

BOARD OF EDUCATION
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF PORT JERVIS
PORT JERVIS, NEW YORK

MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2017 Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on January 17, 2017 in the High School Cafeteria.

Members Present: Judith Amato
Brian Dewey
Deborah Lasch
Valerie Maginsky
Tanya Parker Hughes
Catherine Sadaghiani
Florence Santini

Members Absent: William Smith
Robert Witherow

Others Present: Thomas Bongiovi, Superintendent of Schools
Cynthia Benedict, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Lorelei Case, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Kristen Lopez, Clerk of the Board
Abigail Ilizirov, Senior Student Representative
Shannon Klotz, Junior Student Representative

Call to Order – Agenda Item 1

The meeting was called to order at 6:29 pm by President Lasch.

Motion to Enter into Executive Session – Agenda Item 2

Florence Santini moved, seconded by Valerie Maginsky to enter into executive session at 6:30 pm. Motion carried with a 7-0-2(Smith, Witherow) vote.

Judy Amato moved, seconded by Brian Dewey to close executive session at 7:00 pm. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Regular Session Resumes – Agenda Item 3

Regular Session Resumed and called to order by President Lasch at 7:05 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Superintendent Thomas Bongiovi followed by a moment of silence.

Florence Santini moved, seconded by Brian Dewey to accept the amended Agenda. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Presentation – Agenda Item 4

PJHS Senior Abigail Ilizirov and Junior Shannon Klotz, Student Representatives, reported the upcoming event dates for the High School.

Athletic Director Ronald Semerano and Coaches presented Scholar-Athlete Awards. Additionally, a special PJCS D Certificate of Excellence was presented to Kaylah Butts-Quarshie by Mr. Semerano.

Andrew Marotta, Principal of Port Jervis High School, in conjunction with Assistant Principals Heidi Nyland and Thomas Rickard and Teacher Rebecca Fedorick presented on the subject of Best Practices: "Classroom Look-Fors".

Public Comment – Agenda Item 5

There were no requests to speak during public comment at this meeting.

Administrative Reports – Agenda Item 6

Mrs. Benedict saluted our ASK Performing Arts presentation of the Wizard of Oz. She described it as a nostalgic musical event that adults as well as the youngest audience members really enjoyed. A special Thank You to the director, Trish Halpenny, and her volunteer production team for the time and effort they put in to support the musical. Mrs. Benedict also congratulated the talented students on stage and behind the scenes.

On January 8th The Tri-States Naval Ship VFW honored six Middle and two High School students with a dinner and awards ceremony for their winning essays in the VFW's annual contest. This year's topic for grades 7 and 8 was, "The America I Believe In" and the HS topic was "My Responsibility for America". Grade 7 winners were Sannon McCooey (3rd) Josephine Amato (2nd), Michael Daliz and Julia Beebe (tied for 1st). 8th grade winners were Sarah Scheps (3rd), Michael Mahaney (2nd) and Lydia Taylor (1st). Gabbey Santoro(2nd), and Kim Gilbert (1st) were the winning HS entries. Mrs. Benedict congratulated the winners and thanked all who participated in this event.

Mrs. Benedict reminded everyone that the end of marking period two for grades K-8 is January 20th, with report cards distributed on January 27th and for the grades 9-12, the marking period ends January 27 with report cards distributed on February 3rd. Lastly, on January 27th all students are on an early dismissal schedule because of a half day staff development.

Mr. Bongiovi also congratulated and thanked Mrs. Halpenny and her team for a terrific play at ASK over the weekend. He stated that sowing the seeds at this age is very important for participation in the future.

The district has eight snow days allotted for this school year, and we have yet to use one. This means that we will have to "give back" these days. He believes we need to spread out the give back days, but we must be mindful of test preparation when choosing what days to give back. Mr. Bongiovi will recommend a few dates to be voted on by the Board at the February 7th Meeting.

