.be/9qy\_92wK5AI\)](#) - Ellen Gerace and Glenda Sanchez

5. Hearing of Citizens

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

6. Superintendent's Report Continued

A. Superintendent's Report Continued

- [Educational Planning and Budget Workshop #4](#) – Cynthia Hawthorne

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Policy Readings

10. Accepting of Minutes

A. Business Meeting February 25, 2025

B. Business Meeting/Work Session March 11, 2025

C. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the following minutes:

Business Meeting February 25, 2025

Business Meeting/Work Session March 11, 2025

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.  
Branwen MacDonald  
Eric Rekeda  
Michael Simpkins  
Jillian Villon  
Christina Washington

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

## 11. Consent Agenda - Personnel Agenda

### 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: Raquel Ruiz  
Position: Elementary Teacher  
Location: Oakside Elementary School  
Action: Resignation from Peekskill City School District  
Effective Date: June 30, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Last Date Worked: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)
2. Name: Shana Wolf  
Position: Substitute Teacher (Per Diem)  
Location: Woodside Elementary School  
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District  
Effective Date: March 23, 2025  
Last Date Worked: March 21, 2025

#### 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:

1. Name: Christine Mendello  
Position: Teaching Assistant  
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School  
Action: Retirement from Peekskill City School District  
Effective Date: June 30, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Last Date Worked: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)

#### 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:

1. Name: Maria Park  
Position: ENL Teacher  
Location: Peekskill High School  
Action: Non Paid Leave of Absence  
Effective Date: March 26, 2025 - June 6, 2025 (Anticipated)
2. Name: Melissa Russo  
Position: Interim Principal  
Location: Uriah Hill Elementary School  
Action: Non Paid Leave of Absence  
Effective Date: March 26, 2025 - April 21, 2025 (Anticipated)
3. Name: Jennifer Gouker  
Position: Music Teacher  
Location: Woodside Elementary School  
Action: Non Paid Leave of Absence  
Effective Date: April 30, 2025 - June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)

V. Appointment:

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

1. Name: Stacey Leitner  
Position: 6th Assignment Science Teacher (0.20 FTE)  
Certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Professional  
Location: Peekskill Middle School  
Effective Start Date: April 1, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Effective End Date: May 19, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
2. Name: Josie Esposito  
Position: 6th Assignment Science Teacher (0.20 FTE)  
Certification: Biology & General Science 7-12, Permanent  
Location: Peekskill Middle School  
Effective Start Date: April 1, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Effective End Date: May 19, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
3. Name: Alexis Conte  
Position: 6th Assignment Science Teacher (0.20 FTE)  
Certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6),

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| Location:<br>Effective Start Date:<br>Effective End Date:<br>Salary: | Initial Reissuance<br>Peekskill Middle School<br>April 1, 2025 (Anticipated)<br>May 19, 2025 (Anticipated)<br>Terms of employment are in accordance with<br>the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract |
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| 4. Name:<br>Position:<br>Certification: | Sarah Barnett<br>6th Assignment Science Teacher (0.20 FTE)<br>Generalist In Middle Childhood Education<br>(Grades 5-9), Professional<br>Students with Disabilities (Grades 5-9) Generalist,<br>Professional |
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Location: Effective Start Date: Effective End Date: Salary:	Peekskill Middle School April 1, 2025 (Anticipated) May 19, 2025 (Anticipated) Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
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| 5. Name:<br>Position:<br>Certification: | Nicole Lehoczky<br>6th Assignment Science Teacher (0.20 FTE)<br>Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Professional |
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Location: Effective Start Date: Effective End Date: Salary:	Peekskill Middle School April 1, 2025 (Anticipated) May 19, 2025 (Anticipated) Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract
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| 6. Name:<br>Position:<br>Certification: | Elle Lastihenos<br>Elementary Leave Replacement Teacher<br>Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), Initial<br>Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial |
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Location: Effective Start Date: Effective End Date: Salary:	Uriah Hill Elementary School March 17, 2025 (Anticipated) June 6, 2025 (Anticipated) \$350 per day, as worked, no benefits
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| 7. Name:<br>Position:<br>Certification: | Karina Alvarado**^<br>Pre-Kindergarten Teacher<br>Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), Initial |
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Location: Tenure Area: Probationary Start Date: Probationary End Date:	Uriah Hill Elementary School Elementary August 27, 2025 (Anticipated) August 26, 2029 (Anticipated)
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|----------------------|------------------------|
| Length of Probation: | Four (4) Years         |
| Salary:              | \$72, 262 (MA, Step 1) |
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8. Name: Zuleyma Del Valle\*\*^  
 Position: Elementary Teacher  
 Certification: Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), Professional  
 Location: Oakside Elementary School  
 Tenure Area: Elementary  
 Probationary Start Date: August 27, 2025 (Anticipated)  
 Probationary End Date: August 26, 2029 (Anticipated)  
 Length of Probation: Four (4) Years  
 Salary: \$105,625 (MA+30, Step 8)
  
