

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

Discussion Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 2013

The Discussion Meeting of the Board of Education of the Pocantico Hills Central School District was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at 6:34 p.m. in the school Library, Bedford Road, Sleepy Hollow, New York.

On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Joan Cusanelli the Board of Education opened the Discussion Meeting at 6:34 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0). **CALL TO ORDER**

On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Vice President David Wilens the Board of Education moved into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular individual. The motion was unanimously 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
Stanley T. Steele, Principal

On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal 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 Discussion Meeting to Order at 8:12 p.m. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led Vice President David Wilens. **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

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

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please note that Spring recess begins on Wednesday, March 27th through Friday, March 29th. Due to Hurricane Sandy and the recent winter storm we lost the following days, March 25th, March 26th and April 1st of the original spring recess. Please note that the Superintendent's Conference Day scheduled for March 22nd has been moved to Tuesday, April 30th.
- 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. The petitions are due by 4:30 p.m. in the District Clerk's office on Monday April 22nd.
- Our School Play, The Little Mermaid Jr., is scheduled to open on Friday, April 5th at 7:30 p.m. and there will be two shows on Saturday, April 6th at 3:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. There will also be a dress rehearsal on Thursday, April 4th at 10:00 a.m. We look forward to seeing you all there.
- The PTA is hosting an author visit on Tuesday, April 9th – Charles Smith, Jr.
- Our New York State Assessment exams begin. The ELA Exam for grades 3 through 8 begins on Tuesday, April 16th and runs through Thursday, April 18th. The Math Exam for grades 3 through 8 begins on Wednesday, April 24th and runs through Friday, April 26th.
- Just a 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, to register your child in the program.
- 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 a 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.

President John Conrad made the following announcements:

Thank you to Patty Butter, David Zimmerman and the entire Foundation for a successful fundraising event this past Saturday.

The Board has received two comments regarding the lunch program: (1) “great program” and (2) “we have a lunch program”.

The deadline for private school transportation is Monday, April 1st. The form can be found on the front page of the website under the Bulletin Board.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Vice President David Wilens the Board of Education voted and approved the March 5, 2013 Business Meeting minutes as amended. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
March 5, 2013

Financial Reports: On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education accepted the Treasurer’s Report of January and February 2013. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

FINANCIAL REPORTS
Treasurer’s Report

Budget Work Session: The Board of Education and Administration had a discussion on the draft 2013-2014 school budget.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Budget Work Session

Old Business: On a motion by Vice President David Wilens and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved Policy #5695 – Students and Personal Electronic Devices as amended. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

OLD BUSINESS

School Calendar: The Board of Education discussed the calendar and made suggestions for the Administration to discuss with the PHTA. The calendar will be brought back to the April 9, 2013 Board of Education meeting for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS
School Calendar (2013-2014)

Proposal for Design Work Related to the Choral Room Wall: 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).

Proposal for Design Work
Related to the Choral Room
Wall

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pocantico Hills Central School District Board of Education hereby approves the attached Proposal for Work Related to Choral Room Wall from SAVIN Engineers, P.S. for a fee of \$10,800 plus construction management services as attached.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes Jay Scotto-Friedman, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Support Services to execute the Proposal for Work Related to Choral Wall from SAVIN Engineers, P.C.

Change Orders: On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education voted and approved the

Change Orders

following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the change orders for the reconstruction project contracts awarded on November 9, 2009 as follows:

Contractor: Arrow Steele Window
Original Contract: \$1,145,000
Prior Change Order: \$47,500
Current Change Order: \$5,000
New Contract Amount: \$1,197,500

Change order WC-002 is necessary to replace the glass panels with bronze anodized panels in 5 pair (10) doors. Total lites of glass replaced with panels is 20, 2 per door.

Contractor: Sisca Northeast, Inc.
Original Contract: \$5,155,023.00
Prior Change Order: \$403,045.06
Current Change Order: (\$15,547.18)
New Contract Amount: \$5,542,520.88

Change order GC-44 reflects a deduction to the contract for the remaining amount in the contract allowance.

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

PERSONNEL
Rescission of Resignation

Name: Marcia Finsmith
Title: Part-Time Clerk (.5 FTE)
Effective Date: March 6, 2013

This action supersedes and nullifies the action of the Board of education at the March 5, 2013 Board of Education Meeting. On March 11, 2013 the District received approval from Civil Service to create a second part-time clerk position.

Discussion/Planning for Future Meetings: The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9th at 8:00 p.m. in the Library.

**DISCUSSION/PLANNING
FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next neighborhood budget meetings are scheduled for Thursday, April 4th and Thursday, April 11th at the Hilltop Firehouse in Pocantico Hills beginning at 7:00 p.m. Trustee Joan Cusanelli and Vice President David Wilens will attend the meeting on April 4th and President John Conrad and Trustee Emily Segal will attend the meeting on April 11th.

The Board asked Jay Scotto-Friedman to get in touch with Paul Feiner and schedule him to present to the residents on the Town of Greenburgh property reassessments at a future board meeting after the budget vote.

A board member requested a discussion on sports alignment with the partner high schools.

Adjournment of Discussion Meeting: There being no further business, on a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education adjourned the Discussion Meeting at 10:40 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: _____