

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING/WORK SESSION
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARCH 11, 2025

Board of Education

Mr. Michael Simpkins, President
Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr., Vice President
Mrs. Branwen MacDonald
Mr. Eric Rekeda
Ms. Amy Vele
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 Branwen MacDonald at 6:05 p.m. in the George Birdas Room.

A. Recording of Attendance

President Simpkins (6:37 p.m.), Vice President Jenkins, Jr. (6:06 p.m.) and Amy Vele (6:32 p.m.) arrived late.

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; 6th Assignment ENL Teacher; Certified Stipend Positions; 1:1/Floater Teacher Aide; Department Teacher Aide and Student Teachers. The Board will (or may) take action after the executive session. The public part of the meeting will open at approximately 7:00 p.m.)

B. Adjourn to Executive Session

Motion to Adjourn Meeting in order to enter to Executive Session

Motion: Jillian Villon
Yes: Branwen MacDonald
Eric Rekeda
Jillian Villon
Christina Washington

Second: Eric Rekeda
No: _____ Abstained: _____

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 7:03 p.m.
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

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

Second: Branwen MacDonald
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/Black History Month Summary](#)

5. Superintendent/President Report Continued

A. Superintendent's Report Continued

- [Oaksides School Presentation](#) – Ana Budds and Micenis Garrido

6. Hearing of Citizens

No citizens wished to be heard.

7. Consent 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: | Elena Lambru Babu |
| Position: | Dual Language Elementary Teacher |
| Location: | Oaksides Elementary School |
| Action: | Resignation from the Peekskill City School District |
| Effective Date: | June 30, 2025 (Anticipated) |
| Last Date Worked: | June 27, 2025 (Anticipated) |

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 2. Name: | Catherine Espinal Moreta |
|----------|--------------------------|

Position: Bilingual School Psychologist
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective Date: March 7, 2025 (Anticipated)
Last Date Worked: March 7, 2025 (Anticipated)

3. Name: Michael Perlett
Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher
Location: Peekskill High School
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective Date: March 14, 2025 (Anticipated)
Last Date Worked: March 14, 2025 (Anticipated)

4. Name: Feriza Coelho
Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective Date: March 6, 2025 (Anticipated)
Last Date Worked: March 6, 2025 (Anticipated)

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

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

IV. Leave of Absence:
A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following faculty non-paid leave of absence(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

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

1. Name: Katelyn Cerrato
Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher
Certification: N/A
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Effective Start Date: March 3, 2025 (Anticipated)
Effective End Date: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$140 per day. As worked, without benefits

2. Name: Anel Rivera Guerrero

Position: 6th Assignment ENL Teacher (0.20 FTE)
Certification: English Language Arts (Grades 5-9), Initial;
Bilingual Education Extension Professional,
Extension/Annotation; English to Speakers
of Other Languages, Supplementary
Location: Peekskill High School
Effective Start Date: February 12, 2025 (Anticipated)
Effective End Date: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance
with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA)
Contract

3. Name: Tania Winthal
Position: 6th Assignment ENL Teacher (0.20 FTE)
Certification: English to Speakers of Other Languages,
Professional
Location: Peekskill High School
Effective Start Date: February 12, 2025 (Anticipated)
Effective End Date: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance
with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA)
Contract

4. Name: Sara Boeck Batista
Position: 6th Assignment ENL Teacher (0.20 FTE)
Certification: English Language Arts 7-12, Professional
Location: Peekskill High School
Effective Start Date: February 27, 2025 (Anticipated)
Effective End Date: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance
with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA)
Contract

5. Name: Anna Stahile
Position: 6th Assignment ENL Teacher (0.20 FTE)
Certification: English to Speakers of Other Languages,
Professional
Location: Peekskill High School
Effective Start Date: February 27, 2025 (Anticipated)
Effective End Date: June 27, 2025 (Anticipated)
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance
with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA)
Contract

#	Employee:	Position / Program:	Effective Date/s:	Salary:
6.	Gardner, Demetric	Peekskill High School - Boys Flag Football Coach	March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$2,550 (General Fund)
7.	Gourdine, Kevin	Peekskill High School - Boys Flag Football Coach	March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$2,550 (General Fund)
8.	Searight, Ramon	Peekskill High School- Boys Flag Football Coach	March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$2,550 (General Fund)
9.	Moscoso, Oscar	Peekskill High School - Boys Flag Football Coach	March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$2,550 (General Fund)
10.	Perez, Kisha	Athletic Chaperone	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$45 per hour (General Fund)
11.	Rodney, Lanay	Hillcrest Elementary School - Flag Football Intramurals	March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$2,550 (General Fund)
12.	Rivera, Michael	Peekskill High School - Track and Field Assistant Coach	March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)	\$5,076 (General Fund)
13.	Buckman, Christine	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - Lead Teacher	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
14.	Cabassa, Noel	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - Lead Teacher	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
15.	Newby, Todd	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - English Teacher	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
16.	Mannion, Lisa	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - Social Studies Teacher	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
17.	Rodriguez, Zorielle	Peekskill High School	2024 - 2025 School	\$60 per hour