Agenda Item 7 - Consent Items

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Brian Dewey to approve Agenda Item 7 as follows. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote:

a. Minutes from the December 20, 2016 Meeting of the Board of Education (Section 1, Minutes)

b. Committee on Special Education Minutes (Section 1, Minutes)

CSE Meeting Dates: December 2016: 7,13,14,15,16,18,19,20,21,22,23

January 2017: 3,4,5,6

CPSE Meeting Dates: December 2016: 13,16,19,22

January 2017: 9

c. Financial Reports for October 2016 (Section 1, Financial Reports):

- Treasurer's Report (Section 1, FR-1)
- Appropriation Status Detail Report (Section 1, FR-2)
- Revenue Status Report (Section 1, FR-3)
- Check Warrant Report (Section 1, FR-4)
- Budget Transfer Schedule Report (Section 1, FR-5)

d. FMLA, Intermittent and Leave of Absences per Enclosures (Section 1, Personnel)

e. Retirements:

Name: Mary Kathryn Barnes (35 years)
Position: Cook Manager
Assignment: HBE
Effective: June 23, 2017

Name: Doris Orrego (33 years)
Position: Food Service Helper
Assignment: MS
Effective: June 30, 2017

Name: Frances Buchanan (30 years)
Position: Teacher Aide
Assignment: HBE
Effective: June 30, 2017

Name: Ruth Koch (14 years)
Position: Food Service Helper
Assignment: HBE
Effective: June 23, 2017

Name: Joseph Cox (19 years)
Position: Grounds Worker
Assignment: District Wide
Effective: February 24, 2017

f. Resignations:

Name: Cynthia Sprusansky (10 years)
Position: Food Service Helper
Assignment: 209 Complex
Effective: January 17, 2017

Resignation of Previously Approved Coaching Position

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Deanna Perez	Girls Modified Spring Track Coach	\$3,246

Agenda Item 8 - Appointments (Section 1, Personnel)

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Tanya Parker-Hughes to approve Agenda Item 8 as follows.
Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote:

A. Support Staff

Name: Shawn Galligan
Position: Maintenance Mechanic Substitute
Assignment: District-Wide
Effective: January 18, 2017
Salary: \$17.48 – Step 1

B. Substitute Teachers/RN's:

**Denotes College Students*

Bold=Home Tutor

<i>A = Certified</i>	<i>B=Bachelor's Degree</i>	<i>C = 48 or More College Credits</i>	<i>Nurse</i>
		Jessica Parker	

C. Change to Previously Approved Effective Date for Substitute (All Salaries based on 2015-2016 contract)

Name

Garrett Randall – effective 12/13/16

D. Athletic Coaching Positions for the 2016-2017 School Year – Vacancy No. 1895 (All Salaries based on 2015-2016 contract)

Name

Nicholas Miller

Position

Modified Boys Spring Track

Salary

\$3,246

Agenda Item 9 - Approval of Committee on Special Education Vendor as follows:

James Wright
364 Long Road
Tully, NY 13159
Phone: 315-720-6718

Judy Amato moved, seconded by Cathy Sadaghiani to approve Agenda Item 9. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item 10 - Adoption of Cross Contract with Western Suffolk BOCES for Comprehensive Long Range Planning Study: Demographic & Enrollment Analysis (enclosure no. 1)

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Judy Amato to bring this item to the floor. Much discussion ensued. Motion defeated with a 2-5-2 (Amato, Dewey, Lasch, Parker-Hughes, Santini) vote.

Agenda Item 11 - Approval of Upcoming Trip to Costa Rica through PJHS Foreign Language Club (enclosure no. 2)

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Brian Dewey to approve Agenda Item 11. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item 12 - Roll Call Vote: Approval of Resolutions for the 2017 Capital Referendum as Follows (enclosure nos. 3a, b & c):

- a. Bond Resolution – authorizes a capital project at maximum cost of \$3,685,000.00 to be financed with \$1,900,000.00 of fund balance and not to exceed \$5,585,000.00 of bonds and notes
- b. Resolution authorizing the submission of the proposition at the May 16, 2017 annual vote

c. Resolution of Necessity

Tanya Parker-Hughes moved, seconded by Valerie Maginsky to approve Agenda Item 12 with a roll call vote. Motion carried by with a 6-1-2 (Sadaghiani) Roll Call Vote as follows:

