

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
POCANTICO HILLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
599 Bedford Road
Pocantico Hills
Sleepy Hollow, New York 10591**

Discussion Meeting
Tuesday, April 23, 2013

The Discussion Meeting of the Board of Education of the Pocantico Hills Central School District was held on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 6:36 p.m. in the school Library, Bedford Road, Sleepy Hollow, New York.

On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education opened the Discussion Meeting at 6:36 p.m. The motion was passed (5-0). **CALL TO ORDER**

On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education moved into Executive Session at 6:37 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular individual and collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law. The motion was passed (5-0). **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Present: John Conrad, President
David Wilens, Vice President
Joan Cusanelli, Trustee
Fred Rickles, Trustee
Emily Segal, Trustee **ROLL CALL**

Also Present: Valencia F. Douglas, Superintendent
Jay Scotto-Friedman, Assistant Superintendent
David Shaw, School Attorney (departed at 7:25 p.m.)

On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Vice President David Wilens the Board of Education adjourned from Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0). **ADJOURNMENT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

With no objection from the Board, President John Conrad called the Business Meeting to Order at 8:12 p.m. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Joan Cusanelli. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Present: John Conrad, President
David Wilens, Vice President
Joan Cusanelli, Trustee
Fred Rickles, Trustee
Emily Segal, Trustee **ROLL CALL**

Also Present: Valencia F. Douglas, Superintendent
Jay Scotto-Friedman, Assistant Superintendent
Gina L. Downes, District Clerk

Standards Committee Presentation: Superintendent Valencia Douglas **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

presented to the Board of Education a presentation on the results of the Standards Committee.

Standards Committee
Presentation

Correspondence: The Board of Education and Administration received three separate emails from Mary Pat Meyer & Adrian Kringas, Eric Knoff and Christine & Nick VanderEls requesting the pool hours be extended through the September weekends.

CORRESPONDENCE

Pool Hours Summer 2013: On a motion by Vice President David Wilens and seconded by Trustee Joan Cusanelli the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution as amended. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

NEW BUSINESS
Pool Hours Summer 2013

Pocantico Hills Pool Hours – Summer 2013

Memorial Day Weekend

Saturday, May 25 12 noon – 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 26 12 noon – 8:00 p.m.
Monday, May 27 12 noon – 8:00 p.m.

May 28th – June 23rd

Monday – Friday 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturdays/Sundays 12 noon – 8:00 p.m.

June 24th – June 30th

12 noon – 8:00 p.m.

July 1st – August 9th (after camp)

Monday – Friday 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Saturdays/Sundays 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m.

August 10th – August 30th

Monday – Sunday 12 noon – dusk

Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, August 31st 12 noon – dusk
Sunday, September 1st 12 noon – dusk
Monday, September 2nd 12 noon – dusk

September Weekends

Saturday, September 7th 12 noon – dusk *
Sunday, September 8th 12 noon – dusk *
Saturday, September 14th 12 noon – dusk *
Sunday, September 15th 12 noon – dusk *
Saturday, September 21st 12 noon – dusk *
Sunday, September 22nd 12 noon – dusk *
Saturday, September 28th 12 noon – dusk *
Sunday, September 29th 12 noon – dusk *

* The pool will be open weekends in September subject to the District’s ability to hire qualified lifeguards in sufficient numbers, and also subject to weather conditions.

Discussion on Awards Dinner: The Board of Education received recommendations from the Superintendent and Principal for the middle school awards dinner.

Hearing From Those Present: There were no comments from the community.

Board/Superintendent Announcements: The following announcements were made by Superintendent Valencia Douglas:

- Thank you to the PTA for a successful Family Rec Night on Friday, April 19th. Members of the foundation were also on hand to present the winners of the Reading Challenge with their Kindles. Thank you again; we look forward to the next Family Rec Night being held on Friday, May 31st.
- Our New York State Math Assessment exam begins tomorrow (April 24th) for grades 3 through 8 and runs through Friday, April 26th. We ask parents to please be sure to have the children get to bed early and eat a good breakfast.
- Just a reminder - Tuesday, April 30th is a Superintendent's conference day. There will be no school for students on that day.
- Our first spring concert will be held on Wednesday, May 1. Grades 1 & 2 will perform at 6:00 p.m. and grades 3 & 4 will perform at 7:00 p.m. The middle school concert will be held on Wednesday, May 8th beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- Another reminder - Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten Orientation is coming and is scheduled for Thursday, May 2nd. If you have a child who will be turning 4 by December 1, 2013, they will be eligible for Pre-Kindergarten at Pocantico Hills beginning in September 2013. Please contact the School Principal, Stan Steele, (914-631-2440 x112) to register your child in the program.
- Our 8th graders will be hosting their Art Show on Friday, May 3rd between 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. at the Landmark Building in Tarrytown. We hope you can join us to see the wonderful paintings our 8th grade class has worked so hard on.
- At our May 7th Board of Education meeting, Mrs. Pietrangelo and Ms. Garrido will have their 5th and 6th grade students present on the Reading Workshop model that they have been implementing. The students read both fiction and non-fiction (or historical fiction) and write about their reading by choosing from a menu of prompts that assist in reading comprehension and address the common core. Reading Workshop helps to foster a love of reading and gives students the change to practice reading strategies independently and with guidance. The students will be sharing their thoughts about Reading Workshop, as well as their favorite books.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on Awards Dinner

HEARING FROM THOSE PRESENT

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The 8th graders will be presenting their Autobiographies on Thursday, May 9th beginning at 6:30 p.m. We hope you can join us!
- Don't forget to vote – Tuesday, May 21st in the school library between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. If you aren't registered to vote, please see Gina Downes, our District Clerk in the main office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Last day to register is Thursday, May 16th. Also, thank you to our two incumbents, Emily Segal and Fred Rickles, for running for the Board for another three-year term.

President John Conrad congratulated Dr. Douglas for being asked to serve on the Board for the Lower Hudson Council of Administrative Women in Education as President-elect. Dr. Douglas has accepted this position and will serve a two-year term beginning in September of 2013.

Also, President John Conrad noted that the Town of Greenburgh Tax Assessor will be at our May 7th Board of Education meeting beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved the April 9, 2013 Business Meeting minutes as amended. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
April 9, 2013

Financial Reports: On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Emily Segal the Board of Education voted to accept the following Financial Reports. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

FINANCIAL REPORTS
Treasurer's Report,
Disbursement Warrants, Claims
Auditor Reports, Budget Status
Report and Revenue Status
Report

Treasurer's Report – March 2013
Disbursement Warrant – November 2012, December 2012, January 2013, February 2013, March 2013
Claims Auditor Report – December 2012, January 2013, February 2013
Budget Status Report – March 2013
Revenue Status Report – March 2013

Budget Work Session: The Board of Education discussed the Draft 2013-2014 school budget.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Budget Work Session

Safety Review: The Board of Education and Administration had a review of the District's safety plan in conjunction with the budget work session.

Safety Review

Property Tax Report Card and Budget Adoption 2013-2014: On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

NEW BUSINESS
Property Tax Report Card and
Budget Adoption 2013-2014

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it resolved that a budget in the amount of \$29,392,667 be adopted for the 2013-2014 school year. Be it further resolved that the Property Tax Report Card for the 2013-2014 school year be approved. Be it further resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that a contingent budget in the amount of \$28,777,481 be adopted.

Adoption of BOCES 2013-2014 Estimated Administrative Budget: On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

OLD BUSINESS
Adoption of BOCES 2013-2014
Estimated Administrative
Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, that it is hereby moved that the 2013-2014 Estimated Administrative Budget for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in the amount of \$9,071,683 to be approved by roll call.

John Conrad, President – Yes
David Wilens, Vice President – Yes
Joan Cusanelli, Trustee – Yes
Fred Rickles, Trustee – Yes
Emily Segal, Trustee – Yes

Adoption of Three (3) Trustees to Serve on the BOCES Board: On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

Adoption of Three (3) Trustees
to Serve on the BOCES Board

BE IT RESOLVED, that it is hereby moved that three votes by case, one for Joseph Wooley, one for Lynn Frazer-McBride and one for Catherine Draper to serve as Trustees on the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the time period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016 by roll call.

John Conrad, President – Yes
David Wilens, Vice President – Yes
Joan Cusanelli, Trustee – Yes
Fred Rickles – Yes
Emily Segal – Yes

Superintendent's Goals: On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Vice President David Wilens the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

NEW BUSINESS
Superintendent's Goals

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pocantico Hills Board of Education accept the Superintendent's Goals for the 2012-2013 school year.

