

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amie Fredericks, President
Fred Couse, Jr. , Vice President
Amie Buehler
James Griffin
Joseph Kiernan, arrived 6:06 pm
Jean Stapf

ALSO PRESENT:

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

OPEN MEETING

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:01 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 SECIAL COMMITTEES

The Building Utilization Advisory Committee completed the Educational Impact Statement. The Board gave the District Clerk the authority to modify the last paragraph on page 13 to update any late votes from the committee.

The Board will hold a public hearing on September 2, 2026 in regards to the potential closing of Cold Spring Early Learning Center.

The Board of Education discussed the two letters of interest for the vacant Board seat.

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint Heidi Johnson to the unexpired term of Claire Copley-Eisenberg to commence on August 4, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-46)

REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

The District received a policy update. There is a need for the policy committee to meet. It is the consensus of the committee to meet on September 2, 2026 at 4:30 pm.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Julie Roberts, Seymour Smith Principal and Kristen Fischetti, Cold Spring Principal presented on the new CKLA curriculum.

Dr. Timm discussed the following topics:

1. Update on the Capital Project
2. Status of the Transportation Department (Mr. Griffin left the room at 7:04 pm)
3. Upcoming Special Education presentation
4. PILOT update (Mr. Griffin returned at 7:07 pm)
5. Retreat Rescheduling to 8/19/26 at 5:30 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the 2026-27 District Wide Safety Plan as presented during the public hearing on July 8, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-47)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the 2026-27 Code of Conduct as presented during the public hearing on July 8, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-48)

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve consent items 1-4:

1. To accept minutes from the July 8, 2026 regular meeting;
2. To approve financial Reports - Claim Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements;
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.
4. To acknowledge Food Service bids for the 2026-27 school year.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-49)

NEW BUSINESS – OTHER

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse a motion to authorize the 2026-27 Tax Levy per the attached memorandum from Laura Rafferty, Business Official.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-50)

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM TAX ROLLS AND AUTHORIZE TAX LEVY

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TAX LEVY:

WHEREAS the Board of Education has been authorized by the voters at the Annual School Meeting to raise for the current budget of the 2026-2027 school year a sum not to exceed 40,488,222 ;

BOARD OF EDUCATION
APPROVED
DATE: 8/4/26

WHEREAS the Board of Education is expecting unexpended funds in an estimated amount of 2,141,517 of which a total of 1,600,000 including appropriated reserves is appropriated toward the 2026-2027 budget;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board set the amount of the TAX LEVY at 28,831,591.00 for the 2026-2027 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board fix the equalized tax rates by towns and confirm the extension of taxes as they appear on the following described roll:

TOWNS	TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUES BY TOWN	EQUALIZED TAX RATE BY TOWN	DISTRIBUTED LEVY
COLUMBIA:	\$ 620,767,078.00		\$ 8,052,332.13
ANCRAM	\$ 298,631,845.00	\$ 9.380908	\$ 2,801,437.85
CLERMONT	\$ 41,536,870.00	\$ 9.383115	\$ 389,745.21
GALLATIN	\$ 223,281,855.00	\$ 16.171975	\$ 3,610,908.68
LIVINGSTON	\$ 57,316,508.00	\$ 21.812920	\$ 1,250,240.38
DUTCHESS:	\$ 2,214,875,622.00		\$ 20,774,976.52
CLINTON	\$ 71,718,923.00	\$ 9.381476	\$ 672,829.38
MILAN	\$ 330,198,017.00	\$ 9.379844	\$ 3,097,206.04
NORTHEAST	\$ 170,645,109.00	\$ 9.379069	\$ 1,600,492.18
PINE PLAINS	\$ 615,911,634.00	\$ 9.379580	\$ 5,776,992.65
STANFORD	\$ 1,026,401,939.00	\$ 9.379811	\$ 9,627,456.27
TOTAL	\$ 2,835,642,700.00		\$ 28,827,308.65
Omitted Taxes - Dutchess			\$ 4,282.35
Omitted Taxes - Columbia			-
TOTAL LEVY			\$ 28,831,591.00

AND BE IT HEREBY directed that the tax warrant of this Board, duly signed, shall be affixed by the above-described tax rolls authorizing the collection of said taxes exclusive of the STAR program, to begin on **September 1, 2026** and end on **November 2, 2026** giving the tax warrant an effective period of sixty (60) days at the expiration of which time the tax collector shall make an accounting in writing to the Board.

AND IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED THAT the delinquent tax penalty shall be fixed as follows:

September 1, 2026 – October 1, 2026: PENALTY-FREE PERIOD

October 2, 2026 – November 2, 2026: Interest of two percent (2%) added

Two (2) payment installments election for taxpayers of Dutchess County:

Five percent (5%) service charge on each installment, paid with each installment of school taxes; First installment due by September 15, 2026. Second installment due by March 15, 2027. Second installment may not be paid until the first installment, plus any interest due, has been paid. After March 15, 2027 penalty and interest shall accrue pursuant to Real Property Law, 924A.

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

MOTION CONCERNING TAX WARRANT

2026-2027

SCHOOL YEAR

MOTION MADE BY: James Griffin

SECONDED BY: Fred Couse

BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

To the collector of the Pine Plains Central School District No. 1 the Towns of Clinton, Milan, Northeast, Pine Plains, Stanford, Ancram, Clermont, Gallatin, and Livingston; Counties of Dutchess and Columbia in the State of New York.

