

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 25, 2023

Board of Education

Mrs. Branwen MacDonald, President
Mrs. Pamela Hallman-Johnson
Mr. Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Mr. Samuel North
Mr. Eric Rekeda
Mr. Michael Simpkins
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 Interim 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 6:05 p.m. in the George Birdas Room.

A. Recording of Attendance

Michael Simpkins (6:06 p.m.) Pamela Hallman-Johnson and Allen Jenkins 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: Per Diem Substitute Teachers Elementary Assistant Principals; and LEAP Director. 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: Samuel North

Yes: Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North

Second: Jillian Villon

No: _____ Abstained:_____

Eric Reveda
Jillian Villon

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 7:17 p.m.
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

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

Second: Samuel North
No: _____ Abstained: _____

3. Resume Public Meeting – 7:20 p.m.
 - Pledge of Allegiance
4. Report of President/Superintendent
 - A. Superintendent's Report
 - [Peekskill Pride](#)
5. Hearing of Citizens
 - A. Public Participation at Board Meetings
There were no citizens wishing to be heard.
6. Superintendent's Report Continued
 - A. Superintendent's Report Continued
 - [BOCES Administrative Budget Adoption](#)
 - [Middle School Presentation](#) – Donald Peters
7. Old Business
8. New Business
 - A. Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES Administrative Budget Vote - 2023/2024
WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Putnam/Northern Westchester County (hereinafter "BOCES") has proposed its tentative administrative budget for the 2023-2024 school year (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024), now therefore be it
RESOLVED, that the BOCES tentative administrative budget for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$10,999,870 be, and hereby is, approved by the Board.

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

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
No: _____ Abstained: Michael Simpkins

B. Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES Board Member Election

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Peekskill City School District cast one vote for each of the three (3) candidates regarding vacancies on the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of the Sole supervisory district of Putnam and Northern Westchester Counties for a three-year term from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2026. The candidates are:

Richard Kreps – Carmel, NY 10512

Mary Cay Nilsen – Brewster, NY 10509

Jennifer Rosen - Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

Motion: Samuel North

Second: Eric Rekeda

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: _____

Abstained: Michael Simpkins

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Eric Rekeda

Jillian Villon

9. Policy Readings

A. First Reading: Policy #8131 Pandemic Planning

B. First Reading: Policy #6700 Purchasing

President MacDonald motioned to waive the 2nd reading and move to adopt policy #6700 Purchasing.

Motion: Samuel North

Second: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: _____

Abstained:_____

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

10. Accepting of Minutes

A. Business Meeting March 21, 2023

B. Business Meeting/Work Session April 11, 2023

C. Approval of Minutes

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

Business Meeting March 21, 2023

Business Meeting/Work Session April 11, 2023

Motion: Samuel North

Second: Michael Simpkins

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: _____

Abstained:_____

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Eric Rekeda

Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

President MacDonald motioned to add the following to the consent agenda:
Contract with Jacqueline Liburd
Side Letter Agreement with PFA concerning the 2023/2024 school year calendar

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

Second: Michael Simpkins
No: _____ Abstained: _____

11. Consent Agenda - Personnel

Certificated

I. Resignation:

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

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1. Name: | Amanda Armenteros |
| Position: | Permanent Substitute Teacher |
| Action: | Resignation from the Peekskill City School District (for the purpose of accepting a Per Diem Substitute position in the District) |
| Effective: | April 20, 2023 (Last day worked 4/20/2023) |
| 2. Name: | David Diaz |
| Position: | Permanent Substitute Teacher |
| Action: | Resignation from the Peekskill City School District |
| Effective: | April 12, 2023 (Last day worked 4/11/2023) |
| 3. Name: | Melissa Cruz |
| Position: | Assistant Principal |
| Action: | Resignation from the Peekskill City School District |
| Effective: | June 30, 2023 (Last day worked 6/30/2023) |

