

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

Business Meeting
Wednesday, September 7, 2011

The Business Meeting of the Board of Education of the Pocantico Hills Central School District was held on Wednesday, September 7 at 8:01 p.m. in the school Library, Bedford Road, Sleepy Hollow, New York.

With no objections from the Board of Education President John Conrad opened the Business Meeting at 8:01 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

President John Conrad asked for a moment of silence to remember the victims of 9/11. Superintendent Valencia Douglas led the pledge of allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

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

Hearing From Those Present: A community member asked the Board of Education to consider a late request for transportation to a private school.

HEARING FROM THOSE PRESENT

Correspondence: Assistant Superintendent Jay Scotto-Friedman provided the Board of Education with a letter from a community member requesting late transportation to a private school.

CORRESPONDENCE

Board/Superintendent Announcements: Superintendent Douglas announced the following:

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pocantico Hills had a wonderful opening for the first day of school. The custodial staff did a wonderful job in preparing the school for opening day.

Thank you to the IT staff at BOCES for getting the teacher's up and running for the first day of school.

Due to the weather and flooding, the buses have been a little behind schedule.

Our new STEM, FACS and 7th & 8th Grade math teachers have had a great start.

Our new and improved calendar highlights our school, students and staff with

color pictures and a new format. The calendar is at the printer and we are hoping to have it in the homes for the week of September 19.

Orders are being placed for the lunch program and we are monitoring it closely.

On September 9, 2011 we will have a school-wide day of remembrance for the victims of 9/11. The children have asked to wear red, white and blue and at approximately 2:15 the entire staff will meet on the front lawn for a moment of silence, a reflection of 9/11 from Officer Valentino of the Mt. Pleasant Police Department, students will lower the flag to half mast while Mr. Lucadamo plays TAPS and then be dismissed at 2:45.

President John Conrad thanked the custodians for once again making Pocantico look spotless on the first day of school.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Trustee Joan Cusanelli the Board of Education voted and approved the August 23, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended. The motion was passed 4 yes and 1 abstention (Vice President David Wilens).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Appointments: On a motion by Trustee Fred Rickles and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved the following appointment. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

PERSONNEL Appointments

Name: Suzanne Schlanger
Title/Certification: Teacher of Deaf and Haring Impaired
Effective Date: September 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012
Salary: MA Step 1 \$61,290 prorated at \$18,386.86
FTE: .30

Denial of clearance of conditional clearance from the Commissioner of Education shall result in immediate termination of employment for the appointments listed above.

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

Name: Axa Joselyne Quijada
Title/Certification: Bilingual Teaching Assistant
Effective Date: September 7, 2011
Salary: Step 1 \$30,693 (prorated)
Probationary Period: September 7, 2011 – June 30, 2012
FTE: 1.0

Denial of clearance of conditional clearance from the Commissioner of Education shall result in immediate termination of employment for the appointments listed above.

On a motion by Trustee Joan Cusanelli and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved the following appointments. The motion was passed 4 yes and 1 no (Vice President David Wilens).

Stipend Appointments:

Name	Stipend	Amount*
Amie Doane	Girls Soccer	\$3,340
Oliver Buckle	Boys Soccer	\$1,670 (half of stipend – (split position)
Blake Burgess	Boys Soccer	\$1,670 (half of stipend – (split position)
Roberta McCann	Athletic Director	\$9,773
Maureen Gallery	Girls Volleyball	\$3,340

*** Amounts based upon Agreement between Pocantico Hills CSD and the Pocantico Hills Teachers Association July 1, 2010-June 30, 2012.**

Board of Education Liaisons: The Board of Education members have chosen to be liaisons for the following associations for the 2011-2012 school year:

OLD BUSINESS
Board of Education Liaisons

Briarcliff High School – Joan Cusanelli/Emily Segal
Pleasantville High School – David Wilens
Sleepy Hollow High School – Fred Rickles
Foundation – Joan Cusanelli
PTA – David Wilens/Emily Segal
Tax Ceriorari – John Conrad/David Wilens
Safety Committee – OPEN
Wellness Committee – OPEN
Westchester Putnam School Boards Association – Fred Rickles
Legislative Action Committee – Joan Cusanelli

Late Transportation Request: On a motion by President John Conrad and seconded by Vice President David Wilens the Board of Education voted and approved the resolution for denial of the late transportation request. The motion was passed 3 yes (John Conrad, David Wilens and Fred Rickles) and 2 no (Joan Cusanelli and Emily Segal).

NEW BUSINESS
Late Transportation Request

BE IT RESOLVED, that it is hereby moved that the Board of Education of the Pocantico Hills Central School District at Sleepy Hollow, New York deny the late transportation request for one student attending Ethical Culture Fieldstone since there is an identifiable cost associated with this late request.

