

**PORT JERVIS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2016**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on August 16, 2016, in the High School Cafeteria.

Members Present: Judith Amato
Brian Dewey
Deborah Lasch
Valerie Maginsky
Tanya Parker-Hughes
Catherine Sadaghiani (arrived at 6:02 pm)
Florence Santini
Robert Witherow

Members Absent: William Smith

Others Present: Thomas Bongiovi, Superintendent
Cynthia Benedict, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Lorelei Case, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Dawn Lasch, Retiring Clerk of the Board
Kristen Lopez, Clerk of the Board

Call to Order – Agenda Item 1

The meeting was called to order by President Lasch.

Motion to Enter into Executive Session – Agenda Item 2

Flo Santini moved, seconded by Brian Dewey, to enter into executive session at 6:01 pm. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 (Smith, Sadaghiani) vote. Also in attendance were Gus Mountanos and Emily Lukas from Ingerman Smith, LLC.

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Brian Dewey, to close executive session at 7:08 pm. Motion carried by an 8-0-1 (Smith) vote.

Regular Session Resumes – Agenda Item 3

Florence Santini moved, seconded by Cathy Sadaghiani, to return to regular session at 7:16 pm. Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote. Brian Dewey moved, seconded by Cathy Sadaghiani, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Robert Witherow, followed by a moment of silence.

Presentation – Agenda Item 4

Mrs. Angela Hyziak, Port Jervis High School Spanish teacher, gave a presentation on the proposed 2018 trip to Costa Rica. Mrs. Hyziak believes that this trip will foster an interest for International travel as well as a sense of independence in the students. The approximate cost of the trip is around \$2,000 per student. There are many fundraising ideas in planning to help defray the cost to the students

participating. She said those participating would incur a monthly payment of approximately \$100, exclusive of any fundraising monies earned. Mrs. Hyziak states that overall, the cost of this trip is less expensive than many similar tour packages to Europe. Their itinerary has many activities planned, and the students will be encouraged to speak Spanish the entire trip, as they will be immersed in the local culture.

Public Comment – Agenda Item 5

Board Clerk Dawn Lasch reported that no one had signed up for public comment.

Administrative Reports – Agenda Item 6

Ms. Case reported that the tax warrant was removed from tonight's agenda because the Office of Real Property for all of the towns and city that comprise our district has not established final equalization rates. As soon as the rates are finalized, the Board will need to schedule a special meeting so that the rates can be adopted and tax bills prepared.

District-wide projects continue. The cabinetry for the Art and FACS rooms is delayed but is anticipated to be in district in time for installation before school starts. The Armour coating in the vestibules went in this week. The playground and resurfacing project is complete. All walk-in refrigerators are installed and operational. The HBE ceiling lights are complete. The electronic signs will be installed this week. Ms. Case thanked Dawn Lasch for her thirty years of service to our district. She stated that she was fortunate to have the pleasure of working with Mrs. Lasch, and hopes that her retirement is filled with many blessings.

Mrs. Benedict announced that this Friday (August 19) the MS Summer Drama Workshop students will perform their final project, a 25-minute classroom musical called Making the Band. Summer Drama workshop is under the direction of Mrs. Cross and Mrs. Halpenny. The presentation will take place at 11:00 am in the MS Auditorium.

Mrs. Benedict congratulated the August graduates, Jonathan Fuller and Lyanna Jordan. They worked very hard this summer to achieve their HS Diploma.

Mrs. Benedict congratulated Board Member Valerie Maginsky for winning the Hudson Valley Heroes Award for her volunteerism and service in the fight against substance abuse in the community. Operation PJ Pride Steering Committee nominated Valerie for this very well deserved recognition. The awards ceremony is scheduled for 6:00 pm on September 29th at Thomas Bull Memorial Park.

Mrs. Benedict congratulates and extends best wishes to Board Clerk Dawn Lasch on her upcoming retirement. She stated that it has been a personal pleasure working with Dawn and she wished her the best.

Mr. Bongiovi asked that the Board to review the TASC program information that was included in their Board packet. Discussion on this information will be held at a later date. He thanked members of the Board for a very productive Board Retreat this year. At the September 6th Board of Ed meeting he would like to adopt the Board Goals for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Bongiovi reviewed the Superintendent Conference Day Agenda for September 1st and 2nd and extended an invitation to participate to the Board.

Mr. Bongiovi congratulated and thanked Mrs. Lasch for all her years of service to the district and community. He presented Mrs. Lasch with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of Administration and the Board of Ed.

