

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amie Fredericks, President
Joseph Kiernan, Vice President
Claire Copley-Eisenberg
Fred Couse, Jr.
James Griffin
Heidi Johnson
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

TENURE AWARDS

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to acknowledge 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 #2024/25-368)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Ms. Copley-Eisenberg seconded a motion to award tenure on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to Pamela Benziger in the Teaching Assistant tenure area effective June 30, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-369)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to award tenure on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to Angela Johnson in the Teaching Assistant tenure area effective June 30, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-370)

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Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to award tenure on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to Meghan Rizzo in the Elementary tenure area effective June 30, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-371)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to award tenure on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to Kimberly Antal in the Secondary Science tenure area effective August 31, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-372)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to award tenure on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to Shana Smith in the Art tenure area effective August 31, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-373)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to award tenure on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to Rebecca Spielberg in the Speech tenure area effective August 31, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-374)

RETIREEES

The Board of Education recognized the following retirees and presented books donated to the District in the name of each retiree:

1. **Janet Roque**, Elementary Teacher – Wellington the Brave by, Courtney Barnes
2. **Valerie Fumasoli**, Teacher Aide – The 50 States: Explore the USA with 50 fact-filled Maps! by, Gabrielle Balkan
3. **Maryann Meglio**, School Monitor – The Yellow Bus, by, Loren Long
4. **Carolyn Palinkas**, Sr. Food Service Worker – The Complete Cookbook for Young Chefs by, America's Test Kitchen Kids
5. **Mary Mobijohn**, Kindergarten Teacher - On the First Day of Kindergarten by, Tish Rabe
6. **Diana Forte**, School Monitor - The Magic of Me, My Magical Dreams by, Becky Cummings

PPCSD HEROES

The Board of Education and Administration acknowledged acts of heroism that occurred in our district this school year. The following individuals and students were recognized and rewarded with a certificate.

- Amber Rennie, saved a choking student
- Alec Sisco, caught a fainting student

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- Jennifer Heath and Hailey Daubman, demonstrated exceptional skills during a medical emergency
- Students: Lilah Heath, Christopher Woelm, Abe Movall, Emmett Fitzpatrick, Riley Camburn, Max Dell'Amore, Evan Bopp, Grady Lyman and Cara Simmons demonstrated exceptional behavior during a medical emergency concerning a teacher.

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to pause the regular meeting at 6:44 pm to celebrate the Tenure Recipients, Retirees and PPCSD Heroes.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-375)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to return to regular session at 7:03 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-376)

REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

The policy committee met earlier in the evening and discussed the following:

- New Cell Phone Policy that is required by NYS Law
- New Extreme Heat Policy that is required by NYS Law
 - Both policies will have a first read on July 1, 2025
 - Second read on July 15, 2025

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Timm discussed the following topics:

1. Proposed End of Year projects
2. Public Hearing on July 1, 2025 on the following:
 - a. District Wide Safety Plan
 - b. Code of Conduct
 - c. Use of Repair Fund
 - i. Middle School Floor
 - ii. Boiler
 - iii. Auditorium flooring
3. New Phone System installation (VOIP)
4. Poll Data
5. It was the consensus of the Board to end the voting hours at 8:00 pm and hold the Board of Education meeting right after the vote.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

1. Graduation rehearsal
2. Grads walkthrough at elementary buildings
3. Senior picnic was held at the Lions' Club
4. 2nd graduation rehearsal on Friday
5. Saturday is graduation!!

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda 2-13:

2. to approve minutes from the June 4, 2025 regular Board of Education meeting.
3. to approve the following May 2025 Financial Reports:
 - a. Claims Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - c. Cafeteria Report
 - d. Appropriations and Revenue Status Report
 - e. Extra-Classroom
 - f. Budget Transfer in the amount of \$433,522.58 (Acknowledge)
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 approve the surplus of buses per the memo from Laura Rafferty, Business Official
6. to approve the 2025 Curriculum Grants per the memorandum from Gian Starr, Director of Curriculum and Instruction in the amount of \$24,300.
7. to approve the textbook purchase curricular materials for the ENL Program per the memorandum from Gian Starr, Director of Curriculum.
8. to approve the attached agreement between Astor Services and the District for the purpose of providing intensive school support services for the 2025-26 school year at annual total of \$70,318.
9. to approve the attached agreement between the district and Cardinal Hayes School for Special Children for the purpose of providing educational service to four student for the 2025-26 school year and ESY at an estimated cost of \$344,452.
10. to approve the attached contract between the District and Dutchess County to provide Preschool Special Education Services pursuant to 4410 Education Law.
11. to approve the attached agreement between the district and Greenburgh North Castle UFSD for the purpose of providing educational services to a particular student for the 2025-26 school year and ESY at an estimated cost of \$71,379.
12. to approve the attached agreement between the district and Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD for the purpose of providing educational services to a particular student in the estimated amount of \$74,483 for the 2025-26 school year and \$12,210 for ESY.
13. to approve the attached agreement between J&D Ultracare Corp. and the District for the purpose of providing 1:1 nursing services for a particular student for the 2025-26 school year at a rate of \$80.00 per hour.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-377)

