

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUTNAM VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
146 PEEKSKILL HOLLOW ROAD
PUTNAM VALLEY, NEW YORK 10579

TIME: 6:00pm
No. of Pages: 8

Type of Meeting:
Business Meeting

Date: Jan. 20, 2011

BOARD OF EDUCATION: President Valerie Fitzgerald
Vice President Guy Cohen
Trustee Joseph Ferraro
Trustee Jeanine Rufo
Trustee David Spittal

PRESENT

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Interim Supt.
Paul Lee, Asst. Supt. for Business & Finance
Vincent Burruano, Interim High School Principal (joined the meeting at 7:14pm)
Edward Hallisey, Middle School Principal (joined the meeting at 7:45pm)
Nick Bellantoni, Director of Buildings & Grounds

OTHERS: Maureen Bellino, District Clerk
Johnmichael Chiriyon, Student Rep. to the Board
Dan Mahoney, Videographer
Approximately 3 members of the public

The meeting was opened by Ms. Fitzgerald at 6:02pm in the High School main office conference room.

CONVENE MEETING

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, the Board moved into an Executive Session at 6:02pm to discuss the employment history of one person. Motion carried unanimously.

CONVENE
EXECUTIVE SESSION

#190/11

Joining the Board in the Executive Session was Dr. Barbara Fuchs.

ADJOURN

EXECUTIVE SESSION

#191/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Spittal, the Board moved out of Executive Session at 6:53pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Fitzgerald resumed the regular Business Meeting in the High School cafeteria with the pledge of allegiance. Ms. Fitzgerald asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Business Meeting of December 16, 2010.

APPROVE

MINUTES

#192/11

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, the minutes of the Business Meeting of December 16, 2010 were approved. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Mr. Lee updated the community of the status of the 2010/2011 budget for the 2nd quarter. He estimated that the District is on target with an estimated positive variance. (Presentation attached to the official minutes of this meeting.) Mr. Lee also presented a projection of District enrollments by school through 2020. (Presentation attached to the official minutes of this meeting.) Also presented by Mr. Lee was a shared services review. He noted the results of a shared services study by PNW BOCES. He noted that the consolidation of business office functions with other districts was a complex process and tended to serve only very small districts within New York State. PNW BOCES is investigating obtaining a grant to continue to investigate the consolidation of medium to larger sized districts in this area. Mr. Lee noted that the current number of business office staff members in the District was four. (Presentation attached to the official minutes of this meeting).

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Fuchs reported on the District goals and action plans and noted that they are posted on the website. She also noted that the Budget Advisory Committee had their first meeting on January 19th and that this initial meeting was very productive. Sub-committees were formed to look at various items, e.g. full-day kindergarten, higher level courses at the High School, formation of an athletic booster club, etc. The next scheduled meeting is February 9.

Also noted by Dr. Fuchs was information that was presented at a meeting of area superintendents through BOCES. The information included the fact that Gov. Cuomo is trying to repeal the Triborough Amendment to the Taylor Law and is looking at school mandate relief. The yearly ranking by *Westchester Magazine* was also discussed at the meeting. She noted that the area superintendents objected to their method of selecting and ranking schools.

Dr. Fuchs also provided information from a meeting that she had with Town Supervisor Tandy. She noted that the school and the town will be working together and issue a joint document with respect to taxes and that they are looking into joint signage to be placed in various areas of the town announcing school and town events and information.

Dr. Fuchs noted that the current school calendar had five snow days and that February 22nd, April 25th and May 27 are the make-up days. As of today, the District had used three of the snow days.

PTA/PTSA REPORT

There was no report from the PTA or PTSA.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Mr. Chiriyon reported that the upcoming Saturday is a SAT testing date. He also noted that January 24th is the end of the 2nd semester and that the mid-term exams begin the next day. He offered advice for the students that prior to the exams they should get a good night's sleep and eat a good breakfast. Mr. Chiriyon also noted that the Elementary School winter concert would be held during the upcoming week.

Ms. Fitzgerald noted that there was a change to the agenda and that Dr. Fuchs would be appointed Superintendent effective July 1, 2011. The Board concurred with the addition to the agenda.

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for public contribution on agenda items. There was none and the Board moved into the new business.

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINT
DR. FUCHS
SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS EFF. 7/1/11
#193/11

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, the Board appointed Dr. Barbara Fuchs as Superintendent of Schools of the Putnam Valley Central School District effective July 1, 2011, contingent upon mutual agreement upon the terms and conditions of such employment and execution of an employment agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Fitzgerald explained the process by the Board and that input had been received from all the District's stakeholders. She noted that Dr. Fuchs has been and will continue to be the District's educational leader. All the Board members noted and acknowledged the leadership of Dr. Fuchs.

