

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

Discussion Meeting
Tuesday, February 26, 2013

The Discussion Meeting of the Board of Education of the Pocantico Hills Central School District was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at 6:35 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 6:35 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed (4-0). **CALL TO ORDER**

On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education moved to Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual at 6:36 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed (4-0). **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Also Present: Valencia F. Douglas, Superintendent
Jay Scotto-Friedman, Assistant Superintendent

Absent: David Wilens

On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education adjourned from Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed (4-0). **ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

With no objection from the Board of Education, Board President John Conrad called the Discussion meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the middle school students. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Present: John Conrad, 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

Absent: David Wilens, Vice President

Hearing From Those Present: There were no comments from the community. **HEARING FROM THOSE PRESENT**

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

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

- DARE graduation will be held on Thursday, February 28th at 1:15 in the Auditorium.
- Our first neighborhood budget meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12th at the Westchester Hills Condominium Recreation Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m. We are working on scheduling two more community budget meetings at the Firehouse in Pocantico.
- The Foundation Fundraiser, “Something’s Brewing at Pocantico”, will be held on Saturday, March 16th at The Captain Lawrence Brewery in Elmsford beginning at 7:30 p.m. Look forward to seeing everyone there!
- Spring recess begins on Tuesday, March 26th through Friday, March 29th. Please note that due to hurricane Sandy and the recent winter storm we lost three days (March 22nd, March 25th and April 1st) of the original spring recess.
- This year’s reading challenge has begun. For the next 6 weeks we ask you to help make reading a priority in your home. Ms. Gordon will track weekly “outside of school reading minutes” using the “Pocantico Power Readers Program” – an online program that student’s access and enter their data. We want to thank the PTA and Foundation for helping to sponsor this great event, and we would like to thank the Foundation for donating 4 kindles to raffle off at the end of the challenge.
- Please note that there have been a couple of errors on the School Calendar relating to the School Budget Vote and School Board Election. (1) The calendar states the petitions are due on Monday, April 15th. The actual date the petitions are due is Monday, April 22nd. (2) The date of the school budget vote and school board election is also incorrect. The correct date of the vote is Tuesday, May 21st. We apologize for these errors.
- School Board petitions are available in the District Clerk’s office if anyone is interested in running for the School Board. There are two seats open.
- I will be attending the NYSCOSS Winter Institute and Lobby Day this coming Monday and Tuesday in Albany. I will be meeting with various State Senators and Assemblymen, along with many Superintendent’s throughout the area.

Black History Month: The Board of Education received two presentations from the middle school students. Mrs. DiMartino’s 7th grade ELA class

CORRESPONDENCE

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Black History Month

presented The Harlem Renaissance by Langston Hughes and Mrs. Mancini's 8th grade Spanish class presented Dreams and a translation.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved the Business Meeting minutes of February 12, 2013 as amended. The motion was unanimously passed (4-0).

Budget Work Session: The Board of Education received a presentation from Jay Scotto Friedman, Assistant Superintendent; Valencia Douglas, Superintendent; and Stan Steele, Principal on the 2013-2014 proposed school budget.

WPSBA By-Laws Amendment: 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 (4-0).

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Pocantico Hills Central School District of Sleepy Hollow, County of Westchester, State of New York, be and hereby approves the 2013 Proposed Bylaws for the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association, as presented.

And, be it further RESOLVED, that the District Clerk of the Board of Education be and hereby is authorized to complete the ballot on behalf of the Board of Education: and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Administrative Recommendations on the School Lunch Program: On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education voted and approved the following recommendations. The motion was unanimously passed (4-0).

1. Do not operate the school lunch program within the requirements of the National School Lunch Program
2. Present a price increase for lunch to \$3.00 for the Board of Education considerations beginning September 2013.
3. Maintain the current Assistant Cook as the program employee, and consider additional training as needed.
4. Increase the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) of Assistant Cook from .6 to 1.0 FTE – completed 1/23/13.
5. Prepare lunches on site.
6. Investigate alternate point of sale cash registering systems.
7. Investigate alternative uses of vending machines.
8. Implement a lunch committee comprised of students, parents and

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
February 12, 2013

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Budget Work Session

NEW BUSINESS
WPSBA By-Laws Amendment

Administrative
Recommendations on the
School Lunch Program

staff to achieve an increase in the number of lunches served to students, and the development of an appropriate menu

Title I – Professional Development Plan: 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 (4-0).

Title I – Professional Development Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2012-2013 Professional Development Plan for the Pocantico Hills Central School District is hereby approved by the Board of Education.

Policy Review: On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved Policy #1500 – Public Use of School Facilities. The motion was unanimously passed (4-0).

OLD BUSINESS
Policy Review

Appointments: On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education voted and approved the following appointments. The motion was unanimously passed (4-0).

PERSONNEL
Appointments

1. Appointments:

Name: Richard Lepore
Title: Baseball Coach
Term: Spring 2013
Rate: \$3,340

Name: Kaitlin Rodriguez
Title: Softball Coach
Term: Spring 2013
Rate: \$3,340

Name: Kaitlin Rodriguez
Title: 7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
Term: Winter 2012
Rate: \$3,340

Discussion/Planning for Future Meetings: The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5th at 8:00 p.m. in the Library. The first neighborhood budget meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12th at 7:30 p.m. at the Westchester Hills Condominium.

DISCUSSION/PLANNING FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Adjournment of Discussion Meeting: There being no further business, on a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Joan Cusanelli the Board of Education adjourned the Discussion Meeting at 10:55 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed (4-0).

ADJOURNMENT OF DISCUSSION MEETING

Respectfully submitted,
Gina L. Downes
District Clerk

John Conrad, School Board President

Date: _____

Gina L. Downes, District Clerk

Date: _____