Consent Agenda Items – Agenda Item 7

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Flo Santini, to approve the agenda items as follows:

- a. **Minutes from the August 1, 2016 Meeting of the Board of Education (Section I)**
- b. **CSE/CPSE Minutes**
CSE Minutes: 08/24/16
CPSE Minutes: 07/29/16; 08/03/16; 08/04/16; 08/05/16
- c. **Financial Reports for June & July 2016: Comprehensive Budget Status, Revenue Status, and Warrant (unaudited)**
- d. **Treasurer’s Report for June & July 2016**
- e. **Budget Transfers**
- f. **Resignation (s):**
Name: Gregory Eldredge
Position: Special Education Teacher
Assignment: Middle School
Effective: September 1, 2016

Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote.

Appointment(s) – Agenda Item 8

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Bob Witherow, to approve the following appointments:

A. Instructional Staff

Name: Lisa Cunningham
Position: Elementary Teacher
Certification: Childhood Education (1-6)
Assignment: ASK Elementary School
Reason: Vacancy No. 1936 (Leave replacement)
Effective: September 1, 2016 – November 4, 2016
Salary: \$53,532 – Step 1
1,500 – Masters
2,714 – Credits (59)
\$57,746 (Pro-rated)

Name: Elizabeth Monaco*
Position: Special Education Teacher
Certification: Students with Disabilities (1-6)
Assignment: ASK Elementary School
Reason: Vacancy No. 1910
Effective: September 1, 2015
Tenure Track: September 1, 2016 – June 30, 2020
Salary: \$53,532 – Step 1
1,500 – Masters
1,610 – Credits (35)
\$56,642

Name: Christine Fini*
Position: Elementary Teacher
Certification: Early Childhood Education (B-2)
Assignment: ASK Elementary School
Reason: Vacancy No. 1898
Effective: September 1, 2016
Tenure Track: September 1, 2016 – June 30, 2020
Salary: \$53,532 – Step 1
1,500 – Masters
1,380 – Credits (30)
\$56,412

** This individual must receive three (3) annual APPR composite ratings of Effective or Highly Effective, in at least three (3) of the preceding four (4) years and cannot have an APPR composite rating of Ineffective in the last year of his or her probationary appointment to be granted or considered for tenure.*

B. Support Staff

Name: Janine Shearer
Position: School Monitor - Probationary
Assignment: ASK Elementary School
Reason: Vacancy No. 1930 Probation: 8-26 weeks
Effective: September 1, 2016 (pending fingerprint clearance)
Salary: \$14.42/hr. – Step 1

Name: Bonnie Whitney
Position: Clerk-Typist – Substitute
Assignment: District Wide
Probation: N/A
Effective: August 17, 2016 (pending fingerprint clearance)
Salary: \$16.58/hr. – Step 1

Name: Darla Schields
Position: Clerk Typist – Substitute
Assignment: District Wide
Probation: N/A
Effective: August 17, 2016 (pending fingerprint clearance)
Salary: \$16.58/hr. – Step 1

Name: Denise Lefberg
Position: Clerk-Typist – Substitute
Assignment: District Wide
Probation: N/A
Effective: August 17, 2016
Salary: \$16.58/hr. – Step 1

Name: Nancy Costello
Position: School Monitor – Substitute
Assignment: District Wide
Probation: N/A
Effective: September 1, 2016 (pending fingerprint clearance)
Salary: \$14.42/hr. – Step 1

C. Substitute Teachers/RN's

**Denotes College Students*

Bold=Home Tutor

A=Certified

Valerie Burger
Ryan Doyle
Lisa Ferrara
Larry Gotham
William Hubbard
Keri Kucher
Lisa Lombardo
Amy Minkewicz
Jennifer Scannell
Amanda Snyder

Jessica Coppolino
JoEllen DeGraw
Teena Fisher
Patricia Greeves
Meredith Kalin
Lori Kuroski
Jacqueline McNally
Megan Nason
Catherine Shelley
Christopher Tuthill

Sarah Decker
Julia Dekan
Lauren Gonska
Todd Hill
Katrina Knight
John Larson
Nicholas Miller
Cora Emily Ronson
Debbie Siomkos

B = Bachelor's Degree

Anila Ali
Ronelle Burke
Michael Cox
Kesia Gilpin
Sierra Phillips
Daniel Ramirez

George Billeci
Elaine Cardella-Tedesco
Katrina DeLeon
Kaitlyn King
Kathryn Pierce
Tanya Schauer

