

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING/WORK SESSION
BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Board of Education

Mrs. Branwen MacDonald, President
Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr., Vice President
Mrs. Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Mr. Eric Rekeda
Mr. Michael Simpkins
Ms. Amy Vele
Mrs. Jillian Villon

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
Ms. Debra McLeod, District Clerk

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President MacDonald. at 6:02 p.m. in room 316 at Peekskill High School.

A. Recording of Attendance

Allen Jenkins, Jr. (6:07 p.m.), Mrs. Pamela Hallman-Johnson (6:06 p.m.) and Amy Vele 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: Substitute Teachers (Per Diem); Permanent Substitute Teachers; Lifeguard; Teaching Assistant; Elementary AIS Teacher Leave Replacement; Elementary Teacher Leave Replacement; Stipend Positions; 1:1 Classroom Teacher Aides; Security Aides; Clerical Substitutes (Per Diem); School Monitor (Lunch) and Partner Agency Workers. 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
Michael Simpkins
Eric Rekada
Jillian Villon

Second: Michael Simpkins
No: _____ Abstained:_____

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 6:35 p.m.
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald.
Eric Rekada
Michael Simpkins
Amy Vele
Jillian Villon

Second: Amy Vele
No: _____ Abstained:_____

3. Resume Public Meeting – 6:56 p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance

4. Report of President/Superintendent

A. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mauricio along with the Board of Education and residents acknowledged and recognized Peekskill High School Football Varsity Team and Coaches as their being Hudson Valley Football Tournament Champions.

- [Peekskill Pride](#)
- Hispanic Heritage Cultural Update

5. Hearing of Citizens

A. Public Participation at Board Meetings

There were no citizens wishing to be heard

President MacDonald asked for a motion to include the agreement with Robert Half Temp Agency to the consent agenda.

Motion: Jillian Villon
Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald.
Eric Rekada
Michael Simpkins
Amy Vele
Jillian Villon

Second: Amy Vele
No: _____ Abstained:_____

6. 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: Chiffone Hill
Position: Teaching Assistant
Location: Hillcrest Elementary
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective Date: October 27, 2023
Last Date Worked: October 27, 2023

2. Name: Tara Hammond
Position: Leave Replacement Teacher
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Date Effective: November 7, 2023
Last Date Worked: November 7, 2023

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.

1. Name: Alison Kaplan
Position: Special Education Teacher
Location: Oakside Elementary School
Action: Non-Paid Leave of Absence
Effective Dates: November 20, 2023 - June 30, 2024

IV. Appointment:

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

1. Name: Brian Orsi
Position: Substitute Teacher (Per Diem)
Certification: N/A - BA
Effective Start Date: October 23, 2023
Effective End Date: June 26, 2024
Salary: \$120 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days per week or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)

2. Name: Daniela Benitez Abad
Position: Substitute Teacher (Per Diem)
Certification: N/A - MS
Effective Start Date: October 23, 2023
Effective End Date: June 26, 2024
Salary: \$120 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days per week or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)
3. Name: Thomas Lupetin
Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher
Certification: N/A - BA
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Effective Start Date: November 6, 2023
Effective End Date: June 26, 2024
Salary: \$120 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days per week or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)
4. Name: Joseph DiPiazza
Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher
Certification: N/A - BA
Location: Uriah Hill Elementary School
Effective Start Date: November 20, 2023
Effective End Date: June 26, 2024
Salary: \$120 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days per week or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)
5. Name: Josephine Holman
Position: Lifeguard
Effective Start Date: November 13, 2023
Effective End Date: June 26, 2024
Salary: \$41.04 per hour
6. Name: Laura Corcoran
Position: Teaching Assistant
Certification: Teaching Assistant Level I
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Probationary Start Date: November 8, 2023
Probationary End Date: November 7, 2027
Length of Probation: Four (4) Years
Salary: \$33,340 (Prorated)
7. Name: Carina Cortes

Position: Elementary AIS Teacher Leave Replacement
 Certification: Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6), Professional and Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Professional
 Effective Start Date: November 8, 2023
 Effective End Date: January 31, 2024 (Anticipated)
 Salary: \$69,456 (MA- Step 1) (Prorated)

8. Name: Jenna Wecht
 Position: Elementary Teacher Leave Replacement
 Certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial
 Effective Start Date: November 13, 2023
 Effective End Date: February 4, 2024 (Anticipated)
 Salary: \$69,456 (MA- Step 1) (Prorated)

