

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amie Fredericks, President
Fred Couse, Jr. , Vice President
Claire Copley-Eisenberg, absent
James Griffin, arrived 6:32 pm
Heidi Johnson, arrived 6:35 pm
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 8:35 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. Tomaine read the results of the 2026-27 Budget Vote and Election:

2026-27 Budget (Super majority needed 60% or more voting yes)

Yes: 458 FAILED (51.5%)
No: 432 (48.5%)

Bus Purchase: (Super majority not needed)

Yes: 489 PASSED (54.8%)
No: 403 (45.2%)

Board Member Election (Two Seats):

James Griffin: 541 (Elected)
Amie Buehler: 516 (Elected)
Brooke Brown: 460

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to ratify the 2026-27 Annual Budget Vote and Board of Education results as presented.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-271)

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RECOGNITION OF VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK

None

REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Dr. Timm shared the meeting minutes from the April 30, 2026 Building Utilization Committee (BUAC) meeting and the May 5, 2026 Financial Planning – Audit Committee meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Dr. Timm shared the monthly Administrators reports.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

1. No report.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve consent items 1-5:

1. To accept the minutes from the May 5, 2026 regular meeting.
2. To approve the following Financial Reports:
-Claims Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements, Appropriations and Revenue Status Report and Extra-Classroom for April 2026.
3. To acknowledge a budget transfer for April 2026 in the amount of \$277,122.91
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 following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves Exhibit 1420-E, entitled "Curriculum Complaint Form," as presented to the Board at this meeting, for the purpose of implementing Board Policy 1420, entitled "Complaints about Curricula or Instructional Materials".

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-272)

NEW BUSINESS- BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to grant 2025-26-14, an extended sick leave, according to Article 6.1.2.2.1 - 6.1.2.2.5 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the District and the Pine Plains Federation of Educators, Inc. effective on May 27, 2026 per the documentation from the employee's physician.

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VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-273)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolutions regarding the appointment of a school monitor:

1. Accept the resignation from Kristina Comesanas from the position of Sr. Food Service Worker pending the appointment to School Monitor effective May 22, 2026;
2. Appoint Kristina Comesanas to the position of School Monitor, a labor class civil service position for a twenty-six week probationary period effective May 26, 2026 at Step 1 of the 2025-26 SRP salary schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-274)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint Aislynn Demchuk to the position of School Monitor, a labor class civil service position effective May 26, 2026 for a twenty-six week probationary at Step 1 of the 2025-26 SRP salary schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-275)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD COMMENT

Mrs. Fredericks commented on the upcoming important dates:

May 21, 2026 – Senior Awards Night

May 22, 2026 – Winners Circle Race at Lime Rock

May 28, 2026 - Building Utilization Advisory Committee, tentative

Mrs. Fredericks requested that the Board complete their self-evaluation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a particular person(s) at 8:50 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-276)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to return to public session at 9:05 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-277)

The Board reconvened and Mrs. Fredericks shared that they sought legal advice from our school attorney and the following are the choices going forward in regards to the budget failing to pass with a super majority.

1. Presenting a second budget piercing the tax cap;
2. Presenting a second budget at or below the cap;
3. Entering in to contingency with no vote.

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It was the consensus of the Board to present a budget at or below the tax cap.

Dr. Timm discussed the new condensed budget timeline:

1. May 26-June 2: Budget must be completed at least seven days prior to the budget hearing at which it is to be presented.
2. June 2 - Deadline for publication of the first of two required legal notices prior to budget re-vote (first publication must be at least 14 days prior to revote).
3. June 9 - Publication of second and final legal notice prior to budget re-vote.
4. June 2-9 Public hearing to present the budget 7-14 days prior to the re-vote.
5. June 16 - BUDGET RE-VOTE DATE

The Board of Education will meet on May 26, 2026 for a special board of education meeting to adopt the new budget and discuss possible cuts if the district needs to enter into contingency.

ADJOURN

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:13 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2025/26-278)

Respectfully submitted,

Julia W. Tomaine,
District Clerk