

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amie Fredericks, President
Fred Couse, Jr. , Vice President
Amie Buehler
James Griffin, absent
Heidi Johnson
Joseph Kiernan
Jean Stapf

ALSO PRESENT:

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

OPEN MEETING

The public hearing and the Board of Education took a five-minute recess. The regular meeting was called to order at 6:44 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

None

REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

The Audit – Financial Planning Committee met on August 18, 2026; minutes were presented.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Timm discussed the following topics:

1. Auctions International – Dr. Timm shared that the district excessed buses with Auctions International and the auction results were disappointing compared to last year’s auction. The district is not going to accept the bids at this time and put the buses up for auction at a later date.
2. Upcoming Dates – Dr. Timm discussed the upcoming school calendar and explained that with the new mandatory state holidays and the late Labor Day holiday, the

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026

Superintendent's Conference Day was being held before Labor Day this year and that it was a tight calendar this year with only four snow days built into the calendar.

3. Athletics – Dr. Timm discussed the status of the track and if the first home football game would be able to be held on September 10th.

OLD BUSINESS

none

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve consent items 2-3:

2. To accept minutes from the August 18, 2026 regular meeting;
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.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-77)

NEW BUSINESS – OTHER

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve the 2026-27 Board of Education Goals:

Academic Excellence

1. Successfully conclude CBAs with PPFE and PPSRP
2. Increase BOE presence at events to foster better understanding of District and Community needs

Student Experience

1. Communicate highlights throughout the district
2. Encourage student involvement at BOE meetings

Community Connection

1. Craft a budget for the 2027-2028 school year under the tax cap
2. Create an educational forum to simplify the relationship between the annual Budget tax increase and the tax warrant increase
3. Have quarterly conversations at the Board table about agreed upon financial metrics

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-78)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the following Superintendent's Goals for the 2026-27 school year:

1. Create a staffing outline aligned with budgetary concerns while developing a fiscally responsible budget at or below the tax cap for the 2027-28 school year
2. Highlight unique opportunities PPCSD provides in the areas of Academic Excellence, Student Experience and Community Connections

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026

There was a discussion regarding waiting to approve the goals until after the decision of closing a school building was decided as it may impact the goals.

Mr. Couse moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to table the resolution to approve the Superintendent's Goals for the 2026-27 school year.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-79)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education determines that it is in the interest of the School District to lease certain space at the Cold Spring Early Learning Center to the Anderson Center for Autism, which space is not needed currently for School District purposes; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President is hereby authorized to execute a one (1) year Lease Agreement dated September 1, 2026, to be effective from September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027, between the School District and Anderson Central for Autism, for certain space at the Cold Spring Early Learning Center, at the rates as set forth in said Agreement. A copy of said Agreement, as presented to the Board at this meeting, shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-80)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve the attached agreement between the district and Millbrook Audiology for the 2026-27 school year for the purpose of providing audiological support services for district students at an hourly rate of \$450.00 as presented at this meeting.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-81)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to accept the engagement letter with RBT for the purpose of the year end audit of the financial statements for the district and extra-curricular activities accounts.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-82)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to approve the following District Plans:

1. AIS Plan
2. School Counseling Plan
3. Professional Development Plan

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-83)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the Public School Fire Safety Reports as presented on September 2, 2026. Additionally, it is noted that legal notice will be published at least once in newspapers of record.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-84)

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026

NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to appoint Joanmarie Dragonetti as a long term leave replacement for the position of Special Education Teacher for the 2026-27, effective September 3, 2026 through June 30, 2027 at step A1 of the PPFE Salary Schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-85)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals as mentors for the 2026-27 school year:

-Jennifer Griffin

-Christina Ehret-Gaedje

-Shawn Maher

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-86)

Mr. Couse moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to approve the following resolutions:

1. To accept the resignation of Christy Hall from the position of Food Service Helper pending her appointment to the position of Senior Food Service Helper (part-time), effective August 31, 2026.

