

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OCTOBER 29, 2024

Board of Education

Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr., Vice President
Mrs. Branwen MacDonald
Mr. Eric Reveda
Ms. Amy Vele
Mrs. Jillian Villon
Mrs. Christina Washington

Central Office

Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent
Ms. Cynthia Hawthorne, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Eudes Budhai Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education
Mrs. Carmery Mendez-Battle, District Clerk

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jenkins, Jr. at 6:07 p.m. in the George Birdas Room.

A. Recording of Attendance

Jillian Villon arrive late. President Simpkins 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: Permanent Substitute Teacher; Certified/Classified Stipend Positions; 1:1 Teacher Aide; and Classroom Teacher Aide. 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: Branwen MacDonald

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Reveda

Amy Vele

Christina Washington

Second: Eric Reveda

No: _____

Abstained: _____

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 7:04 p.m.
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

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

Second: Eric Rekeda
No: _____ Abstained: _____

3. 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 and Hispanic Heritage Month Summary](#) (Dr. Daniels)
Carmen Vargas and team had their Pre-K sing a song and danced for the Board as part of Hispanic Heritage Month.

5. Hearing of Citizens

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

8. Policy Readings

9. Accepting of Minutes

A. Business Meeting September 24, 2024

B. Business Meeting/Work Session October 8, 2024

C. Approval of Minutes

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

Business Meeting September 24, 2024

Business Meeting/Work Session October 8, 2024

Motion: Amy Vele

Second: Branwen MacDonald

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____ Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon

Christina Washington

10. 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: Deborah Carr
Position: Per Diem Substitute
Location: District Wide
Action: Resignation from Peekskill City School District
Effective Date: October 28, 2024
Last Date Worked: October 25, 2024

2. Name: Yvette Rivera
Position: Permanent Substitute
Location: Peekskill High School
Action: Resignation from Peekskill High School
Effective Date: October 29, 2024
Last Date Worked: October 28, 2024

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:

1. Name: Briegh Garulli
Position: Science Teacher
Location: Peekskill High School
Action: Non Paid Leave of Absence
Effective Date/s: November 7, 2024 - December 2, 2024
(Anticipated)

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

1. Name: Feriza Coelho
Position: Permanent Substitute
Certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Effective Start Date: October 28, 2024 (Anticipated)
Effective End Date: June 30, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$175 per day, as worked, no benefits.

#	Employee:	Position / Program:	Effective Date/s:	Stipend:
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2.	Miller, Rebecca	Peekskill High School - Night School - English	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
3.	Mannion, Lisa	Peekskill High School Night School - English	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
4.	O'Brien, Rachel	Peekskill High School Night School - English	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
5.	Imhof, Susan	Peekskill High School Night School - Substitute	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
6.	Marroquin, Heidi	Peekskill High School Night School - ENL SEL Program	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
7.	Park, Maria	Peekskill High School Night School - ENL SEL Program	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
8.	Marroquin, Heidi	Peekskill High School Night School - Reflection Room	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
9.	Diago, Michel	Peekskill High School Night School - Reflection Room	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract

10.	Olmstead, Reid	Peekskill High School Night School - Reflection Room	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
11.	Fernandez, Joshian	Peekskill High School Night School - Reflection Room	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
12.	Brown, Shenea	Peekskill High School Night School - Reflection Room	2024 - 2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract
13.	Barone, Johnathan	Peekskill City School District - Residency Coordinator	2024 -2025 School Year	\$2,026
14.	Brown, Shenea	Peekskill High School - GEMS Advisor	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$3,456

	Teacher Mentee:	Teacher Mentor:	Dates:	Stipend:
1.	Leslie Ishoo	Jennifer Michel	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$1,559

VI. Correction:

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

1. Name: Todd Newby
Position: Teacher Mentor
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Effective Date/s: 2024 -2025 School Year
Action: Rescinding Appointment
Stipend: \$1,559
2. Name: Patricia Roldan
Position: Yearbook Advisor
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Effective Date/s: 2024 - 2025 School Year

Action: Rescinding Appointment
Stipend: \$4,538

3. Name: Nicole Cugliandro
Position: Night School Teaching Assistant
Location: Peekskill High School
Effective Date/s: 2024 - 2025 School Year
Action: Correcting stipend amount
Stipend: \$50/per hour

4. Name: Regina Camacho
Position: Night School Teaching Assistant
Location: Peekskill High School
Effective Date/s: 2024 - 2025 School Year
Action: Correcting stipend amount
Stipend: \$50/per hour

5. Name: Maria Gordineer
Position: Night School Teaching Assistant
Location: Peekskill High School
Effective Date/s: 2024 - 2025 School Year
Action: Correcting stipend amount
Stipend: \$50/per hour

Classified:

I. Resignation:

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

1. Name: Emely Marte
Position: Classroom Teacher Aide
Location: Oakside Elementary School
Action: Resignation from Peekskill City School District
Effective Date: October 17, 2024
Last Date Worked: October 16, 2024

2. Name: Jaruan O'Brien
Position: Staff Assistant - Finance & Administration
Location: Administration Building
Action: Resignation from Peekskill City School District
Effective Date: November 15, 2024 (Anticipated)
Last Day Worked: November 14, 2024 (Anticipated)

3. Name: Niesha Lockett to accept the Aide Position
Position: School Monitor (Lunch)
Location: Oakside Elementary School
Action: Resignation from Peekskill School District to accept another position within the District

