

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Brian Timm, Superintendent of Schools
Laura Rafferty, Business Manager
Julia W. Tomaine, District Clerk

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

Artifact Committee met and discussed the status of the materials. They would like to check with the school attorney on what needs to be kept versus what they can donate to the historical society.

Audit – Financial Planning Committee met to discuss future collective bargaining items and the establishment of a few stipend positions.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Timm two policies the BOE approved recently due to new laws:

1. Policy #8113 Extreme Heat Condition Days
 - a. Mr. McKibben reported on the how the district would handle the extreme heat conditions
 - b. Mr. McKibben discussed the possible purchase of air conditioning units and proposed three different scenarios.
2. Policy #5695 on Use of Internet-Enabled Devices During the School Day

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Dr. Timm discussed the creation of two extra-curricular clubs. It was the pleasure of the Board to vote on one of the two clubs tonight but would need a larger quorum of the current attendees as Mr. Griffin needed to abstain.

Dr. Timm shared the Administrators reports.

OLD BUSINESS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve consent items 1-2:

1. To approve financial Reports - Claim Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements;
2. 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 #2025/26-35)

NEW BUSINESS – OTHER

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the Capital Project Proposition to be presented to the District's voters at a Special District Meeting to be held on October 15, 2025 and the Legal Notice for the 2025 Special District Meeting, as presented to the Board of Education at this meeting.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-36)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the following resolution in regards to bond services:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education engages the services of Barclay Damon LLP, as bond counsel to the District, in accordance with their Proposal and Engagement Letter dated August 11, 2025, as presented to the Board at this meeting, and authorizes Laura Rafferty to sign the Engagement Letter on behalf of the District.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-37)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the following resolution for the purpose of Architectural and Engineering Services:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the following three proposals from CSArch for Architectural and Engineering Services, as presented to the Board at this meeting and as described below, and ratifies the actions of the Superintendent of Schools in signing the Proposal Letters on behalf of the District:

1. Proposal Letter, dated April 19, 2025 for 2021 Capital Project, Phase 2; and

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2. Proposal Letter, dated April 30, 2025 for 2025 Capital Outlay Project.
3. Proposal Letter, dated April 30, 2025 for Proposal for the 2026 Capital Outlay Project

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-38)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution for the purpose of Advanced Architectural and Engineering Services:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Proposals from CSArch for Advanced Architectural and Engineering Services for development of Project elements for the proposed 2025 Capital Project, as presented to the Board at this meeting, and ratifies the actions of the Superintendent of Schools in signing the Proposal Letter on behalf of the District.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-39)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the following resolution that pertains to the 2024-25 APPR Implementation:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President and Superintendent of Schools to execute the 2024-25 APPR Implementation Certification Form for its Annual Professional Performance Review for classroom teachers and building principals covered pursuant to Education Law Section 3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-40)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the agreement between the District and MidHudson Regional Hospital of Westchester for the purpose of providing equipment and audiological services for a particular student per the attached fee schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-41)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the agreement between the District and Somos Bilingues for the purpose of providing bilingual CSE evaluations per the attached fee schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-42)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept and establish a scholarship account in the name of the Pine Plains Central School District for the Class of 2025. The scholarship will be awarded to the current seniors in the Class of 2026 that are also in the National Honor Society. Monies are to be distributed evenly with the District Treasurer and Superintendent as signatories.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-43)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to create an extracurricular club per the attached memorandum.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-44)

NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

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Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the following resolution to appoint a tenure-track teacher:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Hannah Linnane, who possesses an Initial Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Certificate and an Initial Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2) Certificate, to a four year probationary term as an Elementary Teacher in the Elementary tenure area, effective September 2, 2025 and terminating on September 1, 2029, with compensation at Step D3 per the PPFE 2025-26 School Year Salary Schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-45)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the following resolution to appoint a tenure-track teacher:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Peter O'Connor, who possesses an Initial Biology (Grades 7-12) Certificate, to a four year probationary term as a Science Teacher in the Science tenure area, effective September 2, 2025 and terminating on September 1, 2029, with compensation at Step D2 per the PPFE 2025-26 School Year Salary Schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-46)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the following resolution to appoint a tenure-track teacher:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Ellen Renaldo, who possesses a Permanent English (Grades 7-12) Certificate, to a four year probationary term as an English Teacher in the English Tenure area, effective September 2, 2025 and terminating on September 1, 2029, with compensation at Step D9 per the PPFE 2025-26 School Year Salary Schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-47)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to change the employment status of Shannon Gillis from part-time to full-time Senior Food Service Helper, effective September 1, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-48)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to appoint Meg Winters to the position of Typist, a competitive class civil service position, for a twenty-six week probationary period, effective August 25, 2025 at a salary of 8 per the SRP salary schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-49)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to accept the resignation from Erin Washington from the position of Health Aide, effective August 10, 2025.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-50)

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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 September 2, 2025 through January 31, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-51)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD COMMENT

The Board of Education discussed the creation of the Board Goals for the 2025-26 school year, they will be voted on at the next meeting.

Mrs. Fredericks commented on the upcoming important dates:

August 26, 2025: New Teacher Orientation

September 2, 2025: Superintendent Conference Day

September 2, 2025: BOE Meeting

September 3, 2025: School Opens

September 11, 2025: CS Open House

September 16, 2025: BOE Meeting

September 18, 2025: Stissing Open House

September 25, 2025: Seymour Open House

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 7:16 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-52)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to return to public session at 8:00 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-53)

ADJOURN

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:01 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-54)

Respectfully submitted,

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Julia W. Tomaine,
District Clerk