  9. Name: Andrew Mesquita  
 Position: Elementary Leave Replacement Teacher  
 Certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial  
 Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), Initial  
 Location: Hillcrest Elementary School  
 Effective Start Date: March 19, 2025 (Anticipated)  
 Effective End Date: May 5, 2025 (Anticipated)  
 Salary: \$350 per day, as worked, no benefits
  
  10. Name: Greta Schorr  
 Position: Clinical Substitute  
 Certification: School Counselor, Permanent  
 Location: Woodside Elementary School  
 Uriah Hill Elementary School  
 Effective Start Date: March 3, 2025 (Anticipated)  
 Effective End Date: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)  
 Salary: \$350 per day, as worked, no benefits
  
  11. Name: Emely Fernandez  
 Position: Lead Program Advisor  
 Program: Changemakers through Openroads: Latina Youth Capstone Program  
 Location: Peekskill High School / Hybrid Sessions  
 Effective Dates: April 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025  
 Stipend: \$3,900 - Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract. (General Fund)
  
  12. Name: Jake Ruiz^

Position: Music Leave Replacement Teacher  
 Certification: Music, Initial  
 Location: Woodside Elementary School  
 Effective Start Date: April 1, 2025 (Anticipated)  
 Effective End Date: June 20, 2025 (Anticipated)  
 Salary: \$286 per day, as worked, no benefits

#	Employee:	Position / Program:	Effective Date/s:	Salary:
13.	Tanzi, Michael	Peekskill Middle School Extended Day Program	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
14.	Silverman, Amelia	Peekskill Middle School Extended Day Program	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
15.	Rizzuti, Jessica	Peekskill Middle School Extended Day Program	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
16.	Smith, Allen	Peekskill High School - Track and Field Assistant Coach	March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$5,076 (General Fund)
17.	Mac Ewan, Ashley	Peekskill High School - Reflection Room	March 17, 2025 - June 30, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
18.	Witter, Stephen	Peekskill High School- Reflection Room	March 17, 2025 - June 30, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$60 per hour (General Fund)

VI. Correction:

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

1. Name: Andre Lee  
 Position: Boys and Girls Fitness Center Attendant  
 Location: Peekskill High School  
 Effective Date/s: March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)  
 Action: Correcting Stipend Amount  
 Stipend: \$2,802

2. Name: Greta Schorr  
Position: SEL Program Specialist  
Location: Administration Building  
Effective Start Date: March 3, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Effective End Date: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Action: Rescind offer  
Salary: \$350 as worked, per day, no benefits
3. Name: Rebecca Andujar  
Certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial  
Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6), Initial  
Location: Uriah Hill Elementary School  
Effective Start Date: March 3, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Effective End Date: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Action: Correcting Salary Amount  
Salary: \$175 per day, as worked, no benefits

Classified:

- I. Resignation:
  - A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff resignation(s) to the Board of Education for approval:
    1. Name: Rebecca Dymes  
Position: 1:1/Floater Teacher Aide  
Location: Oakside Elementary School  
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District  
Effective Date: March 8, 2025  
Last Date Worked: March 7, 2025
    2. Name: Niesha Lockett  
Position: Classroom Teacher Aide  
Location: Oakside Elementary School  
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District  
Effective Date: March 13, 2025  
Last Date Worked: March 12, 2025
    3. Name: Luisa Spinato  
Position: School Monitor (Lunch)  
Location: Oakside Elementary School  
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District  
Effective Date: March 14, 2025  
Last Date Worked: March 13, 2025



4. Name: Juana Pinyol  
Position: Department Teacher Aide  
Location: Administration Building - Special Services  
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District for the purpose of accepting another position in District  
  
Effective Date: March 26, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Last Date Worked: March 25, 2025 (Anticipated)

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:

1. Name: Nathaniel Perry ^  
Position: Security Aide  
Location: Peekskill High School  
Status: Provisional  
Start Date Effective: April 1, 2025 (Anticipated)  
Salary: \$30,247.17 (Prorated)
2. Name: Juana Pinyol  
Position: Clerical Substitute (Per Diem)  
Location: District Wide  
Status: Part Time Availability (PTA)  
Dates Effective: March 26, 2025 through June 30, 2025  
Salary: \$21.00/hour\*. As worked, without benefits. Not to exceed 4 days/week (without District Administrator approval).

*\*Unless pre-approved to work in a long-term District assignment.*

3. Name: Juana Pinyol  
Position: Teacher Aide Substitute (Per Diem)

Location:	District Wide
Status:	Part Time Availability (PTA)
Dates Effective:	March 26, 2025 through June 30, 2025
Salary:	\$17.00/hour. As worked, without benefits. Not to exceed 4 days/week (without District Administrator approval).

VI. Correction:

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

1. Name: Erly Otero  
Position: Teacher Aide  
Program: After School LEAP Program  
Location: Oakside Elementary School  
Effective Date/s: 2024-2025 School Year  
Action: Correct Stipend  
Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Teachers' Aides Organization (PTAO) Contract (21st CCLC LEAP Peek).
2. Name: Basy Esteves  
Position: Teacher Aide  
Program: After School LEAP Program  
Location: Oakside Elementary School  
Effective Date/s: 2024-2025 School Year  
Action: Correct Position  
Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Teachers' Aides Organization (PTAO) Contract (21st CCLC LEAP Peek).

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: Mariano Alvarez  
Request: Student Teaching  
Location: Peekskill High School  
Assigned to: Heather Brown  
College/University: SUNY New Paltz  
Effective Date/s: March 26, 2025 - May 15, 2025 (Anticipated)
2. Name: Emily Lyles  
Request: Practicum Experience  
Location: Peekskill High School

Assigned to: Noel Cabassa  
College/University: CUNY Lehman College  
Effective Date/s: March 26, 2025 - May 30, 2025 (Anticipated)

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.

\*\*\* 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.

\*\*\*\* Classroom Teachers with two years of Jarema Act Credit in this school district shall serve a two-year probationary term.

^ 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 85 students for declassification, classification, review and/or placement.

#### 13. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance

##### A. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month of February 2025

That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the month of February 2025.

##### B. [Budget Appropriation Transfers](#) - February 2025

That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for February 2025.

##### C. [Budget Appropriation Transfers](#) - Athletics 2024/2025

That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for the Athletic Department 2024/2025.

##### D. Extraclassroom Activities - December 2024 and January 2025

That the Board of Education, accept the December 2024 and January 2025 financial statements for the Peekskill High School and Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Accounts.

E. Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES Cooperative Bid 2025/2026 (Construction Related)

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the participating school districts of the Putnam Northern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services, adopting this Resolution to bid jointly in those supplies, commodities, materials and equipment set forth below NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Peekskill City School District agrees to participate with other school districts of the Putnam Northern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Westchester County, New York, adopting in this joint bidding of:

- Asbestos Abatement and Mold Remediation

- Asphalt Paving, Resurfacing and Site Work

- Fence Installation and Repair

- Table, Chair and Tent Rental

- Construction Labor Trades:

- o Carpentry

- o Electricity

- o HVAC

- o Plumbing

- o Mason

- Welding Supplies

- Carpentry Supplies

- HVAC Supplies

- Plumbing Supplies

- Construction Electricity Supplies

- Fine Paper Supplies

- Science Hardware and Art Supplies

- Printing Services & Science 21 Printing Services

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall remain in effect until receipt by BOCES of written withdrawal from the Resolution by the school district.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is agreed that the specifications as presented will be used, and that this Board agrees to bid its required amount of said commodities jointly with other participating school districts in Putnam Northern Westchester and the Putnam Northern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services. The recommendation of the Purchasing Steering Committee will be considered when this Board acts on the purchase of said commodities.

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 to the General Municipal Law.

F. Contracts - Health and Welfare Services

That the Board of Education approve the contracts for health and welfare services provided to the children residing in Peekskill and attending non-public schools, for the

2024-2025 school year.

- Elmsford Union Free School District - \$1,196.95 per pupil; 2 students;
- Mamaroneck Union Free School District - \$1,249.34 per pupil; 1 student;
- White Plains City School District - \$1,295.66 per pupil; 10 students

G. Contract - Felix Flores

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Felix Flores, as an Administrative support at the elementary level, effective February 3, 2025 - June 30, 2025. Not to exceed \$35,000 (\$689 for a full day/pro-rated for a portion of a day) for the 2025 school year.

H. SEQRA - Flooring Oakside, Hillcrest and Peekskill High School

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District desires to embark upon flooring reconstruction and replacements at the Hillcrest Elementary School, Oakside Elementary School and Peekskill High School (the "Projects"); and WHEREAS, said Projects are subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in existing structure or facility is classified as a Type II Action under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(1));

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 is classified as a Type II Action under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(2));

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));

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 SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the above-referenced capital improvement Projects and has determined that said Projects are classified as a Type II Action pursuant to Sections 617.5(c)(1), (2) and (10) of the SEQR Regulations; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District 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 hereby declares that the above-referenced capital improvement Projects are Type II actions which requires no further review under SEQRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District 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.

I. Contract Award - Maple Leaf Associates Inc/Hillcrest Site Project

That the Board of Education approve the contract award for the Hillcrest site project to Maple Leaf Associates Inc.

14. Other Agenda Items

A. Annual Budget Vote and Election Resolution

PEEKSKILL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

PEEKSKILL, NEW YORK

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Election and Budget Vote by County of Westchester, New York, will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 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 2025 - 2026, (2) electing three 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, 2028, (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 2025 - 2026 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 6, 2025, except Saturday and Sunday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. D.S.T. Copies of this statement will be made available for public viewing on the school district's website.

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 2025 - 2026 school year will be held at the Administration Center, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, New York on Tuesday evening, May 6, 2025, 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 26, 2025, petition blanks may be secured online at [www.peakskillschools.org](http://www.peakskillschools.org), email Carmery Mendez-Battle, [cmendezbattle@peakskillschools.org](mailto:cmendezbattle@peakskillschools.org), or at the Board of Education Office, 1031 Elm Street, between the hours of 9 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 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 30, 2025.

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 §2606 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 30, 2025, 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. Voters may also register on any school day prior to May 15, 2025 at the Administration Building, 1031 Elm Street, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., prevailing time, to add any additional names to the registers to be used at the aforesaid election, at which time any person will be entitled to have her or his name placed on such registers provided that at the meeting of the Board of Registration he or she is known, or proven to the satisfaction of the Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at such public hearing or election.

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 20, 2025.