2. To appoint Christy Hall to the position of Senior Food Service Helper (pt), a non-competitive class civil service position, for a twenty-six week probationary period, effective September 1, 2026 at Step 11 of the 2026-27 SRP Salary schedule.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-87)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Kiernan seconded a motion the following individuals as extra-curricular advisors for the 2026-27 school year:

<i>Tier</i>	<i>Extra-Curricular</i>	<i>Stipend</i>	<i>Building</i>	<i>Advisor</i>
Ag / Drama	Ag Day Advisor	\$2,000	Stissing	Jennifer Lydon
Ag / Drama	Auditorium and Stage Technical Director	\$2,000	Stissing	Alec Sisco
Ag / Drama	FFA Advisor	\$5,000	Stissing	Stephanie Rhoades
Ag / Drama	Music and Vocal Director	\$3,500	Stissing	Alec Sisco
Ag / Drama	Theater Director - Fall	\$6,500	Stissing	Greg Locker
Ag / Drama	Theater Director - Spring	\$6,500	Stissing	Alec Sisco
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 6	\$650	Stissing	Greta Anderson
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 6	\$650	Stissing	Kerri Lyman
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 7	\$650	Stissing	Kerri Seidel
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 7	\$650	Stissing	Samantha Lydon

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026

Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 8	\$650	Stissing	Jill Simmons
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 8	\$650	Stissing	Brendan LoBrutto
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 9	\$650	Stissing	Kim Antal
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 9	\$650	Stissing	Scott Dell'Amore
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 11	\$1,750	Stissing	Julie Zengen
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 11	\$1,750	Stissing	Jennifer Griffin
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 12	\$1,750	Stissing	Stephanie Rhoades
Class Advisors	Class Co-Advisor - Grade 12	\$1,750	Stissing	Jennifer Blackburn
Other	EF Travel Club	Volunteer	Stissing	Ryan Orton
Tier 1	Ag Day Exhibits Coordinator	\$1,000	Stissing	Hailey McCord
Tier 1	Art Show Exhibits Co-Coordinator	\$500	Stissing	Kaitlyn Niznik
Tier 1	Art Show Exhibits Co-Coordinator	\$500	Stissing	Shana Smith
Tier 1	Arts in Education Coordinator	\$1,000	Stissing	Jennifer Blackburn
Tier 1	Awards Program Coordinator	\$1,000	Stissing	Meg Winters
Tier 1	Board Games (CS)	\$1,000	Cold Spring	Maureen Canevari
Tier 1	Board Games (SS)	\$1,000	Seymour	Jennifer Macri
Tier 1	DCMEA / NYSSMA Elementary Advisor	\$1,000	Seymour	Amanda Pollizatto
Tier 1	DCMEA / NYSSMA Secondary Advisor	\$1,000	Stissing	Erin Fowler
Tier 1	Digital Photography Club	\$1,000	Stissing	Craig Morton
Tier 1	Fiber Arts	\$1,000	Seymour	Erin Essery
Tier 1	First Responders Club	\$1,000	Stissing	Michael Cooper
Tier 1	Inside-Out Club (SS)	\$1,000	Seymour	Amber Rennie
Tier 1	Lego Club (CS)	\$1,000	Cold Spring	Maureen Canevari
Tier 1	Math Club (SS)	\$1,000	Seymour	Jennifer Macri
Tier 1	Mathematics Honor Society	\$1,000	Stissing	Jennifer Griffin
Tier 1	Mindfulness Club (SS)	\$1,000	Seymour	Jennifer Macri