Tax Certiorari Reserve: On a motion by Trustee David Wilens and seconded by Trustee Emily Segal the Board of Education voted and approved the following resolution. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

Tax Certiorari Reserve

BE IT RESOLVED, that funds set aside for claims against the fiscal year 2009 be applied to claims for the 2008 year in the amount of \$240,490.75.

At 9:25 p.m. the Board of Education recessed. The Board of Education returned to business at 9:28 p.m.

Recess

Cafeteria Bid: 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).

Cafeteria Bid

BE IT RESOLVED, that item numbers Pa1,Pa2,Pa3,Pa4,Pa5,Pa6,Pa7, Pa8, Pa9, Pa10, Pa11, Pa12, Pa13, Pa14, Pa15, Pa16, Pa17, Pa18, Pa19, Pa20, Pa21, Pa22,Pa23, P24,Pa25,Pa26, Pa27,Pa28,Pa29, Pa30,Pa31, Pa32, and Pa33 of the 2010-2011 Paper Bid are awarded to the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications Eastern Bag & Paper Group 200 Research Drive Milford, CT 06460.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that item numbers Da1, Da2, Da3 Da4, Da5, Da6, Da7, Da8, Da9, Da10, , Da17, Da18, Da19, Da20, Da21, Da22, Da23, Da24, Da25, Da26, Da27, Da28, Da29, Da30, Da31, Da32, Da33, Da34 and Da35 of the 2011-12 Dairy Bid are awarded to the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications, Diamond Dairy P.O. Box 990 Ossining NY 10562.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that item numbers Da11, Da12, Da13, Da14, Da15, Da16, are not awarded.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that it is hereby moved that the Pocantico Hills Central School District Board of Education hereby award the bid to supply and deliver milk for the period September 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 to the lowest responsible bidder, Diamond Dairy, Inc. 97 North Water Street Ossining, New York 10562, in accordance with the specifications stipulated by Pocantico Hills CSD as follows:

ITEM	UNIT	BID
White Milk	½ pint	\$.2393
Skim Milk	½ pint	\$.2188
1% Milk	½ pint	\$.2436

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)
50 Old Country Road, LLC	50 Old Country Road Volume 7, Sheet 18F, Block 1568, Lot 19, 7.190-60-23	2004-2010

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:

Year	Original AV	Reduced AV	AV Reduction
2004	29,800	23,000	6,800
2005	29,800	22,000	7,800
2006	29,800	21,000	8,800
2007	29,800	20,000	9,800
2008	29,800	20,000	9,800
2009	29,800	20,000	9,800
2010	29,800	20,000	9,800

The refund of School District taxes will amount to \$15,719.58±, subject to the 2011-2012 School tax rate.

Student Transportation Consulting Services: On a motion by President John Conrad and seconded by Trustee Joan Cusanelli the Board of Education voted on the proposal for an efficiency study on the District’s Transportation program. The motion was denied 1 yes and 4 no (Trustee Joan Cusanelli, Trustee Fred Rickles, Trustee Emily Segal and Vice President David Wilens).

Student Transportation Consulting Services

2011-2012 High School Contracts with Briarcliff Manor, Pleasantville and Tarrytown: On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education voted and approved the following estimated rates for the education of the district’s high school students. The motion was unanimously approved (5-0).

2011-2012 High School Contracts with Briarcliff Manor, Pleasantville and Tarrytown

School: Briarcliff High School
 Estimated Regular Rate 2011-2012: \$25,483
 Estimated Special Education Rate (2011-2012) \$59,928
 Estimated Total Budgeted (11-12) \$3,000,495
 Estimated # of Students (11-12) 86

School: Pleasantville High School
 Estimated Regular Rate 2011-2012: \$17,014
 Estimated Special Education Rate (2011-2012) \$66,540
 Estimated Total Budgeted (11-12) \$1,384,739
 Estimated # of Students (11-12) 49

School: Sleepy Hollow High School
 Estimated Regular Rate 2011-2012: \$15,750
 Estimated Special Education Rate (2011-2012) \$35,991
 Estimated Total Budgeted (11-12) \$205,576
 Estimated # of Students (11-12) 12

Discussion/Planning for Future Meetings: The Board of Education Retreat has been scheduled for Saturday, November 5 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Historic Hudson Valley.

**DISCUSSION/PLANNING
FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

There will be an Executive Session at the next Board Meeting (September 20, 2011) at 7:00 p.m. to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

Trustee Joan Cusanelli requested a presentation on Handwriting without Tears.

President John Conrad requested the dates of the Board meeting be put back on the agenda for review and possible date changes.

Adjournment: On a motion by Trustee Emily Segal and seconded by Trustee Fred Rickles the Board of Education adjourned the Business Meeting at 10:30 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed (5-0).

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,
Gina L. Downes
District Clerk

John Conrad, School Board President

Date: _____

Gina L. Downes, District Clerk

Date: _____