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 5, 2025, between the hours of 9:00AM and 5:00PM, 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 early mail ballots and absentee ballots for the election of Members of the Board of Education, the adoption of the annual budget, and referenda. Applications for early mail ballots and absentee ballots are available in the office of the District Clerk, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on business days. An application for an early mail ballot or absentee ballot must be received by the District Clerk no earlier than thirty (30) days before the Annual Election. Completed applications must be received by the District clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter or his/her designated agent. Upon receiving a timely application for an early mail ballot or 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. Early mail ballot or absentee ballots must be received by the District clerk no later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on May 20, 2025.

A list of persons to whom early mail ballots and 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 2, 2025, between the hours of 9:00AM and 5:00PM, 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. A challenge to an early mail voter may not be made on the basis that the voter should have applied for an absentee ballot. 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" voter registration applications, military ballot applications, and military ballots in school district votes. An application to register as a military voter and an application for a military ballot may be requested from the District Clerk, secured online at [www.peakskillschools.org](http://www.peakskillschools.org), email Carmery Mendez-Battle, [cmendezbattle@peakskillschools.org](mailto:cmendezbattle@peakskillschools.org), or at the Board of Education Office, 1031 Elm Street, between the hours of 9 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The signed military voter registration application must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 pm on May 5, 2025. The signed military ballot application must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5 p.m. on May 5, 2025. A military voter may elect to receive his/her military voter registration application, military ballot application and military 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. No military ballot will be canvassed unless it is (1) received in the office of the District Clerk before the close of the polls on election day and showing a cancellation mark of the United States postal service or a foreign country's postal service, or showing a dated endorsement of receipt by another agency of the United States government; or (2) received by the office of the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 p.m. on election day and signed and dated by the military voter and one witness thereto, with a date which is associated to be not later than the day before the election.

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 21, 2025, 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 25, 2025

Carmery Mendez-Battle 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.

DISTRITO ESCOLAR DE LA CIUDAD DE PEEKSKILL  
CONDADO DE WESTCHESTER  
PEEKSKILL, NUEVA YORK

AVISO por la presente que la Elección Anual y la Votación del Presupuesto por el Condado de Westchester, Nueva York, se llevarán a cabo el martes, 20 de mayo del 2025 en los distritos electorales establecidos por la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar de la Ciudad de Peekskill. La Junta de Educación en el Centro de Administración, 1031 Elm Street, y puede ser inspeccionada durante las horas de oficina. Los votantes en cada distrito electoral deben votar en el lugar de votación de la siguiente manera:

PEEKSKILL HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRITO DE ELECCIONES A (Distritos de la ciudad 1 y 2)

DISTRITO DE ELECCIONES B (Distritos de la ciudad 3, 4, 14, 15 y 21)

DISTRITO DE ELECCIONES C (Distritos de la ciudad 5, 6, 17, 18 y 23)

DISTRITO DE ELECCIONES D (Distritos de la ciudad 7, 8, 16, 19 y 22)

DISTRITO DE ELECCIONES E (Distritos de la ciudad 9, 10 y 11)

DISTRITO DE ELECCIONES F (Distritos de la ciudad 12 y 13)

AVISO ADEMÁS que se requiere el registro personal de los votantes, ya sea en conformidad con la Sección §2016 de la Ley de Educación o el Artículo 5 de la Ley de Elecciones. Si un votante se ha registrado hasta ahora en conformidad con la Sección §2016 de la Ley de Educación y ha votado en una reunión anual o especial del distrito dentro de los últimos cuatro (4) años, es elegible para votar en esta elección; Si un votante está registrado y es elegible para votar conforme con el Artículo 5 de la Ley de Elecciones, él / ella también es elegible para votar en esta elección. Todas las demás personas que deseen votar deben registrarse. Para la preparación de dicho registro de los votantes calificados, la Junta de Registro de dicho distrito escolar se reunirá en el Centro de Administración, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, Nueva York, el 30 de abril del 2025, desde las 1:00 de la tarde hasta las 5:00 p.m. (D.S.T.) para agregar a los registros los nombres de los votantes calificados del distrito escolar que se presentarán personalmente para el registro. Los votantes también pueden registrarse en cualquier día escolar antes del 15 de mayo de 2025 en el Edificio de Administración, 1031 Elm Street, entre las 8:30 a.m. y las 3:30 p.m., hora local, para agregar cualquier nombre adicional a los registros que se utilizarán en la mencionada elección, momento en el cual cualquier persona tendrá derecho

a que su nombre sea colocado en dichos registros, siempre que en la reunión de la Junta de Registro se le conozca, o se demuestre a satisfacción de la Junta de Registro que tiene derecho a votar en esa audiencia pública o elección.

