

Pine Plains Central School District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2024

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Amie Fredericks, President  
Joseph Kiernan, Vice President, arrived 6:33 pm  
Claire Copley-Eisenberg  
Fred Couse, Jr.  
James Griffin, arrived 6:35 pm  
*Heidi Johnson, absent*  
Jean Stapf

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Brian Timm, Superintendent of Schools  
Laura Rafferty, Business Manager  
Julia W. Tomaine, District Clerk  
Madison Rego, BOE Student Representative

**OPEN MEETING**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mrs. Amie Fredericks, Board President. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance. She read the Mission and Vision Statements:

**Mission Statement:**

We develop the whole child to be a lifelong learner and a productive member of the global community.

**Vision Statement:**

We are a district of choice offering exceptional opportunities to engage and excite our entire school community.

Mrs. Fredericks shared the passing of May Langdon, former Bus Driver and Teacher Aide. The Board offered their condolences to the Langdon family.

Mrs. Fredericks acknowledged the Technology Department for their hardwork and noted that September 17, 2024 was Information Technology Professionals Day.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK**

None

**REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

There is a need for the Audit Committee to meet on October 2, 2024 to review the final audit for year ending 2024. It was the consensus of the committee to meet at 6:00 pm.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

1. Dr. Timm shared that there is a vacancy on the Dutchess County BOCES. The deadline for submitting a resume to be considered for the Board is September 27. The following districts are not currently represented: *Arlington, Dover, Millbrook, Pine Plains, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck and Webutuck*. The vacant term expires June 30, 2025. If

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interested in continuing, the candidate would be eligible to run for any available seats at the next election on April 22, 2025.

2. Dr. Timm polled the Board if they would consider a Private School Request to transport past the NYS guidelines. It was the consensus of the Board to say no, because if they said yes to one they should say yes to all and this would costly.
3. Dr. Timm shared the following information
  - a. Mid Hudson School Study Council – Executive Committee – Thursday
  - b. Attending NYSCOSS Fall Conference
  - c. Facilities Meeting - Thursday 9/26 @ 9 a.m.
  - d. DC Supt Meeting 9/27 - Learn more about the DC BOCES Supt. Search Process
  - e. BOE Retreat 9/28

### **STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

Ms. Rego shared that she will be visiting the elementary schools to see what is currently going on in each of the buildings. She reported that the Stissing is busy attending Ag Day meetings. She also reported that 7<sup>th</sup> period lunch is closing to early for students to get meals.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda 2-5:

2. To accept the minutes from the August 21, 2024 meeting.
3. To approve the following financial documents:
  - a. Claims Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements
4. To approve the attached recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and authorize the funds to implement special education programs and services consistent with such recommendations noting that these are confidential.
5. to revise a portion of Motion #2024/25-3 to add the following new positions to the Standard Work Day:
  - Assistant Supervisor of Transportation, 8 Hours
  - Head Maintenance Mechanic, 8 Hours

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-119)**

### **NEW BUSINESS - OTHER**

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to revise the agenda per the Superintendent's request to walk on two tax resolutions.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-120)**

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to accept the following policies as a first reading, as recommended by the Policy Committee:

1120 - School District Records (policy and regulation)

4772 - Graduation Ceremonies

4773 - Diploma and Credential Options for Students with Disabilities

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5500 - Student Records (policy and regulation)

5550 - Student Privacy

8635-R - Information and Data Privacy, Security, Breach and Notification Regulation

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-121)**

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the agreement between Therapeutic Horizons and the district for the purpose of providing related services to district students unable to attend school in accordance with the students' IEP as recommended by the CSE for the 2024-25 school year per the memorandum from Janine Babcock, Director of Pupil Personnel Services.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-122)**

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the attached agreement between Dr. Theresa Yonker and the district to provide a psychiatric evaluation of two particular students at an estimated cost of \$6,400.00. A copy of said agreement will be on file with the District Clerk.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-123)**