		Spring Night School - Social Studies	Year	(General Fund)
18.	Potillo, Rahsaan	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - Mathematics Teacher	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
19.	Flacinski, Richard	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - Science Teacher	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
20.	Fuego, Lidia	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - ENL Teacher	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
21.	Cugliandro, Nicole	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - Teaching Assistant	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$50 per hour (General Fund)
22.	Camacho, Regina	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - Teaching Assistant	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$50 per hour (General Fund)
23.	Dorado, Lisa	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - School Counselor	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
24.	Rios, Michelle	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - School Counselor	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
25.	Gilchrist, Michelle	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - School Counselor	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
26.	Gordineer, Maria	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - Teaching Assistant College Readiness	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$50 per hour (General Fund)
27.	Dorado, Lisa	Peekskill High School Spring Night School - ENL Counselor SEL ENL Program	2024 - 2025 School Year	\$60 per hour (General Fund)
28.	Thelusma, Minuse	Peekskill High School	2024 - 2025 School	\$60 per hour

		Spring Night School - Mathematics Teacher	Year	(General Fund)
--	--	--	------	----------------

VI. Correction:

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

1. Name: Oscar Moscoso
Position: Spring Track and Field Assistant Coach
Location: Peekskill High School
Effective Dates: March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)
Action: Rescind Offer
Stipend: \$5,076

2. Name: Demetric Gardner
Position: Flag Football 46 Coach
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Effective Dates: March 15, 2025 - June 15, 2025 (Anticipated)
Action: Rescind Offer
Salary: \$2,550

Classified:

I. Resignation:

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

II. Termination:

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

III. Retirement:

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

IV. Leave of Absence:

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following staff non-paid leave of absence(s) to the Board of Education for approval: N/A

V. Appointment:

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

1. Name: Emily Hunt
Position: 1:1/Floater Teacher Aide
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School

Status: Probationary
Probationary Start Date: March 12, 2025 (Anticipated)
Probationary End Date: March 11, 2026 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$20,601.36 (Prorated)

2. Name: Juana Pinyol
Position: Department Teacher Aide
Location: Administration Building - Special Services
Status: Probationary
Probationary Start Date: March 12, 2025 (Anticipated)
Probationary End Date: March 11, 2026 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$19,016.64 (Prorated)

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:

1. Name: Nelson Lujano Coronel
Request: Fieldwork Hours
Location: Peekskill High School
Assigned to: Aprill Kellam
College/University: Mount Saint Mary College
Effective Date/s: March 12, 2025 - March 31, 2025 (Anticipated)

2. Name: Aaren Connelly
Request: Observation Hours
Location: Oakside Elementary School
Assigned to: Jennifer Lombardo
College/University: Pace University
Effective Date/s: March 17, 2025 - June 27, 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.

B. Southern Westchester BOCES Cooperative Bid 2526

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the participating school districts of the Southern 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 Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Westchester County, New York, adopting in this joint bidding of Art Supplies; School & Office Supplies; Fine Paper Supplies; Audio Visual Supplies & Equipment; Bakery Goods; Cafeteria Food Supplies; Custodial Supplies; Custodial Paper Supplies; Lumber Supplies; Laser and Ink Jet Toners OEM; Microcomputer Hardware; Furniture, Storage, and Athletic Equipment

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 Southern Westchester and the Southern 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.

C. 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.

- Harrison CSD – 4 students, \$1,185.02 per student
- Greenburgh CSD – 3 students, \$1,677.82 per student

D. Donation - Environmental Foundation

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 the donation from Candreva Environmental Foundation in the amount of \$375, for the purchase of hatching chicks for the 4th grade at Hillcrest Elementary School.

E. 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)

20081129007524; Profinish Laminator; 2/26/2025; Broken/not working

20150059; US008068F; 2/27/2025; Broken / unrepairable

20231271; 55EP74 - Broadcast Spreader 100 lb capacity, 1/22/2025; Unrepairable

F. Contract - Westchester County Board of Elections

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Westchester County Board of Elections for the use of voting machines for the Annual Budget Vote and election on May 20, 2025. \$0 cost to the District.

G. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the Month of January 2025

That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer's Report for month of January 2025.

H. Appointment of Officer

That the Board of Education approves Lena Ryzy for the following appointments for the 2024/2025 school year and will be administered the Oath of Office:

Deputy District Treasurer

Assistant District Purchasing Agent

Authorized to sign checks for the District as Deputy District Treasurer

I. Side Letter Agreement - Peekskill Association of Educational Secretaries (PAES)

That the Board of Education approve the Side Letter Agreement with the Peekskill Association of Educational Secretaries (PAES) regarding vacancies. Effective March 17, 2025, Stephanie Pagano will be compensated as Secretary to School District Administrator, Salary - \$59,236 including all benefits as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement.

J. Approving Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Consent Agenda items 7.A. - 7.I.

Motion: Branwen MacDonald

Second: Amy Vele

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____ Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Reveda

Michael Simpkins

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon (was not present for vote)

Christina Washington

8. Executive Session

9. Adjournment in Memory of [Mr. David "Roy" Tinsley](#)

A. Adjournment in Memory of Mr. David "Roy" Tinsley

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Simpkins asked for a motion to adjourn in memory of Mr. David "Roy" Tinsley.

Motion: Branwen MacDonald

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon (was not present for the vote)

Christina Washington

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Carmery Mendez-Battle

District Clerk

Minutes taken by Debra McLeod

Deputy District Clerk