Una persona tendrá derecho a registrarse y votar en dicha Elección Anual del Distrito Escolar si es:

(A) Un ciudadano de los Estados Unidos

(B) Tiene al menos 18 años de edad.

(C) Un residente del Estado y del Distrito Escolar de la Ciudad de Peekskill por treinta días antes de la elección.

Cualquier persona que no se haya registrado actualmente bajo el registro personal permanente en esta fecha o antes y no haya votado en una elección del distrito escolar este año escolar, debe, para tener derecho a votar en la próxima elección anual del distrito escolar, presentarse personalmente para inscribirse en el momento y el lugar mencionados anteriormente, o debe hacer los arreglos directamente con la Junta de Elecciones en White Plains, ya sea presentándose personalmente, o por correo, para registrarse de forma permanente en la Junta de Elecciones de White Plains dentro del período de tiempo que permita que su nombre aparezca en la Lista de Registro de la Junta de Elecciones para su verificación en o antes del Día de las Elecciones, martes 20 de mayo del 2025.

Si un votante calificado es residente de un distrito escolar y su nombre aparece en un registro como residente de otro distrito, tal votante puede presentar una declaración jurada por escrito ante la secretaria del distrito que muestre su residencia correcta y el nombre de dicha persona. El votante se borrará de dicho registro y se colocará en el registro adecuado.

El registro así preparado en conformidad con la Sección §2606 de la Ley de Educación se archivará en la Oficina de la Secretaria del Distrito Escolar en el 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, NY, y estará abierto para inspección por cualquier votante calificado del Distrito a partir del 5 de mayo del 2025, entre las 9:00 AM y las 5:00 PM, horario vigente, en días laborables, y cada día anterior al día establecido para la elección, excepto el domingo. El sábado será solo con cita previa.

TENGA EN CUENTA que la Junta de Educación proporciona boletas por correo anticipado y boletas de voto ausente para la elección de los miembros de la Junta de Educación, la adopción del presupuesto anual y los referendos. Las solicitudes para boletas por correo anticipado y boletas ausentes están disponibles en la oficina del Secretario del Distrito, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill entre las horas de 9:00 a.m. y 5:00 p.m. en días hábiles. Una solicitud para una boleta por correo anticipado o boleta en ausencia debe ser recibida por el Secretario de Distrito no antes de treinta (30) días antes de la Elección Anual. Las solicitudes completadas deben ser recibidas por la secretaria del Distrito al menos siete (7) días antes de la elección si la boleta se envía por correo al votante, o el día anterior a la elección, si la boleta se entrega personalmente al votante o su agente designado. Después de recibir una solicitud oportuna para una boleta por correo anticipado o boleta por correo en ausencia, el Secretario de Distrito enviará la boleta por correo a la dirección designada en la solicitud a más tardar seis (6) días antes de la Elección Anual. La boleta por correo

anticipado o boletas ausentes deben ser recibidas por el secretario del distrito a más tardar a las 5:00 PM, hora prevaleciente, el 20 de mayo de 2025.

Una lista de las personas a las que se emiten boletas anticipadas por correo y boletas de voto en ausencia estará disponible para su inspección para los votantes calificados del Distrito en la oficina del Secretario del Distrito a partir del 2 de mayo de 2025, entre las 9:00 a.m. y las 5:00 p.m., los días laborables anteriores al día establecido para la elección anual. Cualquier votante calificado presente en el lugar de votación puede oponerse a la votación de la boleta al presentar una base apropiada a su objeción y las razones, por lo tanto, conocidas por el Inspector de Elecciones antes del cierre de las urnas. Un desafío a un votante por correo anticipado no se puede hacer sobre la base de que el votante debería haber solicitado una boleta de voto ausente.