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: N/A

IV. Appointment:

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

1. Name: Amanda Armenteros
Position: Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Certification: NA - BA
Effective Start Date: April 21, 2023
Effective End Date: June 23, 2023
Salary: \$120 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)
2. Name: Meaghan Platania
Position: Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Certification: NA - BA
Effective Start Date: May 18, 2023
Effective End Date: June 23, 2023
Salary: \$120 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)
3. Name: Tricia Schultz
Position: Mentor
Mentee: Patrick Cumiskey
Effective Dates: January 3, 2023 - June 30, 2023
Stipend: \$1,559 (Grant Funded) (Prorated)
4. Name: Ana Budds ***
Position: Elementary Assistant Principal
Certification: School Building Leader, Internship Certificate
Tenure Area: Assistant Principal
Probationary Start Date: July 1, 2023
Probationary End Date: June 30, 2026
Length of Probation: Three (3) Years
Salary: \$132,640 (ELEM AP, Step 12)
5. Name: Micenis Garrido **^
Position: Elementary Assistant Principal
Certification: School Building Leader, Initial
Tenure Area: Assistant Principal
Probationary Start Date: July 1, 2023
Probationary End Date: June 30, 2027

Length of Probation: Four (4) Years
Salary: \$130,682 (ELEM AP, Step 11)

6. Name: James Gordon **^
Position: Elementary Assistant Principal
Certification: School Building Leader, Initial Reissuance Pending
Tenure Area: Assistant Principal
Probationary Start Date: July 1, 2023
Probationary End Date: June 30, 2027
Length of Probation: Four (4) Years
Salary: \$130,682 (ELEM AP, Step 11)

7. Name: Eric Maldonado **^
Position: Elementary Assistant Principal
Certification: School Building Leader, Initial Pending
Tenure Area: Assistant Principal
Probationary Start Date: July 1, 2023
Probationary End Date: June 30, 2027
Length of Probation: Four (4) Years
Salary: \$130,682 (ELEM AP, Step 11)

8. Name: Melissa Russo **^
Position: Elementary Assistant Principal
Certification: School Building Leader, Initial
Tenure Area: Assistant Principal
Probationary Start Date: July 1, 2023
Probationary End Date: June 30, 2027
Length of Probation: Four (4) Years
Salary: \$130,682 (ELEM AP, Step 11)

9. Name: Maria Olivier-Flores ***
Position: LEAP Director
Certification: School District Leader, Emergency COVID-19
Tenure Area: LEAP Director
Probationary Start Date: July 1, 2023
Probationary End Date: June 30, 2026
Length of Probation: Three (3) Years
Salary: \$146,487 (DIRECTOR, Step 10)

	Employee:	Position/Program:	Effective Dates:	Stipend:
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10.	Catherine McCabe	PKMS LEAP Extended Day Program Teacher	March 31, 2023 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
11.	Renee Kearse	PKMS LEAP Extended Day Program Teacher	March 31, 2023 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
12.	Stacey Bean	PKMS LEAP Extended Day Program Teacher	March 31, 2023 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
13.	Zorielle Rodriguez-Alcazar	HS Regents Prep Social Studies Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
14.	Jennifer Telesco	HS Regents Prep English Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
15.	Jaclyn Baiata	HS Regents Prep English Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
16.	Molly McCarthy	HS Regents Prep Social Studies Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
17.	Christen McDonnell	HS Regents Prep Social Studies Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
18.	Minuse Thelusma	HS Regents Prep Mathematics Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract

19.	Ralph Rodriguez	HS Regents Prep Science Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
20.	Christine Buckman	HS Regents Prep Lead Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
21.	Michelle Rios	HS Regents Prep School Counselor	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
22.	Sheree Gilcrest	HS Regents Prep School Counselor Substitute	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
23.	Sharon Leon	HS Regents Prep Mathematics Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
24.	John Tamborski	HS Regents Prep Science Teacher	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
25.	Noel Cabassa	HS Regents Prep Lead Teacher Substitute	May 1, 2023 - June 10, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
26.	Michael Diago	Afterschool Clinical Team Member	January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract (Title IV Grant Fund)
27.	Dawn Meyer	Pioneer Team Assistant	March 17, 2023 - June 17, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA)

				contract (Title IV Grant Fund)
28.	Nora Sachs	Pioneer Team Assistant	March 17, 2023 - June 17, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract (Title IV Grant Fund)
29.	Shannon Connor	Pioneer Team Assistant	March 17, 2023 - June 17, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract (Title IV Grant Fund)
30.	Natalie Gomez	Oakside Afterschool Program Teacher	April 24, 2023 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract

V. Correction:

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

1. Name: Timothy Turner
Position: Mathematics Leave Replacement Teacher
Certification: Nursery, Kindergarten & Grades 1-6, Permanent
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Effective Start Date: April 25, 2023
Effective End Date: June 16, 2023
Salary: \$308 per day as worked, without benefits
Action: Correct effective start date