Dorothy Braid
Marissa Carlton
Jordan Drew
Matthew Mecking
Darien Quick
William Wagner

C = 48 or more college credits

Kenneth Heins

Sarah Mannion

Cassandra Rutt

LPN

Gina Fitzpatrick

Jill Morris

Kathryn Pierce

Trisha Fuller

D. Mentors for the 2016-2017 School Year – Vacancy No. 1895 \$1,500 Stipend

Valerie Ricciardi
Regis Foster
Kristen Wadson

Maura Brady-Wilson
Terence McGuire
Dawn Higgins

Heather Tufano
Robert Avdoyan
Elena Quinn (*half yr. - pro-rated*)
Susan Elston-Mills
Randi Liberati

E. Athletic Coaching Positions for the 2016-2017 School Year – Vacancy No. 1895

Name

Ryan Schupp
Joseph Amato

Position

Asst. Boys Basketball Coach
Football Coach (pending NYS coaching license)

Salary

Volunteer/Unpaid
Volunteer/Unpaid

Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote.

Policies – Agenda Item 9

Flo Santini moved, seconded by Valerie Maginsky, to approve the following policies.

Second and Final Reading

Policy No. 5730 – Transportation of Students
Policy No. 6213 – Probation and Tenure
Policy No. 7220 – Graduation Options/Early Graduation/Accelerated Programs
Policy No. 7241 – Rights of Non-Custodial Parents

Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote.

Approval to Award Wooden Playhouse Bid to Nichole Andriac – Agenda Item 10

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Bob Witherow, to award the wooden playhouse bid to Nichole Andriac. Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote.

Approval of Amendment to Service Agreement Between PMA Management Corp. and the Port Jervis City School District – Agenda Item 11

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Brian Dewey, to approve the Amendment of Service Agreement between PMA Management Corp. and the Port Jervis City School District. Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote.

Discussion of Resolution to Transfer Excess Fund Balance to Capital Reserve Fund – Agenda Item 12

Flo Santini moved, seconded by Valerie Maginsky, to bring the discussion to the floor. Much discussion ensued on this resolution with the Board agreeing, unanimously, to continue discussion of this resolution at a future meeting of the Board after gathering further information. Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote.

Approval for Crabgrass Spraying of Playing Fields in Mid-August – Agenda Item 13

Judy Amato moved, seconded by Brian Dewey, to approve the spraying of playing fields in mid-August for crabgrass. Motion carried by an 8-0-1 vote.

Board Member Comments – Agenda Item 14

Mrs. Santini reminded everyone that there is a September 11th anniversary ceremony at the Town Hall in Deerpark on Sunday, September 11, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. Refreshments will be served at the new Deerpark Senior Center. She encouraged everyone to attend.

Mrs. Maginsky remarked that she was very surprised that she won the PJ Pride award mentioned earlier in the meeting. She praised Mrs. Santini's service to the town of Deerpark and encouraged the public to answer the call of service and serve their community. She suggested they do this by volunteering or even running for school board. She stated that she is proud of the progress she is seeing in the drug awareness programs and the cooperation between the school and volunteers to make these programs successful.

Mrs. Sadaghiani congratulated Mrs. Maginsky on her hard work and also wanted to say goodbye and thank Mrs. Lasch for her service to the Board and the District.

Mr. Dewey congratulated Mrs. Maginsky on her award and Mrs. Lasch on her retirement.

President Lasch echoed Mr. Dewey's sentiments, wished Dawn and her husband Al a happy retirement.

Mr. Bongiovi congratulated Mrs. Dawn Lasch for serving as the clerk to the Board of Education and sent well wishes for a happy retirement.

Dates to Remember – Agenda Item 15

President Lasch read the dates to remember.

Possible Motion to Enter into Executive Session – Agenda Item 16

Tanya Parker-Hughes moved, seconded by Brian Dewey, to return to executive session at 8:00 pm for discussing proposed, pending or current litigation. There will be no action taken after executive session. Motion carried with an 8-0-1 vote.

Tanya Parker-Hughes moved, seconded by Brian Dewey, to return to regular session at 9:44 pm with an 8-0-1 vote.

Adjournment – Agenda Item 17

Tanya Parker-Hughes moved, seconded by Brian Dewey, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm with an 8-0-1 vote.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 6, 2016**, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria.

Transcribed by *Kristen M. Lopez*
Kristen M. Lopez, Clerk of the Board
Port Jervis Board of Education

08/16/16