La Ley de Educación también establece disposiciones especiales para la votación en ausencia de los votantes "militares". Específicamente, la ley proporciona un procedimiento único para la registración de los votantes "militares en cuanto a las solicitudes de registro, solicitudes de voto ausente y boletas de voto ausente" en los votos del distrito escolar. Se puede solicitar una solicitud para registrarse como votante militar y una solicitud para una boleta militar al secretario del distrito, se puede obtener en línea en [www.peakskillschools.org](http://www.peakskillschools.org), envíe un correo electrónico a Carmery Mendez-Battle, [cmendezbattle@peakskillschools.org](mailto:cmendezbattle@peakskillschools.org), o en la Junta de Educación Oficina, 1031 Elm Street, entre las 9:00 a. m. y las 5:00 p. m.. La secretaria de distrito debe recibir la solicitud de registro de votante militar firmada a más tardar a las 5:00 pm del 5 de mayo de 2025. Se debe recibir la solicitud de boleta electoral militar firmada; sin embargo, la secretaria del distrito debe recibir la solicitud de registro original firmada a más tardar a las 5 p.m. el 5 de mayo de 2025.

Considerando que, las solicitudes de boleta de voto ausente y las boletas de voto ausente deben ser recibidas por el votante por correo, un votante militar puede optar por recibir su solicitud de registro de votante militar, solicitud de boleta de voto ausente militar y boleta de voto ausente militar por correo, correo electrónico o facsímil. Sin embargo, el votante militar debe devolver su solicitud de boleta militar original y su boleta militar por correo o en persona. o por su agente designado. La Secretaria de la Junta transmitirá la boleta electoral militar del votante militar de acuerdo con el método de transmisión preferido por el votante militar. No se registrará ninguna boleta militar a menos que (1) se reciba en la oficina de la Secretaria del Distrito antes del cierre de las urnas el día de las elecciones y muestre una marca de cancelación del servicio postal de los Estados Unidos o del servicio postal de un país extranjero, o que muestre un endoso fechado de recibo por otra agencia del gobierno de los Estados Unidos; o (2) recibido por la oficina de la secretaria del distrito a más tardar a las 5:00 p.m. el día de la elección y firmada y fechada por el votante militar y un testigo del mismo, con una fecha que se asocia como no posterior al día anterior a la elección.

Y ADEMÁS SE OTORGA AVISO que en conformidad con una norma adoptada por la Junta de Educación en conformidad con las Secciones §2035 y §2008 de la Ley de Educación, cualquier referéndum o propuesta para enmendar el presupuesto, o de

otra manera, para ser presentada para votación en dicha elección, debe presentarse ante la Junta de Educación en el Edificio de Administración, 1031 Elm Street, Peekskill, NY, el 21 de abril del 2025 o antes a las 4:00 p.m. hora local; debe ser por escrito o impreso en el idioma inglés; debe ser dirigido a la Secretaria del Distrito Escolar; debe estar firmado por al menos 100 votantes calificados del Distrito; y debe indicar el nombre y la residencia de cada firmante. Sin embargo, la Junta Escolar no aceptará ninguna petición para colocar ante el poder de los votantes para determinar, o cualquier proposición que no incluya una asignación específica donde los gastos de dinero son requeridos por la proposición.

Por orden de la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar de la Ciudad de Peekskill.

