

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 16, 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 6:02 p.m. in the George Birdas Room.

A. Recording of Attendance

Michael Simpkins, Pamela Hallman-Johnson and Allen Jenkins, Jr. 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: Parent/Family/Community Liaison; Middle School Principal; Interim Elementary Principal; Assistant Principal; Director of Special Education for Instruction; Permanent Substitute Teacher; Stipend Positions; Secretary to School Principal (Spanish Speaking); and Clerical Substitute (Per Diem). The Board will (or may) take action after the executive session. The public part of the meeting will open at approximately 8:00 p.m.)

B. Adjourn to Executive Session

Motion to Adjourn Meeting in order to enter to Executive Session

Motion: Samuel North

Second: Jillian Villon

Yes: Branwen MacDonald

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Samuel North
Eric Rekeda
Jillian Villon

C. Adjourn Executive Session – 8:03 p.m.
Motion to Re-Open Meeting

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Eric Rekeda
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. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Policy Readings
9. Accepting of Minutes
 - A. Business Meeting April 25, 2023
 - B. Business Meeting/Work Session May 2, 2023
 - C. Approval of Minutes
BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the following minutes:
Business Meeting April 25, 2023
Business Meeting/Work Session May 2, 2023

Motion: Samuel North
Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Eric Rekeda
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

Second: Michael Simpkins
No: _____ Abstained:_____

10. Consent Agenda - 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: Kerianne Harrison
Position: Elementary Principal
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective: June 30, 2023 (Last day worked 6/30/2023)
2. Name: Sindy Ferreras Molina
Position: Dual Language Elementary Teacher
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective: June 30, 2023 (Last day worked 6/23/2023)

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: Bianca Mendola
Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher
Certification: School Counselor, Provisional
Location: Oakside Elementary School
Effective Start Date: May 8, 2023
Effective End Date: June 23, 2023
Salary: \$155 per day as worked, without benefits (Not to exceed four (4) days per week or twenty-eight (28) hours per week)
2. Name: Dr. Bridget Holloman
Position: Parent/Family/Community Liaison
Certification: Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grades 1-6, Permanent
Effective Start Date: July 1, 2023
3. Name: Donald Peters ***
Position: Middle School Principal
Certification: School Building Leader, Initial
Tenure Area: Principal

Probationary Start Date: July 1, 2023
 Probationary End Date: June 30, 2026
 Length of Probation: Three (3) Years
 Salary: \$183,621 (MS PRINC, Step 12)

4. Name: Ana Budds
 Position: Interim Elementary Principal
 Certification: School Building Leader, Internship Certificate
 Location: Oakside Elementary School
 Effective Start Date: July 1, 2023
 Effective End Date: June 30, 2024
 Salary: \$151,524 (ELEM PRN, Step 8)

5. Name: Cynthia Welker **^
 Position: Assistant Principal
 Certification: School Building Leader, Initial
 Tenure Area: Assistant Principal
 Probationary Start Date: July 1, 2023
 Probationary End Date: June 30, 2024
 Length of Probation: Four (4) Years
 Salary: \$130,682 (ELEM AP, Step 11)

6. Name: Glenda Sanchez ***
 Position: Director of Special Education for Instruction
 Certification: School District Leader, Internship Certificate
 Tenure Area: Director of Special Education for Instruction
 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:
7.	Josie Esposito	LEAP Extended Day Program Teacher	May 4, 2023 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
8.	Katrina Lester	K-12 Music District Teacher Leader	2022-2023	\$2,000 (Grant funded)
9.	Elizabeth Tabone	K-12 Art District Teacher Leader	2022-2023	\$2,000 (Grant funded)
10.	Noel Cabassa	K-12 Guidance Department Leader	2022-2023	\$2,000 (Grant funded)

11.	Axa Quijada	Oakside After School Program Teacher	May 9, 2023 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
12.	Daquan Brickhouse	Athletic Event Chaperone	May 3, 2023 - June 23, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
13.	Melissa Molle	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
14.	Kelsey Sullivan	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
15.	Jaclyn Echeverria	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
16.	Nina Lopez	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
17.	Marisa Vitale	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
18.	Yolanda Campos	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
19.	Maria Stratigeas	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
20.	Tina LaBelle	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Nurse	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
21.	Jeanine Stillwell	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher Aide	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the PTAO contract

22.	Julie D'Elia	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher Aide	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the PTAO contract
23.	Myrka Chunchi	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher Aide	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the PTAO contract
24.	Deysi Andrade-Maldonado	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teacher Aide	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the PTAO contract
25.	Johnna Campoverde	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teaching Assistant	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 2023	Terms of employment are in accordance with the Peekskill Faculty Association's (PFA) contract
26.	Reyna Soto	Uriah Hill Brigance Screening Teaching Assistant	May 30, 2023 - June 3, 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: N/A

Classified

I. Resignation:

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

1. Name: Brionna Canada
Position: 1:1 Teacher Aide
Location: Peekskill Middle School
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective: May 10, 2023 (Last day worked effective: 5/10/2023)

2. Name: Nicole Messia
Position: 1:1 Teacher Aide
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Action: Resignation from the Peekskill City School District
Effective: June 26, 2023 (Last day worked: 6/26/2023)

