

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Brian Timm, Superintendent of Schools
Laura Rafferty, Business Manager
Julia W. Tomaine, District Clerk
Hailey Lamping, Student BOE Member

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 the paraprofessionals, librarians, assistant principal, administrative professionals and the bus drivers for their respective days of recognition.

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 6:33 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-227)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to return to public session at 6:47 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-228)

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK

None

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mrs. Laura Rafferty, Business Official, conducted a Budget Workshop. She presented the second draft budget for the 2026-2027, which outlined the district's financial plans and the challenges they face in creating a balanced budget. The district proposed a total budget of approximately \$40.8 million, representing a 5.34% increase from the previous year. The

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proposed tax levy increase is 4.43%, which exceeds the state's 2% tax cap limit. Mrs. Rafferty proposed a third draft of the budget to reduce costs, the district considered cutting funding in several areas, including enrichment programs, a new academic intervention position, evening bus service, and equipment purchases.

The Board of Education question and commented on both drafts. It was the consensus of the Board to put forth the third draft of the budget.

REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Dr. Timm shared the meeting minutes from the March 12, 2026 Building Utilization Committee meeting.

Dr. Timm polled the Audit – Financial Planning Committee members for their availability of a meeting to discuss the year end audit. It was the consensus of the committee to meet on May 5, 2026, before the BOE meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Dr. Timm discussed the upcoming BOCES Budget Vote and Election.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Ms. Hailey Lamping shared the following information:

1. Spring Sports
2. Varsity Softball Trip to Florida
3. Pine Plains Racing broadcasting on iHeart Radio
4. FCCLA made Nationals in June!

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve consent items 1-6:

1. To approve the attached Financial Reports:
-Claims Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements – Warrants
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.
3. to approve the attached Catskill Central School District's contract for health and welfare services for two (2) resident students attending non-public schools at a rate of \$1,168.18 per student, for a total of \$2,336.36 for the 2025-2026 school year.
4. to approve the attached Millbrook Central School District's contract for health and welfare services for twenty-four (24) resident students attending non-public schools at a rate of \$1,760.93 per student, for a total of \$42,262.32 for the 2025-2026 school year.
5. to declare technology equipment as surplus per the memorandum from Richard Harlin, Director of Technology.

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6. to declare workbooks and notebooks as obsolete per the memorandum from Julie Roberts, Seymour Smith Principal.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-229)

NEW BUSINESS – OTHER

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept as the second reading and adoption of the following policies based on the recommendation of the Policy Committee:

Policy #8130: School Safety Teams and Plans

Policy #8121.2: Automated External Defibrillators

Policy #8505: Charging Meals and Other Food Items

Policy #8520: Free Meal Services

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-230)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the 2026 Summer School Proposal.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-231)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve an overnight field trip:
-Senior Class Trip, J. Griffin

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-232)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby acknowledges the following change order in connection with the 2021 Capital Project, Phase 2, as presented to the Board at this meeting:

Milburn Flooring: CIC 01-001

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-233)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the terms of and authorizes its President to execute a Letter of Engagement from Guercio & Guercio LLP, dated April 3, 2026, for special counsel services, as presented to the Board at this meeting.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-234)

NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Gail Thompson from the position of Head Bus Driver, effective April 10, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-235)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to appoint Tina Williams to the position of long-term leave replacement for the position of Special Education Teacher effective April 6, 2026 at a rate of A1 of the 2025-26 salary schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-236)

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Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Tiffany Terstenyak from the position of School Monitor, effective March 27, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-237)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Kara Magurno from the position of Food Service Helper, effective March 11, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-238)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to Approve the following workers for the May 19, 2026 Annual Meeting and Election and authorize the District Clerk to make any substitutes:

Justine Tompkins, Chairperson, Election Inspector

Mary Jenkins, Election Inspector

Pat Knapp, Vote Machine Technician

Debbie Demchuk, Vote Teller

Dorothy Hedges, Vote Teller

Helene Sellerberg, Vote Teller

Joan Taylor, Vote Teller

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-239)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to appoint Matthew Zick as a Drama Club Co-Advisor (Volunteer) for the 2025-26 school year.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-240)

PUBLIC COMMENT

A member of the community commented on the progression of the budget and thanked the Board and Administration for the work.

BOARD COMMENT

Mrs. Fredericks commented on the upcoming important dates:

April 16, 2026: Building Utilization Advisory Committee, 6:00 pm (Cold Spring)

April 20, 2026: Nominating Petitions due by 5:00 pm

April 21, 2026: Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 pm

April 28, 2026: Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 am

April 30, 2026: Building Utilization Advisory Committee, 6:00 pm (Seymour Smith)

ADJOURN

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:27 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-241)

Respectfully submitted,

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Julia W. Tomaine,
District Clerk