Fecha: 25 de marzo del 2025

Carmery Mendez-Battle

Secretaria del Distrito

1. Las personas que figuran en el anexo, que son votantes calificados del Distrito Escolar, son nombradas para actuar en dicha reunión anual como Inspectores de Elecciones y Junta de Inscripción según se indica. (Att. # 1)
  2. Se autoriza a la Secretaria del Distrito Escolar a dar aviso de Inscripción por escrito.
  3. Por la presente se autoriza y se ordena a la Secretaria del Distrito que haga arreglos para las máquinas de votación, que tenga impresas las etiquetas de boleta necesarias y que haga los arreglos necesarios para la Elección Anual y la Votación del Presupuesto según sea necesario y apropiado.
  4. La Secretaria del Distrito está además autorizada para nombrar votantes calificados para llenar cualquier puesto vacante causado por la incapacidad, rechazo o falla de cualquier persona para servir en la elección anual.
  5. La presente resolución entrará en efecto inmediatamente.
- B. Field Trip Over 100 Miles - Six Flags, New Jersey  
That the Board of Education approve the Field Trip over 100 miles for the Peekskill High School senior class (approximately 45 - 90 students) to Six Flags, New Jersey on June 4, 2025.
- C. Overnight Field Trip - South Bend, Indiana,  
That the Board of Education approve the overnight field trip for PHS Robotics team for a Robotics Competition traveling to South Bend, Indiana, June 18th - June 23rd, 2025.
- D. Disposal of Assets  
That the Board of Education approve the Disposals of Asset list below:  
Asset #/Bar Code; Serial #; Disposal Date; Reason for Disposal; Disposal proceeds (when Applicable)  
20130527; Pugmill Shimpo; NRA-04s 50602301; broken  
20130614; kiln selectfire; unsafe  
20150059; carpet shampoo machine us 008058f; broken/unrepairable
- E. Lacrosse Merger 2025/2026  
That the Board of Education approve the merger of Peekskill City School District Boys Lacrosse Team, for the 2025/2026 school year, with Ossining School District, due to the insufficient number of participants.

F. Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES/Cooperative Request for Proposal - External Audit Services

That the Board of Education approve the agreement with Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES/Cooperative Request for Proposal for External Audit Services and to enter into an agreement with Cooper Arias, LLP for the 2024/2025 school year with an option to extend the agreement for up to four additional years.

G. Reject all Request for Proposals for Pre-Kindergarten School Services/Re-advertise for Request for Proposals for Pre-Kindergarten School Services

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2025 the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District requested proposals for the provision of Pre-Kindergarten School Services for the 2025-2026 school year (the "RFP");

WHEREAS, the District received and opened the responses received to the Pre-Kindergarten School Services RFP on March 6, 2025;

WHEREAS, the District reviewed the proposals in accordance with the criteria set forth in the RFP;

WHEREAS, based upon said review, the District Administration recommends that the Board of Education reject all proposals received for the provision of Pre-Kindergarten School Services and re-advertise for new proposals;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby rejects all proposals received in response to the RFP for the provision of Pre-Kindergarten School Services and authorizes the District to re-advertise for a new Request for Proposals for such Pre-Kindergarten School services.

15. Approving Consent Agenda

A. Approving Consent Agenda

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

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Second: Eric Rekeda

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

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

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Christina Washington

16. Committee Reports/Board Reflections

Branwen MacDonald commented the Board Policy Committee met last week and the Board needs to have a student Board member. How it is implemented is up to the District. The Committee discussed what would be best for a student who would want that position, whether appointed by the Board or elected by the student body. A good way is to hear from the students.

Mrs. MacDonald stated the PTO discussed the upcoming budget. They are also happy to work with Cynthia Hawthorne who was instrumental in getting the grant for indoor play.

She inquired if we have the staff to help facilitate recess. The students have a better learning behavior when they have had that time for recess.

17. Executive Session – 8:57 p.m.

A. Executive Session

Motion to move to Executive Session to discuss a school contract.

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Second: Christina Washington

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

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

Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Reveda

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Christina Washington

B. Adjourn Executive Session

Motion to move to Public Session

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Second: Branwen MacDonald

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

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

Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Reveda

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Christina Washington

18. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

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

Motion: Branwen MacDonald

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

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

Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Reveda

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Christina Washington

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Carmery Mendez-Battle  
District Clerk

Minutes taken by Debra McLeod  
Deputy District Clerk