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026

Tier 1	Newspaper Advisor (SS)	\$1,000	Seymour	Jennifer McCord
Tier 1	Nurture Nature Club Co-Advisor (CS)	\$500	Cold Spring	Elizabeth Murray
Tier 1	Nurture Nature Club Co-Advisor (CS)	\$500	Cold Spring	Amy Duncan
Tier 1	Peer and Community Connection Advisor (SM)	\$500	Stissing	Brittany Cruickshank
Tier 1	Peer and Community Connection Co-Advisor (SM)	\$500	Stissing	Jessica Wisniewski
Tier 1	Sci Fi Club Advisor	\$1,000	Stissing	Scott Dell'Amore
Tier 1	Science Club - Co-Advisor (CS)	\$500	Cold Spring	Elizabeth Murray
Tier 1	Science Club - Co-Advisor (CS)	\$500	Cold Spring	Amy Duncan
Tier 1	Theater Arts Club	\$1,000	Seymour	Heather Dell'Amore
Tier 1	Yoga Club (SS)	\$1,000	Seymour	Amanda Pollizatto
Tier 2	BomberNation Buddies Co-Advisor	\$667	Stissing	Pam Benziger
Tier 2	BomberNation Buddies Co-Advisor	\$667	Stissing	Maria Lombardo
Tier 2	BomberNation Buddies Co-Advisor	\$667	Stissing	Christa Brenner
Tier 2	Intramural Program (SS)	\$2,000	Seymour	Jeremy Weber
Tier 2	Key Club Advisor	\$2,000	Stissing	John Schoonmaker
Tier 2	Literary Magazine Advisor	\$2,000	Stissing	Kim Lyman
Tier 2	National Honor Society Co-Advisor	\$1,000	Stissing	Jennifer Griffin
Tier 2	National Honor Society Co-Advisor	\$1,000	Stissing	Ryan Orton
Tier 2	S.A.D.D. / SUCCESS Co-Advisor	\$1,000	Stissing	Gabby Baker
Tier 2	S.A.D.D. / SUCCESS Co-Advisor	\$1,000	Stissing	Jessica Wisniewski
Tier 2	Student Activities Co-Coordinator (HS)	\$1,000	Stissing	Gabby Baker
Tier 2	Student Activities Co-Coordinator (HS)	\$1,000	Stissing	Ryan Orton
Tier 2	Student Activities Co-Coordinator (Jr HS)	\$1,000	Stissing	Gabby Baker
Tier 2	Student Activities Co-Coordinator (Jr HS)	\$1,000	Stissing	Ryan Orton

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026

Tier 2	Student Council Advisor (SS)	\$2,000	Seymour	Jennifer McCord
Tier 2	Yearbook Co-Advisor (SS)	\$666.67	Seymour	April Stark
Tier 2	Yearbook Co-Advisor (SS)	\$666.67	Seymour	Heather Berardo
Tier 2	Yearbook Co-Advisor (SS)	\$666.67	Seymour	Jenesis Campbell
Tier 3	Broadcasting	\$4,000	Stissing	Nick Dean
Tier 3	FCCLA	\$4,000	Stissing	Jennifer Blackburn
Tier 3	Mock Trial Co-Advisor (HS)	\$2,000	Stissing	Ryan Orton
Tier 3	Mock Trial Co-Advisor (HS)	\$2,000	Stissing	John Schoonmaker
Tier 3	Yearbook Co-Advisor (HS)	\$2,000	Stissing	Craig Morton
Tier 3	Yearbook Co-Advisor (HS)	\$2,000	Stissing	Sue Lydon

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-88)

PUBLIC COMMENT

A member of the community brought a concern regarding school bus safety. There was a lengthy discussion on an issue concerning vehicles passing stopped school buses. Columbia County does not participate in the Stop-Arm Camera System.

BOARD COMMENT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Griffin moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to enter into executive session to for legal advice from the school attorney at 7:07 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-89)

Mrs. Stapf moved and Mr. Couse seconded a motion to return to public session at 8:12 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-90)

ADJOURN

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:13 pm.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2026/27-91)

Respectfully submitted,

Julia W. Tomaine,
District Clerk