NEW BUSINESS – OTHER

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District (the "Board of Education") included in its 2025-2026 budget that was approved by the District's voters on May

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20, 2025, a \$100,000 inter-fund transfer to the capital fund for a project to install the initial infrastructure for the Schneider Electric EcoStruxure BMS system, along with the removal of Automatrix controls to simplify energy systems and boost operational efficiency at Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School, including, associated work related thereto (the “Proposed Action”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to comply with the requirements of Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and its implementing regulations at 6 NYCRR Part 617, together known as the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only lead agency for the Proposed Action, is responsible for assessing whether the Project would have any significant adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has reviewed the Proposed Action with respect to the Type II criteria set forth in the SEQRA Regulations at 6 NYCRR Part 617.5 and has determined that the Proposed Action is a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1) [maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in the structure or facility] and/or (10) [routine activities of educational institutions] of the SEQRA Regulations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District, as the only lead agency, hereby designates itself as the lead agency under SEQRA for the Proposed Action, determines that installation of the initial infrastructure for the Schneider Electric EcoStruxure BMS system, along with the removal of Automatrix controls to improve functionality at the Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School, including associated work required in connection therewith, is a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1) and/or (10) of the SEQRA Regulations and will not have any significant environmental impacts, and that no further review of the Proposed Action is required.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-378)

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District (“Board of Education”) has under consideration a proposed construction, reconstruction, repair, renovation, and improvements capital project at Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School and Athletic Fields, and Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center), including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, site work and incidental improvement ancillary or related site, demolition and other work, and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, consisting of, but not limited to the following, together hereinafter referred to as the “Proposed Action”:

Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School:

- Elevator refurbishment
- Roof replacement/repair – Areas A, B & C
- Running Track refurbishment
- Replacement of Track and Field Lighting
- Reconstruction of Tennis Courts
- Replacement of Scoreboard at Stadium Field
- New Exterior Toilets and Concessions Pavilion at Athletic Fields
- Repairs to Varsity Gymnasium (sand and refinish floor, update staining/stripping in select areas

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of Baseball court and logo update)

- Replacement of Varsity Gymnasium bleachers
- Courtyard “Plaza” improvements

Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center

- Exterior Work: replace rear stair and ramp (ADA compliant), replace door and/or hardware at transformer exterior door
- Exterior Masonry Restoration (repoint remaining wall, clean efflorescence at select areas, repair and recoat cast stone at front façade, reconstruct remaining deteriorated parapet walls); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education’s discretionary decision to undertake the Proposed Action, which may affect the environment, is subject to review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law) and its implementing regulations (together “SEQRA”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to take all actions necessary in connection therewith in order to comply with SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only lead agency with respect to the Proposed Action, is responsible for assessing whether the Proposed Action would have any significant adverse environmental impacts and whether any further environmental investigation is needed; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has reviewed the Proposed Action with respect to the Type II criteria set forth in the SEQRA Regulations at NYCRR Part 617.5 and has determined that the Proposed Action is a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1) maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in the structure or facility; and/or (2) replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building, energy or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the threshold in Section 617.4 of the SEQRA Regulations; and/or (10) routine activities of educational institutions; of the SEQRA Regulations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District, as the only Lead Agency under SEQRA for the Proposed Action, declares itself as Lead Agency for the Proposed Action, determines that the Proposed Action, including each and all of the components, are Type II Actions pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(1), (2), and/or (10), and will not have any significant environmental impact, and no further environmental review is required.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-379)

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

WHEREAS, the District is in receipt of Bullet Aid grant in the amount of \$110,000 from the State for Wall of Fame (Electronic Archive Software/Hardware Package) and the Winner’s Circle Program (Curriculum, Car Kit, Lift and Tools) and the 2024-2025 Budget must be amended to account for the additional revenue;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the Bullet Aid grant in the amount of \$110,000, amends the Budget for the 2024-2025 school year by increasing the revenue side of the Budget by \$110,000 in Other State Aid, Account Code A3289, thereby increasing the Budget by such amount, and appropriates such funds as additional aid in support