	Employee:	Position/Program:	Effective Dates:	Stipend:
9.	Nancy Wilkowski	Student Information System Data Programmer	2023-2024	\$8,000
10.	Michael Telesco	Modified Wrestling Coach	2023-2024	\$4,052
11.	Heather Ausiello	Basketball Intramurals Coach	2023-2024	\$1,439
12.	Basy Esteves	Peekskill Middle School LEAP/ARP After School Program Teacher Aide	October 23, 2023- March 28, 2024	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association (PFA) contract (LEAP Grant Funded).
13.	Michael Holliday	Modified Softball Coach	2023-2024	\$3,189 (Split)
14.	Nigel Hatch	Modified Softball Coach	2023-2024	\$3,189 (Split)
15.	Dennis Adams	Volleyball Intramural Coach	2023-2024	\$2,550

V. Correction:

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

1. Name: Sally Scott
 Position: Teacher Aide
 Program: Hillcrest Elementary School LEAP/ARP After School Program

Effective Dates: October 2, 2023 - March 28, 2024
Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Teacher Aides' Organization (PTAO) contract (LEAP Grant Funded)
Action: Correct position title

Classified:

I. Resignation:

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

1. Name: Laura Corcoran
Position: 1:1 Teacher Aide
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Action: Resignation for the purpose of promotion within Peekskill City School District
Effective Date: November 8, 2023
Last Date Worked: November 7, 2023

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 resignation(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: Sheonna Contreras
Position: Security Aide
Program: LEAP/ARP After School Program
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Effective Dates: October 2, 2023 through March 28, 2024
Days/Hours: 3:45 PM - 5:30 PM
Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Schools Security Aides' Association (PSSAA) contract (ARP Grant Funded)

2. Name: Phillip Stiles
Position: Security Aide
Program: LEAP/ARP After School Program

- Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Effective Dates: October 2, 2023 through March 28, 2024
Days/Hours: 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Schools Security Aides' Association (PSSAA) contract (LEAP Grant Funded)
3. Name: Ricky Gillison
Position: Security Aide
Program: LEAP/ARP After School Program
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Effective Dates: October 2, 2023 through March 28, 2024
Days/Hours: 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Stipend: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Schools Security Aides' Association (PSSAA) contract (LEAP Grant Funded)
4. Name: Anny Aracena Alvarez
Position: 1:1 Teacher Aide
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Probationary Start Date: October 30, 2023
Probationary End Date: October 29, 2024 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$20,299.11 (Prorated)
5. Name: Rudine Dillard
Position: 1:1 Teacher Aide
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Probationary Start Date: November 1, 2023
Probationary End Date: October 31, 2024 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$20,299.11 (Prorated)
6. Name: Tiffany Grant
Position: School Monitor (Lunch)
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Probationary Start Date: November 2, 2023
Probationary End Date: November 1, 2024 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$16.00/hour, as worked, without benefits.
7. Name: Wesley Mojica
Position: School District Messenger
Date Effective: November 8, 2023
Salary: \$30.00/hour, as worked, without benefits.
8. Name: Kaitlyn Thornton
Position: Clerical Substitute (Per Diem)
Status: Part-Time Availability (PTA)

Dates Effective: November 8, 2023 through June 30, 2024
 Salary: \$21.00/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) 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: Sumaiya Zaman
 Request: Field Work Hours
 Location: Oakside Elementary School
 Assigned to: Jennifer Camacho
 College: Mercy College
 Effective Dates: November 8, 2023 - November 17, 2023

2. Name: Sumaiya Zaman
 Request: Field Work Hours
 Location: Oakside Elementary School
 Assigned to: Lauren Dykstra
 College: Mercy College
 Effective Dates: November 8, 2023 - November 17, 2023

	Name of Partner Agency Worker:	Location	Organization/ Program	Effective Dates
1.	Heather Amable	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
2.	Una Flynn	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
3.	Holly Fuca	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
4.	Lisa Giordano	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
5.	Corinne Holzapfel	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
6.	Kelsey Larsen-Weber	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
7.	Ana Link	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
8.	Eleanor Maranz	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024

9.	Francisca Melendez	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
10.	Danielle Perry	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
11.	Heidy Sangurima	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
12.	Sasha Spencer	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
13.	Renee Torchiano	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024
14.	Tammy Weller	Uriah Hill	The Guidance Center	2023-2024