You are hereby commanded

1. To give notice to start collection on **September 1, 2026** in accordance with the provisions of Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.
2. To give notice that tax collection will end **November 2, 2026**.
3. To collect taxes in the total sum of **28,831,591.00** less the STAR reimbursement amount as provided by the appropriate governmental authority, in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect Town and County taxes in accordance with the provisions of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.
4. To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the attached tax rolls, but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant in tax roll for corrections of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions in Section 1316 of the Real Property Tax Law.
5. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax rolls within 10 days after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on the property on press-numbered tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of Section 922 of the Real Property Tax Law, as well as a statement to taxpayers of Dutchess County that the taxes may be paid in two (2) installments, the first installment due and payable by September 15, 2026, together with a service charge in the amount of five percent (5%) of the first installment, to be paid to the School District, and the second installment due and payable by March 15, 2027, together with a service charge in the amount of five percent (5%) of the second installment, to be paid to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance. To forward by mail without interest penalties to the Office of the County Treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax roll in accordance with provisions of Section 540 and 544 of the Real Property Tax Law.
6. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sums listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period but with a service charge in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total school tax if the taxpayer opts to pay such school taxes in installments and to account for such sums on account of such charge as income due Dutchess County. To add two percent (2%) interest penalties to all taxes collected after October 1, 2026 and account for such sums as income due to the School District.
7. To issue press-numbered receipts only on forms provided by the school district in acknowledgment of receipt of payment of taxes and to retain and preserve and file exact carbon copies of all such receipts issued as required by Section 987 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

8. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by Town the total assessed evaluation, tax rate, total tax levy, total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The warrant is issued pursuant to Sections 910, 912, and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Sections 1306 and 1318 of this Law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the Board of Education. The warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or an extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 1318, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law.

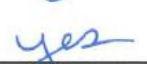
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

VOTE


Amie Fredericks

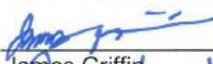



Fred "Chip" Couse, Jr.




Amie Buehler

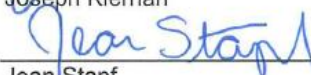



James Griffin




Joseph Kiernan




Jean Stapf



Vacant



Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to authorize the following budget transfers:

1. \$251,280.68
2. \$506,234.01

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-51)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse 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 2025 Capital Project, Phase 1, as presented to the Board at this meeting:

Project 009-021 Change Order 001 - \$20,750 Fencing for Tennis Court

Project 009-021 Change Order 002 - \$20,115 ADA Parking and Regrade of Tennis Court

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-52)

Mr. Couse praised Mike McCarthy for his work as the Clerk of the Works. Mr. Griffin asked there would be a dedication for the new score board?

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following change order in connection with the 2025 Capital Project, Phase 1, as presented to the Board at this meeting:

Project 009-021 Change Order 003 – Track & D Zone (Drainage) \$50,698.34

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-53)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to declare the following vehicles as surplus per the memorandum from Laura Rafferty, Business Official as presented at this meeting.

Vehicle	Year Built	Model	Current Mileage	VIN Number	Reason	Recommendation	Date of Surplus
#221	2014	Dodge Grand Caravan	160,948	2C4RDGBG2ER170677	Age, High Mileage, Fair Condition	SURPLUS	8/4/2026
#227	2016	Bluebird Vision – Diesel	152,476	1BAKDCPA4GF319917	Age, High Mileage, Fair Condition	SURPLUS	8/4/2026
#228	2016	Bluebird Vision – Diesel	172,984	1BAKDCPA6GF319918	Age, High Mileage, Fair Condition	SURPLUS	8/4/2026
#232	2016	Chevy MicroBird – Gas	184,998	1GB3G3BG5F1277514	Age, High Mileage, Fair Condition	SURPLUS	8/4/2026
#235	2016	Ford MicroBird - Gas	155,388	1FDEE4FL4GDC24189	Age, High Mileage, Fair Condition	SURPLUS	8/4/2026
#236	2016	Ford MicroBird - Gas	165,237	1FDEE4FL0GDC24190	Age, High Mileage, Fair Condition	SURPLUS	8/4/2026

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-54)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to declare equipment as obsolete per the attached memoranda.

- Nautilus SM916 (Seymour)
- Telescope & Metal Cabinet (Stissing)
- Snapple Machine (Stissing)
- Scholastic Shared Reading student readers (Cold Spring: Repurposed)
- 20 metal student desks that are aged and worn 20 student chairs with broken bottoms that scratch the floors 4 trapezoid tables that are aged and worn (Cold Spring)

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-55)

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the District and Dutchess Community College concerning a concurrent enrollment program effective September 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, as presented to the Board at this meeting.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-56)

NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to appoint Brendan Sheehan to the position of Long-Term Leave for the position of Special Education Teacher effective September 3, 2026 through June 30, 2027 at Step A1 of the PPFE 2026-27 Salary Schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-57)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to appoint Jennifer Brangan to the position of Typist, a competitive class civil service position, for a twenty-six week probationary period, effective August 5, 2026 at a salary of 11 per the SRP salary schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-58)

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Rebekka Johnson from the position of Teacher Aide, effective August 31, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-59)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Jacqueline Brousseau from the position of Food Service Helper, effective June 30, 2026.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-60)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to appoint Jennifer Lydon as the Substitute Caller for the 2026-27 school year with a stipend of \$4,659.72.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-61)

Mr. Couse asked what the status of staffing for the 2026-27 school year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD COMMENT

The Board of Education discussed the creation of the Board Goals for the 2026-27 school year.

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

ADJOURN

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:31 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-62)

Respectfully submitted,

Julia W. Tomaine,
District Clerk