Election Inspectors and Permanent Chairperson: On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Trustee Joan Cusanelli the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

Election Inspectors and
Permanent Chairperson

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following be appointed to serve as Election Inspectors for the May 21, 2013 Annual Election.

Election Inspectors:
Sharon Rubeo - \$17.61/hour
Sharon Cincotta - \$17.61/hour

Marcia Finsmith - \$17.61/hour
 Maria Praino - \$17.61/hour
 Linda Brouard – included in salary
 Jane Walter – included in salary

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that that Board of Education appoints Emily Segal as Permanent Chairperson for the purpose of declaring the pools open/closed for the May 21, 2013 School Board Election and Budget Vote.

Donation: On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0). Donation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pocantico Hills Central School District Board of Education accept the donation of two (2) Kindles from an anonymous donor valued at \$169.64 for students who participated in the Reading Challenge.

Tax Certiorari Refund: On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Trustee Joan Cusanelli the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0). Tax Certiorari Refund

WHEREAS, petitions having been filed by the property owner, below challenging real property tax assessments on the assessment roll of the Town of Greenburgh, within the Pocantico Hills Central School District, with respect to the following property:

Property Owner	Address/Description	Year(s)
Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc.	111-115 Fairview Park Drive Tax ID: 7.110-14-5, 7.60-3-1	2007-2011

WHEREAS, petitioner’s tax certiorari proceedings are now pending in Supreme Court, Westchester County; and

WHEREAS, the Town and the property owner have reached a resolution with regard to the assessments at issue in the tax certiorari proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the School District has reviewed the settlement and has found that the terms of the settlement are reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the settlement is subject to the three year moratorium on future petitions as provided in Real Property Tax Law Section 727; and

WHEREAS, the settlement of these proceedings are in the best interests of the School District;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Special Counsel for Tax Certiorari are authorized to execute a settlement on behalf of the School District as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Original AV</u>	<u>Reduced AV</u>	<u>AV Reduction</u>
2007	DISCONTINUED AS PER RPTL 727		
2008	1,230,320	834,720	395,600
2009	1,230,320	811,250	419,070
2010	1,230,320	804,000	426,320

2011	1,308,320	784,300	524,020
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The refund of School District taxes will amount to \$473,525.77.

Corrective Action Plan – Human Relations Special Internal Audit: On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Vice President David Wilens the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

Corrective Action Plan –
Human Relations Special
Internal Audit

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pocantico Hills Central School District Board of Education hereby approves the Corrective Action Plan in response to the 2012-2013 Special Human Relations Audit.

Installment Purchase Agreement: On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

Installment Purchase Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pocantico Hills Central School District Board of Education approve the attached resolution, and authorize the School Board President to execute the contract between Pocantico Hills CSD and Southern Westchester BOCES for the three year Installment Purchase Agreement for the school years 2013-2017.

Personnel: On a motion by Vice President David Wilens and seconded by Trustee Joan Cusanelli the Board of Education voted and approved the following personnel by consent. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

PERSONNEL

Appointments

Name: Ryan Nastasi
Title: Substitute Teacher
Rate: \$90/day
Term: April 8, 2013 – March 17, 2014

Name: Denise Vigna
Title: Substitute Nurse
Rate: \$90/day
Term: April 24, 2013 – June 30, 2013

Resignations

Name: Ryan Nastasi
Title: Part-Time Teacher Aide
Rate: \$57.12/day
Term: April 5, 2013

Name: Marcia Finsmith
Title: School and Bus Monitor
Effective Date: April 19, 2013

Child Rearing Leave

Name: Nicole Marples
Leave: Unpaid Child Rearing Leave
Term: September 3, 2013 – December 13, 201

Discussion/Planning for Future Meetings: The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7th at 8:00 p.m. in the Library. There will be a presentation from middle school teachers Laura Garrido and MaryBeth Pietrangelo, the Greenburgh Town Assessor will be present for a presentation and there will be a public hearing for the school budget.

**DISCUSSION/PLANNING
FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Adjournment of Business Meeting: There being no further business, on a motion by Vice President Dave Wilens and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education adjourned the Discussion Meeting at 11:45 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

**ADJOURNMENT OF
DISCUSSION MEETING**

Respectfully submitted,
Gina L. Downes
District Clerk

John Conrad, School Board President

Date: _____

Gina L. Downes, District Clerk

Date: _____