

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

**BUSINESS MEETING/WORK SESSION
BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 6, 2021**

Board of Education

Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr., President
Mrs. Jillian Villon, Vice President
Mrs. Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Mrs. Branwen MacDonald
Mr. Samuel North
Mrs. Maria Pereira
Mr. Michael Simpkins

Central Office

Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent
Ms. Robin Zimmerman, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Daniel Callahan, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education
Dr. Mary Keenan Foster, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education
Ms. Debra McLeod, District Clerk

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Villon at 6:16 p.m. in accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202 relating to the COVID-19 emergency the Board of Education met at PHS auditorium but In-person attendance will NOT be permitted. The District will provide video-conference links online, translated into Spanish, as well as a section for public comments via our BoardDocs website.

A. Recording of Attendance

Michael Simpkins arrived late.

2. Proposed Executive Session

A. Open Meeting

*((Note: The Board will enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters regarding the appointment of a particular contractor(s) and employment history of particular person(s) for the following positions: PD Course Instructors. 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: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Second: Branwen MacDonald

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Samuel North
Maria Pereira
Jillian Villon

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

Motion: Branwen MacDonald
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Maria Pereira
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

Second: Jillian Villon
No: _____ Abstained: _____

3. Resume Public Meeting – In Person Attendance is Not Permitted

The meeting was reconvened at 7:12 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Superintendent/Board President Report

A. Superintendent's Report

- [Peekskill Pride](#)
- BOCES Student of Distinction/Jesenia Morocho - <https://youtu.be/aqfHUg8g2sA>

Branwen McDonald commented on the Advocacy Foundation Aide formula. There was a lawsuit brought against the State that there should be equity in the Foundation Aide for school districts. The group Alliance for Equality in education, when representatives in the government didn't vote to fund our schools, that representative was voted out. All the parents who marched to Albany was very meaningful and their voices really mattered.

Michael Simpkins thanked Jesenia Morocho, student at BOCES for her work. BOCES provides quality and innovative curriculum for our students. Mr. Simpkins stated he is looking for great things from Kennedy Johnson as she was accepted to many colleges. The lights on the at football field has been a 20-year journey for him. To see it happen is outstanding. Mr. Simpkins was also involved with foundation aide advocacy as he was on the bus going to Albany fighting for equity for our students. He thanked the teachers and administrators for taking us through COVID. Continue to be patient and stay the course. He sees the light at the end of tunnel. It was a great night for him.

President Jenkins, Jr. stated there is a lot to be happy for.

5. Hearing of Citizens

A. Public Participation at Board Meetings

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

6. Superintendent/President Report Continued

A. Superintendent's Report Continued

Dr. Mauricio congratulated Pamela Johnson and her husband as their daughter Kennedy was accepted to several colleges. He also thanked Branwen MacDonald for her leadership, her level of advocacy, and learning about foundation aide and funding.

Hillcrest Elementary School Presentation – Randy Lichtenwalner and Shannon O'Grady presenting.

7. Consent Agenda

A. Donation - Roberta Trotta

That the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Assistant Superintendent for Business that, in accordance with Education Law 1718(2), to accept from Roberta Trotta a donation of a \$200 gift card and art supplies for High School Art Department.

B. Contract - Health and Welfare Services

That the Board of Education approve the following contract for Health and Welfare Services provided to the children residing in Peekskill and attending non-public schools, for the 2020/2021 school year:

Elmsford Central School District; \$968.68 per student; 2 students

C. Contract - Dr. Darren Brown-Hall

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Dr. Darren Brown-Hall, commencing on or about April 12, 2021 - June 30, 2021. Not to exceed \$2,500.

D. Contract - E&S Tutoring LLC (Club Z Tutoring)

That the Board of Education approve the contract with E&S Tutoring LLC (Club Z Tutoring) commencing April 7, 2021 - June 30, 2021. Compensation as per contract.

