

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: Work Session/Business
No. of Pages: 7 Mtg.

Date: September 2, 2010

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

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Interim Supt. of Schools
Paul Lee, Asst. Supt. for Business & Finance

OTHERS: Maureen Bellino, District Clerk
Christine Alexander, Student Rep. to the Board
Johnmichael Chiriyon, Student Rep. to the Board
Dan Mahoney, Videographer
Reporter from PCNR
Approximately 16 members of the public

The meeting was opened by Ms. Fitzgerald at 7:03pm with the pledge of allegiance. **CONVENE MEETING**

The Board discussed the District Goals for 2010/2011. The goals will have action plans and task ownership matrices developed as the Superintendent and the Board assign them to various committees and administrators. The following goal areas were discussed:

Under the goal area of full day kindergarten, the Board will discuss the educational and financial benefits/costs of all day kindergarten and then a decision will be made on whether to proceed. It was noted that there is no state mandate for kindergarten.

In the area of APPR, the NYS mandate for teacher evaluations to include student performance measures must be in place by September 2011. Elementary School principal, Jamie Edelman, will lead the district effort.

In the goal area of a paperless communication process, the Board will be the initial effort in this direction. The District will investigate how far a neighboring district, Somers, was able to go with regard to their paperless communications. It was noted that the District needs to ensure that those people without internet access are still able to communicate with the District.

For the goal of the bus garage, it was noted that the bus garage bids were within budget and are being reviewed by the architect.

In the area of the "go green" initiative, clarity as to what the goal means was noted. The District will try to be more ecologically conscious in all areas: energy, recycling, etc. Mr. Lee noted that there is recycling in all buildings, T12 lighting has been installed, all windows have been sealed/upgraded, new boilers were installed at the Elementary School and the Middle School and the High School have ground source heating. New York State has mandated that all cleaning supplies must be "green".

The Board reviewed their self-evaluation form. The Board will review their own performance twice a year (February and June). The Board reviewed their operating protocols and agreed to them.

The Board reviewed Shared Decision Making. The next state report is due in January of 2012. The District Steering Committee will be increased to 14 members; Superintendent, one Board of Education member, two PVFT and one CSEA member from each building, two parents from the PTA/PTSA and one administrator. It will probably meet at least twice a year to review the Board's goals and progress. The committee will also ensure coordination among the District's three Building Steering Committees.

The Board reviewed the policies which required action by the Board including plans that are to be reviewed or committees that need to be established. The discussion included the following topics:

Curriculum maps need to be reviewed by the Board. The Superintendent will notify the Board that the maps are in place on the website and are current.

AIDS Curriculum and Plan--The Health Advisory Committee (HAC) will be assigned this task and will assist the different schools to meet the state mandated curriculum.

AIS--The Superintendent will supply the Board with the student support plan. It was noted that the RTI process is part of this plan and must be formally added.

504--The Director of Special Education, Natalie Doherty, will lead this effort.

Attendance--The Board will be updated on the attendance patterns of our students and a determination will be made if the current attendance policies need to be amended.

A discussion of the areas dealing with facility condition and safety followed. It was noted that a committee could be one member. The Director of Buildings & Grounds, Nick Bellantoni, has a safety committee and has informed the Board of the annual inspection results.

The Technology Plan is due for an update in 2011. The committee will review.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Fuchs summarized the Superintendent's Conference Day. The speaker, Dr. Clements, discussed "trust" and the importance of remembering why the faculty and staff joined education--to help students succeed. Dr. Fuchs noted that he was very well received by the faculty and staff and was extremely inspirational.

PTA/PTSA REPORT

Ms. Stacey Tompkins, PTA Co-President, welcomed new members and staff. She noted that she was also motivated by Dr. Clements and thanked Dr. Fuchs for including the parents at the opening day events. She noted that anyone joining the PTA this year would receive a "mini" replica of the District calendar. Ms. Gail Orefice, PTSA President, also spoke highly of Dr. Clements and welcomed the new High School Interim Principal, Vincent Burruano. Ms. Orefice also noted that this is the 10th anniversary year for the High School.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

The student representatives announced the upcoming Back to School Nights (Elementary School Childside class and grades 1 and 2 on September 15, Grades 3 and 4 on September 21, Middle School on September 23, and the High School on September 30. Underclassmen at the High School will be photographed on September 14 and the senior group picture will be on September 15.)

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for comments on the agenda. There were none and the Board moved into new business.

APPOINT

T. ALSDORF

5-MO. LV. RPL.

SPEC. ED. TEACHER-HS

#89/11

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Thomas Alsdorf to a 5-month leave replacement as a Special Education teacher at Putnam Valley High School effective September 1, 2010 through January 25, 2011 (or sooner at the discretion of the Board of Education) on Step 5-MA of the PVFT salary schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Ms. Mackay, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Nicholas Lenhard, to a 1-year leave replacement as a social studies teacher at Putnam Valley High School effective September 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 (or sooner at the discretion of the Board of Education) on Step 1-MA of the PVFT salary schedule. Mr. Lenhard holds initial grades 7-12 social studies certification. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINT
N. LENHARD
1-YR. LV. REPL.
SS TEACHER-HS
#90/11

On motion by Ms. Mackay, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Carla Kohut to a six-month probationary appointment effective September 1, 2010 through February 1, 2011 as a school monitor at the Elementary School on Step 1 of the CSEA salary schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINT
C. KOHUT
6-MO. PROB. APPT.
SCHOOL MONITOR-ES
#91/11

Dr. Fuchs noted that this hire was due to a resignation.

