

Peekskill City School District
1031 Elm Street
Peekskill, New York

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 16, 2015**

Board of Education

Mr. Douglas Glickert, President
Mr. Colin Smith, Vice President
Mrs. Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon
Ms. Jillian Clausen
Mrs. Maria Pereira
Mr. Michael Simpkins
Mr. Richard Sullivan

Central Office

Dr. Lorenzo Licopoli, Interim Superintendent
Ms. Robin Zimmerman, Asst Supt for Business
Dr. Joseph Mosey, Asst Supt for Admn Services
Dr. David Fine, Asst Supt for Secondary Education
Mrs. Mary Foster, Asst Supt for Elementary Education
Ms. Debra McLeod, District Clerk

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Glickert at 6:03 p.m. in the George Birdas Room

A. Recording of Attendance

Michael Simpkins arrived at 7:50 p.m. and left at 8:25 p.m.

2. Proposed Executive Session

A. Open Meeting

- (Note: The Board will enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a particular contractual and personnel item. The public part of the meeting will open at approximately 7:00PM)

B. Adjourn to Executive Session

Motion to Adjourn Meeting in order to enter to Executive Session

Motion: Richard Sullivan

Second: Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon

Yes: Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Jillian Clausen

Doug Glickert

Maria Pereira

Colin Smith

Richard Sullivan

C. Adjourn Executive Session (6:50 p.m.)

Motion to Re-Open Meeting

Motion: Maria Pereira

Second: Richard Sullivan

Yes: Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Jillian Clausen

Doug Glickert

Maria Pereira
Colin Smith
Richard Sullivan

3. Resume Public Meeting

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was reconvened in the Ford Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

4. Hearing of Citizens

A. Public Participation at Board Meetings

Many residents voiced their opinion on the transportation proposition.

Excerpts of the following comments were made:

- Misconception about the money private school receives
- Just want what's fair for their kids
- It is not the Board's responsibility to fund private schools
- Informative meeting. Being able to right the wrong on transportation; the District is getting 22 extra teachers
- Would like to know what is the Board's fiduciary duty to every student and taxpayer of Peekskill
- Crack down on illegal housing in Peekskill. There are five families living in one house, going to school and only one person is paying taxes.
- Wants what is fair and equitable for all students. We don't bus grades 6-12 so why should we support a proposition allowing it?
- Quite a few people who do not live in Peekskill come to school here.

5. Superintendent/Board President Report

A. Educational Plan and Budget Workshop #6

Dr. Licopoli commented the conversation about transportation should have occurred 20 to 30 years ago. Now, the District is being frank, transparent and forthcoming. His job as Superintendent is to advise the Board of the pros and cons and what the consequences would be. Some questions brought up by the citizens will be addressed in the PowerPoint that is being presented. The Superintendent acknowledged the propositions regarding transportation in the past were not in accordance with state law. Rules governing small city schools are not the same for other districts. Peekskill did very well in receiving state aid through lobbying.

The following comments were made by the Board:

- Doug Glickert - Simple plan K-12 bussing proposition and lower the mileage limits equitable for public and private schools. Every child should get to school safely.
- Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon – K-12 with lower mileage limit
- Maria Pereira - K-12 with lower mileage limit
- Rich Sullivan – Children's education is paramount. K-8 with lower mileage for middle school students. Some of the money will be going back into education. Mr. Sullivan later changed his mind to K-5 proposition and not lowering the mileage.
- Jillian Clausen - Three propositions should go before the voters. That was the consensus from the Town Hall meeting.
- Colin Smith - K-5 bussing proposition

6. Consent Agenda - Personnel

A. Personnel Agenda

Certificated

I. Terminations

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following termination to the Board of Education for approval:

1. David Mueller Social Studies Teacher – PHS
Effective: June 9, 2015

II. Resignations

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following resignations to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Rolando Briceno Principal- Woodside
Effective: April 17, 2015

III. Correction

A. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following corrections to the Board of Education for approval:

1. David Mueller Social Studies teacher; High School
Effective: June 30, 2015
2. Rolando Briceno Principal - Woodside
Effective: June 30, 2015

B. Approving Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Consent Agenda items 6.A.

Motion: Richard Sullivan Second: Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon

Yes: Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Jillian Clausen

Doug Glickert

Maria Pereira

Colin Smith

Richard Sullivan

7. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Speak to the Board of Education

The following comments were made:

- Shouldn't cut the budget by \$360,000. A K-12 proposition won't pass
- 90% want resources put back into the schools
- K-12 proposition would take tax payers voice away
- The Board cannot make an emotional decision, but one based on statistics and facts
- Don't take money away from the programs just because you have it
- Look at the bussing decision and do what is best for the City of Peekskill
- In favor of K-12 proposition, but not in favor of taking away money by lowering the mileage limit.
- Walking or riding the bus accidents have been reported

- Disappointed in the Board

Dr. Licopoli offered a compromise to the Board in their deliberation over the transportation issue. He suggested leave the mileage allowance alone. If there is a question of safety, do a survey. Study allowances before changing the mileage and consider a proposition next year. Make the decision with the information in front of them. Capture bussing grades K-5, 6-12. The final decision will be on Tuesday, for the acceptance of the budget. The Superintendent is going to prepare an example with two propositions on the budget, a current mileage as a single proposition and a revised budget with mileage allowances from 1.5 to 1 mile for grades 6-8.

8. Executive Session (if necessary)

- A. Executive Session
- B. Adjourn Executive Session

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Glickert asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Rich Sullivan

Second: Colin Smith

Yes: Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon

No: _____

Abstained: _____

Jillian Clausen

Doug Glickert

Maria Pereira

Colin Smith

Rich Sullivan

Meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Debra McLeod
District Clerk