ACCEPT
COMMUNITY GRANT
DONATION FROM
IBM--RECOGNITION OF
C. MACKAY
#194/11

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Mr. Spittal was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept the generous donation of a \$500 IBM Community Grant to the Putnam Valley Central School District to recognize the volunteer efforts of IBM employee, Christine Mackay. Motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPT
DONATION FROM
HOPE FOR YOUTH
FOUND TO THE
J. KLEINEGRIS
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
#195/11

On motion by Mr. Spittal, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept a generous donation in the amount of \$1,800 from the H.O.P.E. for Youth Foundation as a contribution to the John Kleinegris scholarship fund. Motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPT
DONATION FROM
MRS. JOAN KLEINEGRIS
TO THE
J. KLEINEGRIS
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
#196/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept a generous donation in the amount of \$1,000 from Mrs. Joan Kleinegris as a contribution to the John Kleinegris scholarship fund. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve and authorize the President of the Board of Education to sign a 2010-11 contract for Health & Welfare Services provided to three resident students of Putnam Valley attending non-public schools within the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District at a cost of \$780.25 per student for a total cost of \$2,340.75 as per Document #50/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
2010-11 HEALTH &
WELFARE SERVICES
CONTRACT
W/DOBBS FERRY
#197/11

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Mr. Spittal, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Bradley Grogan to a temporary short-term replacement as a special education teacher at the Middle School effective January 24, 2011 through June 30, 2011 (or sooner at the discretion of the Board of Education), on Step 1-MA of the PVFT salary schedule. Mr. Grogan holds certifications in: Students with Disabilities and Social Studies grades 7-12. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINT
B. GROGAN
TEMPORARY SHORT-
TERM REPLACEMENT
MS SPEC. EDUC.
TEACHER
#198/11

On motion by Mr. Spittal, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to make CSE/CPSE placements as per Document #51/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MAKE CSE/CPSE
PLACEMENTS
#199/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Spittal, it was resolved, by the Putnam Valley Central School District Board of Education that Legislative and Unfunded Mandate Relief must be included in any NY State Property Tax Cap Proposal.

APPROVE RESOLUTION
RE: NYS MANDATES
#200/11

WHEREAS, New York State leads the nation in local property taxes, in large part because New York leads the nation in imposing unfunded state mandates upon our local municipalities and school districts; and

WHEREAS, state mandated pension fund contributions are one of the largest components of every school district and municipal budget over which local officials have little control, and are increasing at exorbitant rates annually such that bills from the State Retirement System (ERS) will increase 40% and bills from the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) will increase 33% in the 2011-12 school year; and

WHEREAS, state laws such as the Triborough Amendment, pertaining to the collective bargaining of contracts between school districts and employee unions, impede the ability of local officials to reasonably control the costs that such contracts impose upon local property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, as a solution to New York's property tax crisis, the Governor of New York and members of the New York State Legislature have pledged to consider enactment of legislation imposing a cap on the annual growth in local property taxes; and

WHEREAS, any property tax cap must be accompanied simultaneously (1) by ending the practice of pushing State costs onto local school districts and municipalities, and (2) by a repeal of current underfunded or unfunded state mandates that require local municipalities and school districts to significantly increase spending and therefore local property taxes; and

WHEREAS, a property tax cap without repeal of costly underfunded and unfunded state mandates will inescapably lead to drastic cuts in essential local school district programs and services, as well as significant layoffs of school district employees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Putnam Valley Central School District, that the Governor of the State of New York and the members of the New York State Senate and New York State Assembly must reform the cost drivers that lead to high property taxes in New York - including mandate relief, pension benefits and the collective bargaining process - as the central element of any effort to provide property tax relief to the residents and businesses of New York State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, Assembly Speaker and Minority Leader, and the members of the State Senate and Assembly representing Westchester and Putnam Counties.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Fuchs explained to the community the impact of NYS mandates on the District. Mr. Lee noted that mandates are 19% (approximately \$8,000,000) of the District's budget. Dr. Fuchs and Mr. Cohen explained that the Triborough Amendment states that even if a contract is not in place at the start of a school year, the teachers who are not on the last step, by law, will receive a step raise which they noted can be a deterrent to fair negotiations.

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to enter into a contract by and between the Putnam Valley Central School District and the Haldane Central School District for educational services for a student from the Haldane Central School District as per Document #52/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ENTER INTO
EDUCATIONAL
CONTRACT
W/HALDANE
#201/11

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Mr. Spittal, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to revise the title of Mr. Peter Kuczma from the interim Director of Athletics to the interim Director of Physical Education and Athletics. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
REVISED TITLE
P. KUZCMA
#202/11

On motion by Mr. Spittal, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Amanita Duga-Carroll to the 2011-12 School Year Budget Advisory Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINT
A. DUGA-CARROLL
2011-12 BUDGET
ADVISORY COMM.
#203/11

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for comments from the Board and/or the community.

Ms. Fitzgerald noted that Assemblywoman Galef's is hosting town hall meetings and a meeting on school district funding.

Mr. Bellantoni asked if Dr. Fuchs would be continuing in both the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent positions. Ms. Fitzgerald noted that discussions on this topic would continue.

There were no further comments.

CONVENE
EXECUTIVE SESSION
#204/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo,. The Board moved into an Executive Session to discuss the employment history of thirteen persons at 8:17pm. Motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that there would be no business conducted following the Executive Session. Joining the Board in the Executive Session at 8:17pm were Dr. Fuchs and Edward Hallisey. Mr. Hallisey left the Executive Session at 8:49pm and Mr. Burruano joined the Executive Session at that time. Mr. Burruano left the Executive Session at 9:04pm. At 9:09pm, Ms. Edelman joined the Executive Session and left at 9:48pm.

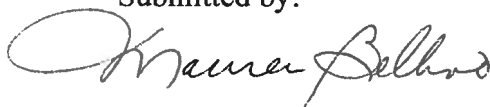
ADJOURN
EXECUTIVE SESSION
#205/11

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Cohen, the Board moved out of Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
MEETING
#206/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald, the meeting was adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by:



Maureen Bellino
District Clerk