2. Name: Amelia Silverman
Position: Mathematics Teacher (0.2 FTE, 6th Assignment)
Certification: Mathematics 7-12, Professional
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Effective Start Date: January 3, 2023
Effective End Date: June 23, 2023
Salary: Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
Action: Correct effective end date

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 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: N/A

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: Martha Leal
Request: Field Work Hours
Location: Hillcrest Elementary School
Assigned to: Nhuvia D'Alfonso
College: Mercy College
Effective Dates: April 13, 2023 - April 14, 2023

	Name of Partner Agency Worker	Location	Organization/Program	Effective Dates
2.	Antoine Jefferson	PKMS	LEAP Drum Instruction	April 12, 2023 - June 30, 2023
3.	Symone Dotson-Lassic	Woodside	Just the Place	April 12, 2023 - June 30, 2023
4.	Shantelee Vassallo	PHS	WJCS	April 18, 2023 - June 30, 2023
5.	Nicole Lloret	PHS	WJCS	April 18, 2023 - June 30, 2023

6.	Mirtha Liriano	PKMS/PHS	Student Assistance Services	April 18, 2023 - June 30, 2023
7.	Kelsey Larsen-Weber	Uriah Hill	Guidance Center of Westchester	May 8, 2023 - June 30, 2023
8.	Aaron Bailey	Hillcrest/ PKMS	Be First Boxing	April 20, 2023 - June 30, 2023

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. Amended Contract - Jacqueline Liburd

That the Board of Education approve the amended contract with Jacqueline Liburd, commencing January 3, 2023 - June 30, 2023. Not to exceed \$35,000 (\$689 daily rate).

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

B. Contract - Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD for the 2023/2024 school year. The rate is set by New York State. ESY program will be funded by the Special Aide Fund and SY program will be funded by the General Fund.

C. Contracts - Hendrick Hudson Central School District

That the Board of Education approves the eight (8) contracts with Hendrick Hudson Central School District to provide 2022-2023 school year educational programs for eight (8) students with disabilities. Funding is from the General Fund.

D. Contract - Westchester Jewish Community Services/Crime Victim Advocacy and Assistance Program

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Westchester Jewish Community Service/Crime Victim Advocacy and Assistance Program commencing April 13, 2023 - June 30, 2023. No cost to the District.

E. Contract - Westchester Jewish Community Services/Crime Victim Advocacy and Assistance Program 2023/2024 School Year

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Westchester Jewish Community Service/Crime Victim Advocacy and Assistance Program commencing July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. No cost to the District.

13. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance

A. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the Month of March 2023

That the Board of Education accept the General Fund Treasurer's Report for month of March 2023.

B. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month of March 2023

That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the month of March 2023.

C. [Budget Appropriation Transfers - April 2023](#)

That the Board of Education approves the Budget Appropriation Transfers for the month of April 2023.

D. Contract - Hudson Valley MOCA

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Hudson Valley MOCA commencing September 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. Not to exceed \$15,000.

14. Other Agenda Items

A. Side Letter of Agreement – PFA

That the Board of Education approve the Side Letter of Agreement with Peekskill Faculty Association concerning the 2023/2024 teaching year.

B. [2023/2024 Instructional Calendar and Holiday List](#)

That the Board of Education approve the 2023/2024 Instructional Calendar and Holiday List.

C. Appointment of Co-Deputy District Clerks

WHEREAS, the District Clerk will need additional support and assistance throughout the School Budget vote process;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education herewith immediately appoints the following individuals to serve as co-Deputy District Clerks to assist the District Clerk throughout the School Budget vote process:

Nicholas Reccupio

Laura Belfiore

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said appointment as co-Deputy District Clerks shall conclude on May 31, 2023, unless further extended by way of Board of Education resolution.

15. Approving Consent Agenda

A. Approving Consent Agenda

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

Motion: Samuel North

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Second: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____

Abstained: Eric Reveda

11.IV.A.3.

Tricia Schultz

16. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Speak to the Board of Education

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

17. Committee Reports/Board Reflections

Dr. Mauricio congratulated and welcomed the new Assistant Principals for Elementary Education and Maria Flores as the Director of LEAP.

18. Executive Session

19. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

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

Motion: Samuel North

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Second: Michael Simpkins

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Eric Rekeda
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Debra McLeod