Effective Date: October 17, 2024 (Anticipated)
Last Day Worked: October 16, 2024 (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: Mahogany Smith
Position: Personnel Assistant
Location: Administrative Services Office
Status: Probationary
Probationary Start Date: October 30, 2024 (Anticipated)
Probationary End Date: January 9, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$78,000 (Prorated)
 2. Name: Cheyanne Travis
Position: 1:1 Teacher Aide
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Status: Probationary
Probationary Start Date: October 30, 2024 (Anticipated)
Probationary End Date: October 29, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$20,601.36 (Prorated)
 3. Name: Niesha Lockett
Position: Classroom Teacher Aide
Location: Oakside Elementary School
Status: Probationary
Probationary Start Date: October 17, 2024 (Anticipated)
Probationary End Date: October 16, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: 19,016.64 (Prorated)
 4. Name: Carmen Freed
Position: Technology Support Substitute
Effective Dates: November 4, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$75.00/hour. As worked, without benefits.
Not to exceed 4 days/week.

#	Employee:	Position/ Program:	Effective Date/s:	Stipend:
5.	Leff, Maria	Peekskill Middle School LEAP - Classroom Aide	2024 -2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Teacher Aides' Organization (PTAO) Contract.
6.	Gargano, Kathleen	Peekskill Middle School LEAP - 1:1 Teacher Aide	2024 -2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Teacher Aides' Organization (PTAO) Contract.
7.	Smithson, Justin	Peekskill High School Tech Director, Drama	Fall 2024	\$1,702
8.	Robinson, Shawna	Hass's Way - Security Guard	2024 -2025 School Year	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Schools Security Aides Association (PSSAA) Contract.
9.	Mojica, Debbie	Peekskill Middle School GO Treasurer (Not a Club)	2024 -2025 School Year	\$2,836
10.	Searight, Ramon	Hillcrest Elementary School - Basketball Intramurals Coach	2024 -2025 School Year	\$2,550

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.

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 16 students for declassification, classification, review and/or placement.

B. Contract - New Era Creative Spaces (NECS)/Saturday Academy

That the Board of Education approve the contract with New Era Creative Spaces (NECS)/Saturday Academy, commencing September 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025. Not to exceed \$2,100 (\$300 per event X 7 events).

C. Contract - Noo Moves Entertainment, LLC/Saturday Academy

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Noo Moves Entertainment, LLC/Saturday Academy, commencing September 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025.
Compensation \$250 per event (up to 4X).

12. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance

- A. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the Months of July and August 2024
That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer's Report for months of July and August 2024.
- B. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month of September 2024
That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the month of September 2024.
- C. [Budget Appropriation Transfers](#) - October 2024
That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for the month of October 2024.
- D. Emergency - Boiler Replacement/Hillcrest
WHEREAS due to unforeseen circumstances the boiler replacement at Hillcrest Elementary School was not completed over the spring/summer as originally planned by awarded contractor Commercial Instrumentation Services. An alternate boiler was needed to fill the State Education Department requirement all boilers to be operational by October 15 and
WHEREAS since the alternate boiler was no longer a like and kind install as per the original plan and
WHEREAS the State Education Department requires Board approval for any individual project that exceeds approved financing, and
RESOLVED upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Administration, the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District approves the contract with DP Wolf to replace the boiler at Hillcrest Elementary School with an additional funding in the amount of \$7,520 for a total cost of \$33,500.
- E. Contract - Pitney Bowes
That the Board of Education on July 5, 2023 approved a contract with Pitney Bowes to provide a 60-month lease mailing equipment to the Peekskill City School District at a cost of \$389.09 monthly or \$1,167.27 quarterly. The District has terminated the lease. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the contract with Pitney Bowes dated July 13, 2023 to purchase said equipment and provide a 60-month service for mailing equipment to the Peekskill City School District at a cost of \$1,172.15 annually.

13. Other Agenda Items

- A. Asset Disposal
That the Board of Education approve the attached list of Disposals of Assets.

14. Approving Consent Agenda

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

Motion: Branwen MacDonald
Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald

Second: Amy Vele
No: _____ Abstained: _____

Eric Rekeda
Amy Vele
Jillian Villon
Christina Washington

15. Committee Reports/Board Reflections

Amy Vele reported the Youth Bureau will be having a toy drive November 3 at 7 John Walsh Blvd.

Branwen MacDonald commented PCSD presented at NYSSBA convention. She also is PCSD advocate at WPSBA and they had a roundtable discussion at SWBOCES. The consensus of the group as far as cell phones are concerned, kids should not have cell phones in the classroom.

Vice President Jenkins, Jr. said Board members and Superintendent's from all over the state attend NYSSBA conventions. You get to talk to other districts or vendors and bring information back to your district and then you can make the best informed choice. Some of the topics discussed were on AI, mental health and school safety. The time spent at the convention creates an opportunity to bond with other districts.

Jillian one take away from the NYSSBA convention was that AI tools are helpful to take some things off the teachers' plate. She thanked the District for Saturday Academy. It was amazing and how many community members come out.

16. Executive Session

17. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

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

Motion: Branwen MacDonald

Second: Jillian Villon

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____ Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon

Christina Washington

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Carmery Mendez-Battle
District Clerk

Minutes taken by Debra McLeod
Deputy District Clerk