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: Sherly Velez
Position: Secretary to School Principal (Spanish Speaking)
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Status: Temporary
Start Date Effective: April 26, 2023
End Date Effective: May 4, 2023
Salary: \$68,104.00 (Prorated)
2. Name: Sherly Velez
Position: Secretary to School Principal (Spanish Speaking)
Location: Woodside Elementary School
Probationary Start Date: May 5, 2023
Probationary End Date: May 4, 2024 (Anticipated)
Salary: \$68,104.00 (Prorated)
3. Name: Aunchalee O'Brien
Position: Clerical Substitute (Per Diem)
Dates Effective: May 17, 2023-June 30, 2023
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:

	Name of Partner Agency Worker	Location	Organization/Program	Effective Dates
1.	Kadian Goree	Blythedale Children's Hospital (PCSD out of district students)	White Glove Nursing Care	May 2, 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

B. Contract - Ellen Gerace/Director of Special Services

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Ellen Gerace as Director of Special Services for the 2023/2024 school year.

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

12. Consent Agenda - Business/Finance

A. Internal Claims Auditor's Report for the Month of April 2023

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

B. [Budget Appropriation Transfers - May 2023](#)

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

C. Extraclassroom Activities - March 2023

That the Board of Education, accept the March 2023 financial statements for the Peekskill High School and Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Accounts.

D. Amended Contract - Camp Inc.

That the Board of Education approves to amend the original contract with Camp Inc. dated September 1, 2022, increasing the contract amount by \$7,000 and to terminate said contract by June 9, 2023. Not to exceed \$21,000.

E. Contract - Transportation Reimbursement

That the Board of Education approve the Transportation Agreement for student ID #49052 to reimburse gas mileage to the parent from May 4, 2023 through May 22, 2023.

F. Award of Bid - Chartwells

WHEREAS the Peekskill Board of Education has advertised and received a bid for the operation of the food service contract for the 2023-24 school year,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board recognize and award as the lowest responsible bidder per the attached bid tabulation to Chartwells in the amount of \$2,765,446.95 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board authorizes the President to execute any and all documents to give this resolution full legal effect

G. Scholarship - The Charles Wilson Art Major Scholarship

That the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Assistant Superintendent for Business that donations received by donors be held in The Charles Wilson Art Major Scholarship in accordance with Education Law 1718(2).

H. Donation - NY Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital Center

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 New York-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital Center a donation of \$4,000.00.

13. Other Agenda Items

A. [Approval of the 2023/2024 Westchester Putnam School Boards Association Proposed Budget \(WPSBA\) and Slate of Officers and Board of Directors:](#)

That the Board of Education approves WPSBA budget in the amount of \$284,639 and the following candidates to serve as slate of officers and Board of Directors:
As Officers for a one year term:

* President – Scott Levy (Byram Hills CSD)

* Vice President – Marjorie Schiff (Katonah-Lewisboro UFSD)

* Treasurer – Sarah Carrier (Croton Harmon UFSD)

* Secretary – Cayne Letizia (White Plains City SD)

As Continuing Directors with terms expiring in 2026:

* Corrinne Rosa (Valhalla UFSD)

* Sarah Tormey (Garrison UFSD)

As New Directors with terms expiring in 2026:

* Suzie Hahn Pascutti (Scarsdale UFSD)

* Chrissie Onofrio (Port Chester-Rye UFSD)

* Jane Wissner (Irvington UFSD)

As Nominees for elected seats on the Nominating Committee:

* Cayne Letizia (White Plains City SD)

* Lisa Tane (Greenburgh Eleven UFSD)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board instructs the District Clerk to complete the ballot on its behalf.

B. Boys Swim Team Merger

That the Board of Education approve the merger of Peekskill City School District Boys Swim Team, for the 2023/2024 school year, with Croton-Harmon, Haldane and Hendrick Hudson School Districts, due to the insufficient number of participants.

C. Boys Lacrosse Team Merger

That the Board of Education approve the merger of Peekskill City School District Boys Lacrosse Team, for the 2023/2024 school year, with Ossining School District, due to the insufficient number of participants.

14. Approving Consent Agenda

A. Approving Consent Agenda

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

Motion: Samuel North

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Branwen MacDonald

Samuel North

Eric Reveda

Michael Simpkins

Jillian Villon

Second: Eric Reveda

No: _____ Abstained: _____

15. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Speak to the Board of Education

16. Committee Reports/Board Reflections

A. New Agenda Item

17. Executive Session – 8:40 p.m.

A. Executive Session

Motion to move to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

Motion: Samuel North

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Second: Michael Simpkins

No: _____ Abstained: _____

Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Eric Reveda
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

B. Adjourn Executive Session – 9:40 p.m.
Motion to move to Public Session

Motion: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

Second: Samuel North

Yes: Allen Jenkins, Jr.

No: _____

Abstained:_____

Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Eric Reveda
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

18. Superintendent/President Report Continued

A. [Canvass of Votes](#)

President MacDonald read the Canvass of Votes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accept the Canvass of Votes dated May 16, 2023.

Motion: Samuel North

Second: Michael Simpkins

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: _____

Abstained:_____

Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Eric Reveda
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

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

Second: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

Yes: Pamela Hallman-Johnson

No: _____

Abstained:_____

Allen Jenkins, Jr.
Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Eric Reveda
Michael Simpkins
Jillian Villon

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Debra McLeod