E. 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:	Kimberly Albra
Position:	Special Education Teacher
Location:	Peekskill High School
Action:	Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective:	June 25, 2021

2. Name:	Randy Lichtenwalner
Position:	Principal
Location:	Hillcrest Elementary
Action:	Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective:	June 30, 2021

3. Name:	Sadika Clarke
Position:	Speech/Language Teacher

Location: Hillcrest Elementary
 Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
 Effective: April 23, 2021

II. Retirement:

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

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: N/A

IV. Appointment:

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

1. Name: Esteban Pauta
 Position: Lifeguard
 Effective Dates: Spring Season 2020-2021
 Salary: \$14.00 per hour

	Employee:	Position/Program:	Effective Dates:	Stipend:
2.	Patrick Taylor	Mindfulness/Centering PD Course Instructor	2020-2021	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract (Title II funding)
3.	Milagros Guzman	ENL and Vocabulary PD Course Instructor	2020-2021	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) Contract (Title II funding)

V. Correction:

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

1. Name: Shirley Machado
 Position: Special Education - Leave Replacement Teacher
 Location: Woodside Elementary School
 Certification Status: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Initial; Literacy (Birth-6) Initial; Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6) Initial
 Effective Start Date: March 22, 2021
 Effective End Date: June 25, 2021
 Salary: \$308/day (As worked, without benefits)

Action:	Correct effective start date
2. Name:	Gina Romero
Position:	Art Leave Replacement Teacher
Location:	Hillcrest Elementary
Certification Status:	Art - Permanent
Effective Start Date:	March 25, 2021
Effective End Date:	June 25, 2021
Salary:	\$308/day (As worked, without benefits)
Action:	Correct effective start date

Classified

I. Resignation:

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

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. Name: | Shalisha Dennis |
| Position: | Classroom Teacher Aide |
| Location: | Woodside Elementary School |
| Action: | Resignation from the Peekskill City School District |
| Effective: | March 26, 2021 |
| Last Day Worked: | March 26, 2021 |
| 2. Name: | Shirley Velez |
| Position: | Office Assistant (Automated Systems) (Spanish Speaking) |
| Location: | Woodside Elementary School |
| Action: | Resignation from the Peekskill City School District |
| Effective: | April 9, 2021 |
| Last Day Worked: | April 9, 2021 |

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: N/A

IV. Appointment:

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

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Name: | Stephanie Pagano |
| Position: | Clerical; Substitute (Per Diem) |

Effective Dates: April 7, 2021 through June 30, 2021
Salary: \$14.00/hour. As worked, no benefits. Not to exceed four (4) days per week.

V. Correction:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff correction(s) of appointment(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:

1. Name: Jean O'Connor
Request: Volunteer
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Assigned to: Rebecca Aviles-Rodriguez
Effective Dates: April 7, 2021 through June 25, 2021
2. Name: Nicolette Loaiza
Request: Volunteer
Organization: Student Assistance Services
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Assigned to: Ellen Gerace
Effective Dates: April 7, 2021 through June 25, 2021
3. Name: Gina Cantarella
Request: Fieldwork (Up to 10 hours)
School: Mount Saint Mary College
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Assigned to: Gina Nadeau
Effective Dates: April 7, 2021 through June 25, 2021

I. Student Appointments:

- A. Superintendent of Schools recommends the following stipends to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Student Name: Jerrel Taylor
Program: MBK Fellows Program Year 1
Location: Peekskill High School
Stipend: \$1,500 (Fellows Grant funded)
2. Student Name: Jonathan Lojano
Program: MBK Fellows Program Year 1
Location: Peekskill High School
Stipend: \$1,500 (Fellows Grant funded)
3. Student Name: Williams Pani Zhagui

Program: MBK Fellows Program Year 2
Location: Peekskill High School
Stipend: \$1,500 (Fellows Grant funded)

4. Student Name: Steven Ayala
Program: MBK Fellows Program Year 2
Location: Peekskill High School
Stipend: \$1,500 (Fellows Grant funded)

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.

F. Approving Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Consent Agenda items 7.A. – 7.E.

Motion: Branwen MacDonald
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North

Second: Samuel North
No: _____ Abstained: _____

Maria Pereira
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

8. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Speak to the Board of Education

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

9. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

B. Adjourn Executive Session

10. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

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

Motion: Maria Pereira

Second: Michael Simpkins

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Maria Pereira

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Debra McLeod
District Clerk