

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amie Fredericks, President
Joseph Kiernan, Vice President, arrived at 6:36 pm
Claire Copley-Eisenberg
Fred Couse, Jr.
James Griffin
Heidi Johnson, arrived at 6:48 pm
Jean Stapf

ALSO PRESENT:

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

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.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK

None

REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

The Compensation Committee requested a meeting. It was the consensus of the committee to meet on May 7, 2025 before the Public Hearing on the Budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Laura Rafferty, Business Official, presented the 2nd draft of the 2025-26 budget.

Joseph Kiernan arrived at 6:36 pm.

Mrs. Rafferty shared the complexities of this budget as the Governor still has not passed a budget for New York State. The District will be required to adopt the budget for next year before knowing what New York State's budget will be for the upcoming school year.

Heidi Johnson arrived at 6:48 pm.

Dr. Timm talked about the following items:

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1. Rationale on the new Capital Reserve proposition;
2. Remaining funds from the Capital Project;
3. Winners Circle program
4. Video contract for sports.

The Board had a conversation regarding the BOCES Election. It was the consensus of the Board to have five separate motions, knowing that two will have to fail.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Madison Rego reported to the Board of Education on the following topics:

1. Fourth quarter started!
2. FCCLA is hosting an Egg My Yard event and Spring Cookie Boxes
3. FCCLA is going to Nationals!

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to amend motion #2024-25-277 to increase the estimated cost of the bus purchases by an additional sum of up to \$118,911 for additional costs as a result of tariffs.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-283)

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda 1-3:

1. To accept the minutes from March 19, 2025.
2. To Approve the attached Financial Reports:
 - a. Claims Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements – Warrants
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.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-284)

NEW BUSINESS – OTHER

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the following policies as a first reading at the recommendation of the Policy Committee:

2245: Ex Officio Student Member of The Board

1120-R: School District Records Regulation

8414.6: Idling Prohibition for Buses and Other School Vehicles

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-285)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve the attached Millbrook Central School District's contract for health and welfare services for thirty-eight (38) resident students

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attending non-public schools at a rate of \$1681.02 per student, for a total of \$63,878.76 for the 2024-2025 school year.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-286)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to accept a donation of weight equipment per the attached memorandum.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-287)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to accept the donation of picnic tables per the attached memorandum.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-288)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the discard of the items in the attached memorandum from Craig Morton, Library Media Specialist.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-289)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the attached Credit Recovery Program proposal from Gian Starr, Director of Curriculum.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-290)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Ms. Copley-Eisenberg seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:

Whereas, Pulvers Corner Solar 1 LLC (“Company”) notified the Pine Plains Central School District (“School District”) that it intends to construct and operate a Solar Energy System on real property located on Route 199, in the Town of Pine Plains, County of Dutchess, New York, in accordance with § 487 of the Real Property Tax Law (“RPTL”); and

Whereas, the District has not opted out of RPTL § 487, and has notified the Company of its intention to require a Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT) Agreement on such real property under which the Company (or any successor owner of the project) will be required to make annual payments to the School District for each year during the 15-year term of the PILOT Agreement, as set forth in Exhibit B to the PILOT Agreement, “PILOT Payment Schedule”;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District authorizes the District to enter into a PILOT Agreement with Pulvers Corners Solar 1 LLC for the above-referenced Solar Project in the Town of Pine Plains, in accordance with RPTL § 487, as presented to the Board at this meeting, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the PILOT Agreement on behalf of the School District.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-291)

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

Whereas, Pulvers Corner Solar 2 LLC (“Company”) notified the Pine Plains Central School District (“School District”) that it intends to construct and operate a Solar Energy System on real property located at 454 Bean River Road, in the Town of Pine Plains, County of Dutchess, New York, in accordance with § 487 of the Real Property Tax Law (“RPTL”); and

Whereas, the District has not opted out of RPTL § 487, and has notified the Company of its

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intention to require a Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT) Agreement on such real property under which the Company (or any successor owner of the project) will be required to make annual payments to the School District for each year during the 15-year term of the PILOT Agreement, as set forth in Exhibit B to the PILOT Agreement, "PILOT Payment Schedule";

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District authorizes the District to enter into a PILOT Agreement with Pulvers Corners Solar 2 LLC for the above-referenced Solar Project in the Town of Pine Plains, in accordance with RPTL § 487, as presented to the Board at this meeting, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the PILOT Agreement on behalf of the School District.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-292)

NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to award tenure on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to Megan Lacourse in the Teaching Assistant tenure area effective April 15, 2025

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-293)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve a request for an Unpaid Child Rearing Leave from Emily Elsasser, Special Education Teacher for the 2025-26 school year.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-294)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve a request for an extended sick leave from employee #XXX effective April 2, 2025 per the documentation from a medical provider.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-295)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve a request for an unpaid leave of absence from Anne Krasinski, Teacher Aide, effective March 28, 2025 until June 30, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-296)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Carolyn Palinkas from the position of Senior Food Service Helper for the purpose of retirement, effective March 25, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-297)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Nancy Meriam, School Monitor, effective April 21, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-298)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint Katheryn Law to the position of School Monitor, a labor class civil service position for a twenty-six week probationary period, effective April 23, 2025 at Step 9 of the SRP salary schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-299)

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Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to appoint the following workers for the May 20, 2025 Annual Meeting and Election and authorize the District Clerk to make any substitutes, if necessary at a rate of \$300 for the day:

Justine Tompkins, Chairperson, Election Inspector

Mary Jenkins, Election Inspector

Pat Knapp, Vote Machine Technician

Debbie Demchuk, Vote Teller

Dorothy Hedges, Vote Teller

Jean Osofsky, Vote Teller

Helene Sellerberg, Vote Teller

Joan Taylor, Vote Teller

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-300)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals to the 2024-25 substitute list(s), pending completion of all requirements:

-Robert Kennedy, Monitor – Trainee

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-301)

PUBLIC COMMENT

A member of the community commented on the how could the school budget be adopted if the and State budget is delayed.

BOARD COMMENT

- Mrs. Fredericks discussed the upcoming important dates:
 - April 10, 2025 - Exchange Concert @ Stissing 7:00 pm
- April 11, 2025 - Career Fair (Stissing)
- April 11, 2025 - Half Day of School
- April 14 - 18, 2025 - Spring Break, Offices closed on Good Friday
- April 21 and 22, 2025 - Give back days, schools closed for students and 10 month staff, Buildings are open.
- April 21, 2025 - Nominating Petitions due by 5:00 pm
- April 22, 2025 - BOE Meeting, 6:30 pm, Cafeteria
- May 7, 2025 - BOE Meeting, 6:30 pm, Library (Budget Hearing)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a particular person at 7:37 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-302)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to return to public session at 8:15 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-303)

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ADJOURN

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:16 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-304)

Respectfully submitted,

Julia W. Tomaine,
District Clerk