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Robert Henry to an emergency conditional appointment, pending fingerprint clearance, as a bus driver effective September 1, 2010 in the Putnam Valley Central School District on Step 1 of the CSEA salary schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

EMERG. CONDITIONAL
APPOINTMENT
R. HENRY
BUS DRIVER
#92/11

Dr. Fuchs noted that this position was filled to replace a bus driver who became a cleaner.

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Laura Davan to a 3-year probationary appointment in the tenure area of Special Education at Putnam Valley Middle School effective September 1, 2010 through September 1, 2013, on Step 1-MA of the PVFT salary schedule. Ms. Davan holds Childhood 1-6 certification, Students with Disabilities 1-6 Initial and Students with Disabilities 5-9 Supplemental. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINT
L. DAVAN
3-YR. PROB. APPT.
9/1/10-9/1/13
SPEC. ED. TEACHER-MS
#93/11

Dr. Fuchs noted that this hire was to replace a teacher who had retired.

APPOINT
D. FEDERICO
6-MO. PROB. APPT.
9/7/10-3/7/11
TEACHER AIDE-ES
#94/11

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Ms. Mackay, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Dawn Federico to a six-month probationary appointment effective September 7, 2010 through March 7, 2011 as a teacher aide at Putnam Valley Elementary School on Step 1 of the CSEA salary schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Fuchs noted that the two teacher aides that were being appointed at the Elementary School were being covered by funds other than taxpayer dollars.

APPOINT
E. BROAS
6-MO. PROB. APPT.
9/7/10-3/7/11
TEACHER AIDE-ES
#95/11

On motion by Ms. Mackay, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint Elizabeth Broas, to a six-month probationary appointment effective September 7, 2010 through March 7, 2011 as a teacher aide at Putnam Valley Elementary School on Step 1 of the CSEA salary schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
ADDITIONS TO
SUBSTITUTE/TUTOR
LIST
#96/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mrs. Rufo, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve additions to the substitute/tutor list as per Document #17/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Cohen noted that the Board, at the next meeting, should determine who will vote at the NYS School Boards Association convention in October.

It was noted that the District Clerk has received five requests from community members to serve on the Audit Committee. The current committee has four members. The Board must decide on the size of the committee and get back to those who have shown interest. The District Clerk, Maureen Bellino, will contact them and ask each of them to send in a brief resume.

Mr. Cohen suggested the following wording for the "go green" District goal: The District shall continue to move towards a more ecologically friendly environment that meets or exceeds all state requirements and will encourage all immediate PVCSD members to:

- Recycle when appropriate.
- Conserve environmental resources (heat, fuel, electricity).
- Use environmentally friendly products and tools.
- Pursue other actions which will make the District more ecologically friendly--Go Greener!

Ms. Jerri Cohen inquired as to why the tax bills had a Binghamton address for payment. Mr. Lee noted that the address was for the lock-box location but that tax bills could still be paid in the District at the High School.

Ms. Lopez asked if the District will ensure that the screening of the bus driver who had been appointed at this meeting would be completed prior to the opening day for students on Tuesday. Dr. Fuchs noted that student safety was the number one priority and that this individual would not drive until the District received all approvals.

Ms. Paula Sims asked for clarity with regard to the recent incidents in the District. She noted that it was frustrating to only get information from newspaper articles and blogs. She noted that more communication from the Board might clear up misconceptions that the community had. The Board noted that it could not respond to all items that appear in newspapers or on the internet. The Board also noted that it can only respond to questions that they are legally allowed to answer.

Ms. Nicole Molle also commented on information that was being shared on the internet including Facebook regarding the District.

Ms. Mackay resigned from the Board of Education effective immediately (9:00pm). Her letter was filed with the District Clerk. Ms. Fitzgerald and Ms. Rufo thanked Ms. Mackay for her leadership.

There were no further comments.

CONVENE
EXECUTIVE SESSION

#97/11

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Ms. Rufo, the Board moved into Executive Session to discuss one item related to collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law) and six items related to the employment history of particular persons. Motion carried unanimously.

Joining the Board in the Executive Session were Dr. Fuchs and District Legal Counsel, David Shaw. It was noted that there would be no business conducted at the conclusion of the Executive Session.

Dr. Fuchs left the meeting at 9:38pm and Mr. Shaw left the meeting at 10:00pm. At 10:02pm, Dr. Fuchs returned to the meeting. At 10:13pm, Mr. Shaw re-joined the meeting. At 10:13pm, Dr. Fuchs left the meeting. At 10:21pm, Mr. Shaw left the meeting. At 10:22pm, Dr. Fuchs and Mr. Shaw returned to the meeting. At 10:23pm, Dr. Fuchs left the meeting. At 10:34pm, Mr. Shaw left the meeting. At 10:34pm, Dr. Fuchs returned to the meeting. At 10:35pm, Mr. Shaw returned to the meeting. At 10:38pm, Dr. Fuchs and Mr. Shaw left the meeting.

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald, the Board moved out of Executive Session at 11:14pm. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
EXECUTIVE SESSION
#98/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15pm. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
MEETING
#99/11

Submitted by:

Maureen Bellino
District Clerk

Minutes of Executive Session
Submitted by Mr. Guy Cohen.