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

- B. Treasurers Report - August 2023
That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer's Report for month of August 2023.
- C. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month of September 2023
That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the month of September 2023.
- D. [Budget Appropriation Transfers](#) - November 2023
That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for the month of November 2023.
- E. Amended Contract - Inferno365
That the Board of Education approves to amend the original contract with Inferno365, dated September 23, 2023, increasing the contract amount by \$5,760. Not to exceed \$33,600.
- F. Amended Contract - White Glove Community Care
That the Board of Education approves to amend the original contract with White Glove Community Care, dated August 28, 2023, increasing the contract amount by \$170,000. Not to exceed \$367,000.
- G. Contract - Cristian Solorza
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Cristian Solorza, commencing on or about November 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. Not to exceed \$1,200.
- H. Contract - Liz Mirra Consulting, LLC
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Liz Mirra Consulting, LLC commencing October 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. Not to exceed \$20,000.
- I. Contract - Mindfulness & Social Emotional Wellness Consulting LLC
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Mindfulness & Social Emotional Wellness Consulting LLC, commencing on or about October 23, 2023 - June 30, 2024. Not to exceed \$15,000.
- J. Contract - Peekskill Youth Bureau (LEAP After School Program)
That the Board of Education approve the contract with Peekskill Youth Bureau (LEAP After School Program), commencing November 7, 2023 - April 19, 2024. Not to exceed \$5,650.
- K. 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 Capital Projects Vote on December 12, 2023 at \$0 cost to the District.
- L. Field Trip in Excess of 100 Miles - University of Connecticut
That the Board of Education approve the field trip in excess of 100 miles for 40, 11th and 12th grade students to visit University of Connecticut on December 1, 2023.
- M. Election Inspectors - Capital Projects Vote
That the Board of Education approve the following Election Inspectors for the Capital Projects Vote on December 12, 2023.
Last Name First Name Address Hours Amount
Aakjar Sharon 1840 Crompond Road 8B2 16 \$350.00

Anderson Cynthia 1103 Brown Street Apt. 1H 16 \$350.00
 Brownell Robert 972 Lyman Avenue 16 \$350.00
 Cato Renita 807 Main Street Apt 7E 20 \$437.50
 Clark Ava 901 Main Street 7K 16 \$350.00
 Cooper Michelle 903 Main Street 2F 16 \$350.00
 Curzio Elaine 150 Overlook Avenue Apt 3E 16 \$350.00
 Dipierro Linda 901 Reynolds Street 20 \$437.50
 Dipierro Dominick 901 Reynolds Street 16 \$350.00
 Draper Shonna L 807 Main Street 8F 16 \$350.00
 Gray Katrina 1431A Park Street 16 \$350.00
 Jones Elizabeth J 901 Main Street 6N 16 \$350.00
 Martin Ida M 807 Main Street 3H 16 \$350.00
 Mroz Robert 901 Main Street 3G 16 \$350.00
 Mroz Alice F 901 Main Street 3G 16 \$350.00
 Santiago Diane 21 Bleakley Drive 16 \$350.00
 Smith Jahnai M 613 Belden Street 16 \$350.00
 Woods Ruth O 4 Wiberly Avenue 4A 16 \$350.00
 Tinsley Sharon 925 Orchard St. Apt 4 16 \$350.00
 Bonner Jessica 1226 Constant Avenue 16 \$350.00

N. Robert Half Temp Agency

That the Board of Education herewith approves the payment of an amount not to exceed \$1,400 to Robert Half Temp Agency for the temporary employment of a certain individual.

O. Approving Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Consent Agenda items 6.A. - 6.N.

Motion: Michael Simpkins

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: _____

Abstained:_____

Allen Jenkins, Jr.
 Branwen MacDonald.
 Eric Rekeda
 Michael Simpkins
 Amy Vele
 Jillian Villon

7. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Speak to the Board of Education

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

President MacDonald commented she attended the NYSSBA convention where the districts are encouraged to try to be more transparent with the public. Amy Vele liked the idea of hiring personnel in a pathway for students to become teachers.

8. Executive Session

9. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

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

Motion: Jillian Villon

Second: Amy Vele

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Eric Reveda

Michael Simpkins

Amy Vele

Jillian Villon

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Debra McLeod