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the following overnight field trip:

-AG Fair Camp Out, S. Rhoades

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-124)**

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution: WHEREAS, the Board, for economic considerations and efficiency of the program, has determined that it would be appropriate to abolish the following civil service positions effective September 5, 2024:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby abolishes the following civil service position:

One (1) full-time school monitor, in the labor class

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-125)**

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby creates the following position:

-One (1.0 FTE) Teacher Aide, a 10-month non-competitive class civil service position

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-126)**

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the transfer of \$3,327.16 from the general fund, Code A9901.970 to the cafeteria fund, Code C5031, for the purpose of covering negative balances in school lunch per New York State guidelines and recommendation of the external auditor.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-127)**

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Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:  
Resolved, that the Board of Education authorizes its attorneys, Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to execute a Consent Judgment in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned Hassan Elmasry and Rasha Mansouri Elmasry v. Town of Stanford & Pine Plains Central School District;  
AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the refund of taxes as required by the terms of the Consent Judgment.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-128)**

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:  
Whereas, an Application for Corrected Tax Roll was filed by Owner, Irene Eisen, regarding a parcel of property located within the Pine Plains Central School District located at 119 Layton Rd, in the Town of Stanford, Grid No. 6868-00-307570 based upon a miscalculation by the assessor of the senior citizen tax exemption by using the wrong line in the Owner's 2022 1040 tax return, which resulted in an incorrect school tax amount for 2024-2025; and  
Whereas, the Assessor and Dutchess County Director of Real Property Tax Services have determined that a clerical error was made pursuant to Section 550(2) of the Real Property Tax Law in that the senior citizen tax exemption was calculated on the wrong line in the Applicant's 2022 1040 tax return, and the 2024-2025 school taxes should have been \$634.20 instead of \$1,497.30, and have recommended that the Application be approved; and  
Whereas, the Board has examined the application and the County Director's recommendation and determines that a clerical error was made;  
Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Application for Corrected Tax Roll be approved, notice of approval be sent to the Applicant, and the District issue a new school tax bill with the correct taxable assessed value and the correct amount of 2024-2025 school tax, \$634.20 instead of \$1,497.30.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-129)**

**NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL**

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint Jo Anne Harrison to the position of Bus Driver, a non-competitive class civil service position, effective September 9, 2024 at Step 11 of the SRP 2024-25 Salary Schedule.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-130)**

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint Erin Washington to the position of health aide, a non-competitive class civil service position, for a twenty six week probationary period, effective September 23, 2024, step 1 of the SRP 2024-25 salary schedule. (replaces Carey)

*Yea: Copley-Eisenberg, Fredericks, Griffin, Kiernan, Stapf; Abstain: Couse*

**VOTE: Motion passed. (Motion #2024/25-131)**

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to accept, with regret and appreciation, the resignation from Valerie Fumasoli from the position of Teacher Aide, effective January 9, 2025.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-132)**

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Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals as fall coaches for the 2024-25 school year, pending completion of all requirements:

- Amber Rennie, Volunteer Assistant- Varsity Girls Soccer
- Edward DiGirolamo, Assistant Boys Soccer Coach (Modified)

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-133)**

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals to the substitute list for the 2024-25 school year:

- Kelly Matthews, Teacher Aide
- Peter Klebnikov, Teacher
- Paula Humphries, Bus Driver
- Denise Milano, Bus Driver
- Gary Higgins, School Monitor
- Janet Camburn, School Monitor
- John Tomaine, Custodial

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-134)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**BOARD COMMENT**

Mrs. Fredericks reminded the Board of the scheduled Board Retreat on September 28, 2024 from 9 am – 12 pm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person(s) at 7:03 pm.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-135)**

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to return to public session at 7:30 pm.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-136)**

**ADJOURN**

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:31 pm.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-137)**

Respectfully submitted,

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Julia W. Tomaine, District Clerk