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of general expenses, \$17,495 Budget Code A 1010.451; \$50,700 Budget Code A 2280.200; \$32,505 Budget Code A 2280.491 and \$9,300 Budget Code A 2280.45

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-380)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$92,800.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-381)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby set Tuesday, July 1, 2025 as the date for the Organizational Meeting for the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-382)

NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to adjust the personnel agenda to add a resolution to appoint a Summer Custodial Workers and Temporary Custodial Worker.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-383)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to accept the resignation from Mary Mobijohn, Elementary Teacher, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-384)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to accept the resignation from Erik Smith, Special Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-385)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the resignation from Diana Forte, School Monitor, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-386)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to accept the resignation from Lillianna Brenner, Teacher Aide, effective June 30, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-387)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve a Child Rearing Leave request from Erin Burruano, Health / Physical Education Teacher for the 2025-26 school year per the PPFE contract.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-388)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Jennifer VanAnden effective June 7, 2025 - June 26, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-389)

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Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to extend the appointment of Nicole Merritt, LTS Special Education Teacher from June 30, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-390)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to amend motion #2024/25-364 to adjust the appointment date of Jacquelyn Brousseau from June 9, 2025 to September 2, 2025 for the position of Food Service Helper.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-391)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. stapf seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals as 2025 Summer School employees, rates per the Summer School Proposal:

Hailey Daubman - Elementary Summer School Teacher –Special Education

Nicole Merritt, Special Education Teacher

Keeia Hicks– Teacher’s Aide – Special Education

Kelly Nielson – Teaching Assistant – General Education Angela Johnson – Teacher Assistant – Special Education

Christa Brenner – Teaching Assistant - General Education

Cheryl Zubradt– Teacher’s Aide – General Education

Jennifer McCord – Teaching Assistant – Special Education

Courtney Reichelt – Teacher – General Education

Kerri Siedel – Teacher – General Education

Corey Hoffman – Teacher’s Aide – Special Education

Jennifer Funk – Co-Secretary/Nurse

Jennifer Heath – Co-Secretary/Nurse

Amy Duncan – Co-Social Worker

Amber Rennie – Co-Social Worker

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-392)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals as fall coaches for the 2025-26 school year:

Field Hockey Varsity Head Coach- Deb Beam

Field Hockey Assistant Coach (Modified Head Coach)- Sarah Beam

Field Hockey Volunteer Assistant Coach- Miranda Bower

Boys Soccer Varsity Head Coach - John Blackburn

Boys Soccer Assistant Coach (Modified Head Coach) - Ed DiGirolamo

Girls Soccer Varsity Head Coach - Maureen Blackburn

Volleyball Varsity Head Coach - Alec Sisco

Volleyball Assistant Coach (JV Head Coach) - Meredith Michetti

Volleyball Assistant Coach (Modified Head Coach) - Rebekka Johnson

Boys Golf Varsity Head Coach - John Schoonmaker

Football Varsity Head Coach - Mike Cooper

Football Assistant Coach (Modified Head Coach) - Jim Jackson

Football Assistant Coach - Brian Walsh

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Football Assistant Coach - Dan Dibernadino
Cross Country Varsity Co-Coach - Nicholas Dean
Cross Country Varsity Co-Coach - Corinna Hengen-Burton

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-393)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals as substitutes for the 2024-25 school year:

-Sidney Stracher, Teacher, TA and Aide

-Richard Lamping, Teacher, TA

-Jacquelyn Brousseau, Food Service Helper

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-394)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals as Summer Custodial Staff:

Christy Hill

Ryan Curry

Ryan Ambrose

Peyton Shea

Lauren Ambrose

Alex Jordan

Rowelin Wyant

Andrew Harlin

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-395)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to appoint Samantha Rankin to the position of temporary custodial worker, effective June 23, 2025 at Step 1 of the SRP salary schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-396)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Jenkins clarified what the public hearings were going to be discussed and what was a SEQRA notice.

BOARD COMMENT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a particular person at 7:41 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-397)

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Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to return to public session at 8:00 pm.
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-398)

ADJOURN

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:31 pm.
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2024/25-399)

Respectfully submitted,

Julia W. Tomaine,
District Clerk