

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

TIME:7:00pm

Type of Meeting:

Date: Feb. 3, 2011

No. of Pages: 6

Work Session/Business Mtg.

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

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Interim Supt.
Paul Lee, Asst. Supt. for Business & Finance
Edward Hallisey, Middle School Principal (Left at 7:18pm)
Vincent Burruano, High School Principal (Arrived at 7:28pm)
Michael Hanna, Middle School Asst. Principal (Left at 7:18pm)

OTHERS: Maureen Bellino, District Clerk
Christine Alexander, Student Rep. to the Board
Johnmichael Chiriyen, Student Rep. to the Board
Dan Mahoney, Videographer
Reporter from PCNR
Jodi Wexler, Apple Corporation
Approximately 5 members of the public

The meeting was opened by Ms. Fitzgerald at 7 pm with the pledge.

CONVENE MEETING

Ms. Fitzgerald noted that the Treasurer's report for October 2010 is posted in the Business Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Dr. Barbara Fuchs introduced Ms. Jodi Wexler from the Apple Corporation who noted that the Middle School was being recognized as an Apple Distinguished School. She noted that the Putnam Valley Middle School was one of only two New York schools to earn this title. Accepting the award for the Middle School were Mr. Edward Hallisey, Mr. Michael Hanna and Mr. Paul Lee.

The Board discussed the proposed 2011-12 PVCSD calendar. The calendar was modified to have students return to school on Tuesday, September 6 and to have November 23 as an instructional day. There will be a Superintendent's conference day on Thursday, September 1. The modified calendar has 183 instructional days and three Superintendent's Conference Days. The modifications were accepted by the Board and it was noted the calendar would be adopted during the New Business portion of the meeting.

The next topic of discussion was the possible merging of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent positions. Dr. Fuchs read an editorial from the *North County News* and comments from Assemblywoman Galef praising the District for trying to respond to the difficult financial times by eliminating and combining an administrative position. The Board reviewed the job descriptions for each position and the status of these positions in neighboring districts. The Board discussed the cost savings (which equates to approximately the average of a 1.5 FTE teaching position) of eliminating the Assistant Superintendent's position. It was noted that given the current economic conditions, the Board supports the combining of the positions but will monitor this decision. It was suggested that Dr. Fuchs utilize her administrative team for support in some areas and asked that she create a new job description that would include both roles.

During the Budget Session portion of the meeting, Mr. Lee presented the carryover budget for the 2011-12 school year. This budget assumes increases only in contractual areas. He noted that the state aid projections were based on earlier estimates, but information had just been received that based on Governor Cuomo's February 2 budget presentation, the District may not lose as much aid from New York State as had been anticipated. The rollover budget that Mr. Lee presented had an increase of 4.9%. The largest percentage is from increases in the State retirement system contributions. Mr. Lee noted that each tax increase percent requires approximately \$338,000 of additional monies. The budget timeline was reviewed. (Mr. Lee's presentation and the budget timeline is attached to the official minutes of this meeting.) It was noted that the next meeting of the Budget Advisory Committee was February 9. Mr. Cohen suggested that the Board schedule extra budget meetings due to the complexity of this year's budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Fuchs reported that due to the recent snowstorms which caused school to be closed, school would now be in session on February 22nd, April 25th and May 27th. If additional days are used, April 18th will be the next make-up day. It was noted that this information is posted on the District website. Dr. Fuchs noted that Nick Bellantoni would be reporting to the Board at the next meeting on the concept of snow emergency bus routes. Currently, Garrison and Somers have adopted such routes. These are reduced bus routes that are utilized due to snow/ice on the ground. Mr. Bellantoni, Mr. Koenig and Dr. Fuchs (who noted that she has spoken to the Town Supervisor regarding this topic) are examining this concept which is utilized by some neighboring school districts. Dr. Fuchs also praised the custodial staff for their efforts in keeping the schools clear of snow during the recent storms.

Dr. Fuchs noted that the Administrative team including all the principals, assistant principals, and the Director of Special Education are doing walkthroughs as a team in order to develop a common evaluation model and to understand and observe strong teaching models using good instructional practices.

Dr. Fuchs also noted that she met with the PTA and PTSA executive boards. One of the items that was discussed was the idling of buses at the Elementary School. She noted that Mr. Bellantoni and Mr. Michael Koenig have developed a workable plan to deal with this issue.

