

Pine Plains Central School District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 5, 2025

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**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 6:33 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 acknowledged our School Counselors for School Counselors Week. She thanked them for supporting our students.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK**

None

**REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

Mr. Griffin met with Didi Barrett on a Zoom call to discuss current legislative issues that are impacting school districts.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Kristen Fischetti, Cold Spring Principal, Julie Roberts, Seymour Smith Principal and Chris Boyd, Stissing Principal presented their respective budgets for the 2025-26 school year. They highlighted how the budget impacts the three priority areas. Laura Rafferty, Business Official, ended the presentation on what the next steps are in establishing the budget for this upcoming budget season.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Timm spoke regarding the following topics:

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1. Upcoming BOCES Nominations;
2. Senior Class Trip
3. Skills Trade Fair at Arlington CSD
4. Facilities meetings for the upcoming plans for a Capital Project
5. Capital Outlay project in the Stissing Library
6. Building Utilization Study meeting

Announced that school will be closed on 2/6/25!!

### **STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

Ms. Rego shared information on the following topics:

1. FCCLA Pet Adoption Clinic
2. Polar Plunge for the Bombarnation Buddies Club
3. Student Council Valentines Dance

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda 1-7:

1. To approve the attached Financial Reports:
  - Treasurer's Report (December 2024)
  - Appropriations Report (December 2024)
  - Revenue Status Report (December 2024)
  - Cafeteria Report (December 2024)
  - Extra-Classroom (December 2024)
  - Claims Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements - Warrants.
2. To Acknowledge Budget Transfer in the amount of \$21,487.85.
3. 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;
4. To approve the attached Wappingers Central School District's contract for health and welfare services for one (1) resident student attending non-public schools at a rate of \$1,165.13 per student, for a total of \$1,165.13 for the 2024-2025 school year.
5. to approve the attached Spackenkill Union Free School District's contract for health and welfare services for one (1) resident student attending non-public schools at a rate of \$1,355.31 per student, for a total of \$1,355.31 for the 2024-2025 school year.
6. to declare the attached list of outdated library books as surplus per the memorandum from T. Craig Morton, Library Media Specialist.
7. to approve the following overnight field trips:
  - Fort Ticonderoga, Ticonderoga, NY – Murray

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-228)**

### **NEW BUSINESS - OTHER**

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

Policy #1120 – School District Records

Policy #5695 – Students and Personal Electronic Devices

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-229)**

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

Policy #8130 – School Safety Plans and Teams

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-230)**

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the following bid for the 25/26 Capital Outlay Project per the recommendation from the School Architect:

-Award Contract 01 General Construction (GC) to M. Frank Higgins & Co, Inc. of Berlin, CT for the Base Bid of \$51,993.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-231)**

**NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL**

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to appoint Durga Taylor to the position of Biology Teacher as a long-term leave replacement, effective on or about February 10, 2025 through June 30, 2025 at Step A1 of the 2024-25 PPFE Salary Schedule.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-232)**

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to appoint Kathleen Fenn as a mentor for the 2024-25 school year, pro-rated for time served.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-233)**

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to appoint Richard Starzyk to the position of Elementary Teacher as a long-term leave replacement, effective on or about March 7, 2025 through May 30, 2025 at Step A2 of the 2024-25 PPFE Salary Schedule.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-234)**

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the following resolutions:

1. accept the resignation of Janice Weise from the position of school monitor pending her appointment of Bus Driver;
2. appoint Janice Weise to the non-competitive class civil service position of Bus Driver, effective February 1, 2025 for a twenty-six week probationary period at Step 9 of the 2024-25 Salary Schedule.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-235)**

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the resignation from Alicia Franklin for the position of Food Service Helper, effective January 23, 2025.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-236)**

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Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint the following individual(s) to the substitute list for the 2024-25 school year, pending completion of all requirements:

-Valerie Fumasoli - Teaching Assistant, Teacher Aide

-Brianna Blackburn - Teacher, TA, and Teacher Aide

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-237)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Two members spoke from the public on the following topics:

1. Budget Presentation
2. Electric Buses
3. Winners' Circle

**BOARD COMMENT**

Mrs. Fredericks discussed the upcoming important dates:

2/05/25: BOE Meeting

2/12/25: Lobby Day – NYSSBA

2/17/25: Presidents' Day

2/19/25: BOE Meeting

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a particular person at 7:38 pm.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-238)**

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to return to public session at 8:30 pm.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-239)**

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:31 pm.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-240)**

Respectfully submitted,

Amie Fredericks, Clerk Pro Tem