Dr. Fuchs also reported that she had followed up with Supervisor Tandy regarding the joint letter to the community regarding taxes before the school budget vote as well as the plan to place signage in various parts of the town that would be a combined venture with the school and town. Supervisor Tandy is investigating cost and locations for the signage.

Dr. Fuchs noted that due to the fact that school had been closed several times due to the weather, two of the presentations (ELA K-12 Writing and the results from the 2nd language offering survey) originally scheduled for this meeting would be moved to the March 3rd Board meeting.

She also noted that the administrative team is looking at the budget and staffing.

STUDENT BOE REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

The student Board of Education representatives noted that the annual Cheerleading Tiger Tournament would be held on Saturday, February 5th, the Elementary School math night would take place on February 18th from 6:30pm to 8:00pm, the High School would be sponsoring a "Snow Ball" on February 25th and the first induction for the Putnam Valley Chapter of the Science National Honor Society was held on January 31st.

PTA/PTSA REPORT

Ms. Stacey Tompkins reported for the PTA and PTSA and congratulated Dr. Fuchs on her appointment as Superintendent. She noted that Dr. Anthony Wolf would be giving a motivational talk to the school community on April 26th. Ms. Tompkins also reported that the PTA would be sponsoring a 2nd grade event--"pancake and pajama night" on February 11th at 7pm.

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for comments on the agenda items.

Ms. Chesnut asked for clarity on the stimulus funds. Mr. Lee noted that they have expired and were for last year only.

Ms. Fitzgerald noted that the District's 75th anniversary and the High School's 10th anniversary would be celebrated on Saturday, June 18th, (with a rain date of Sunday, June 19th). The committee planning the events would be meeting on Tuesday, February 8th at 7pm.

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINT
V. BURRUANO
3-YR. PROB. APPT.
HS PRINCIPAL
EFF. 8/20/10-8/19/13
#207/11

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Mr. Spittal, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Vincent Burruano to a three-year probationary appointment as the Putnam Valley High School Principal in the High School Principal tenure area effective August 20, 2010 through August 19, 2013 at the annual salary rate of \$143,000, pro-rated, for the period commencing February 4, 2011 through June 30, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Fuchs welcomed Mr. Burruano and praised the leadership that he has brought to the District.

ADOPT
2011-12 DISTRICT
CALENDAR
#208/11

On motion by Mr. Spittal, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the 2011-12 District calendar as per the modified Document #53/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve a change order to the Marquise Construction Corp. contract in the plus amount of \$29,010, as per Document #54/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
CHANGE ORDER
MARQUISE
CONSTRUCTION CORP.
#209/11

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for public comments from the Board or the public.

Mr. Cohen noted that at the last meeting the Board accepted a donation from the Hope for Youth Foundation to the John C. Kleinegris scholarship fund. He noted that the foundation had been founded by Nancy and Jim Witt and that the long-range calendars that the organization produces help finance these funds. He also noted that the *North County News* recognized former High School student Christine Kemp who played field hockey at Skidmore where she was an All American. During her athletic career at the High School, she was recognized as an athlete of the week by The Journal News. Mr. Cohen also noted that Assemblywoman Galef will be rescheduling her constituent town meetings that had been cancelled due to the weather. Also noted was the fact that Assemblywoman Galef would be having a meeting to discuss financing education through income tax.

Ms. Rufo noted that she attended the Westchester Putnam School Boards' Association training meeting which was catered by the BOCES tech students and that the meal that was served to the participants was wonderful and excellent service was provided by the students.

Dr. Fuchs praised Mr. Burruano for his guidance and leadership at the High School.

Mr. Burruano thanked the Board and the District for their support.

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, the Board moved into Executive Session at 8:40pm to discuss the employment history of 3 persons. Motion carried unanimously.

CONVENE
EXECUTIVE SESSION
#210/11

Dr. Fuchs joined the Board in the Executive Session.

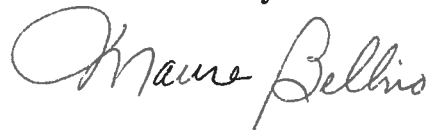
ADJOURN
EXECUTIVE SESSION
#211/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Spittal, the Board moved out of Executive Session at 10:11am. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
MEETING
#212/11

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

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maureen Bellino".

Maureen Bellino
District Clerk