Member Name	Resolution 3a	Resolution 3b	Resolution 3c
Judith Amato	Yes	Yes	Yes
Brian Dewey	Yes	Yes	Yes
Deborah Lasch	Yes	Yes	Yes
Valerie Maginsky	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tanya Parker-Hughes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Catherine Sadaghiani	No	No	No
Florence Santini	Yes	Yes	Yes
William Smith	Absent		
Robert Witherow	Absent		

Agenda Item 13 - Approval to Accept Donation from the Orange County Department of Health and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Orange County for gardening supplies for HBE with a value not to exceed \$1,200.00 (enclosure no. 4)

Valerie Maginsky moved, seconded by Florence Santini to approve Agenda Item 13. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item 14 - Approval of Energy Contracts (enclosure no. 5)

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Brian Dewey to approve Agenda Item 14. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item 15 - Approval of Stipulation of Agreement between the Port Jervis City School District, Port Jervis Teachers' Association and a PJTA Member (enclosure no. 6)

Cathy Sadaghiani moved, seconded by Florence Santini to approve Agenda Item 15. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item 16 - BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Port Jervis City School District ("Board" or "District") approves the settlement of a lawsuit commenced against Montague Township School District bearing the caption "The Port Jervis City School District v. Montague Township School District, et al, Case No. 7:16-cv-00023," which was filed in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, subject to final negotiation of terms and conditions of a Stipulation of Settlement as recommended by the District's attorneys, an executed copy of which shall be filed with the District Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools and/or District's attorneys be authorized to execute all documents in furtherance of this Resolution.

Florence Santini moved, seconded by Tanya Parker-Hughes to approve Agenda Item 16. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item 17 - Policies:

Second & Final Reading

Policy No. 5515 – Maintenance of Fund Balance and Reserve Funds

Policy No. 5681 – Fire and Emergency Drills, Bomb Threats and Bus Emergency Drills

Policy No. 5683 – School Safety Plans
Policy No. 6160 – Professional Growth/Staff Development
Policy No. 7131 – Non-Resident Students
Policy No. 7222 – Diploma or Credential Options for Students with Disabilities
Policy No. 7616 – Prereferral Intervention Strategies
Policy No. 8340 – Textbooks/Workbooks/Calculators

Florence Santini moved, seconded by Tanya Parker-Hughes to approve Agenda Item 17 Policies. Motion carried by with a 7-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item 18 - Committee/Liaison Reports (as available)

Policy Committee liaison Cathy Sadaghiani announced that the next Policy meeting will be held on January 24th at 11:00 am. Report to follow.

DLT liaison Robert Witherow asked Member Cathy Sadaghiani to deliver the report. Mrs. Sadaghiani relayed that at the last meeting of the DLT held on January 11, the Committee reviewed and approved the minutes of the BEPT committees for all the schools, and were happy to lend support to the Superintendent's request for T-Shirts as a reward incentive for students, faculty and staff, and also to the Middle School for their Thanksgiving feast.

Safety Committee liaison Flo Santini will report after the next meeting, which they will have shortly.

Health & Wellness Committee liaison Flo Santini reported that at their meeting, held about a week ago, they had many guests:

- Lindsey Carroll from Operation PJ Pride spoke about her collaboration with the PJCS and the upcoming student surveys. She invited all students to get involved in the next sticker shock event.
- Lauren Carroll from the Orange County Dept. of Health spoke on the implementation of the Healthy Orange School Grant, and will attend the next Wellness meeting to work on the components of the school physical activity program.
- An educator from Cornell Cooperative spoke of working with the OC Dept. of Health in the Healthy Choices Program and possibly setting up training for the food services program employees of our district.
- Kelly Pearson from Shop-Rite updated them with her work with the school district on the Produce for Kids Program. More information on this program to follow.
- Nikki Beam updated them on Red Day event coming up. She will distribute information to all the schools.

Mrs. Santini stated that the meeting was very well attended and they are very informative, and she is impressed that all involved continue to work for the health of our students.

Port Jervis liaison Valerie Maginsky relayed that there were three items on the Port Jervis City website that would be of interest to the public. The first was notice of applications and permits that needed to be filled out and submitted by the public for events they wished to hold. She stated that while there is no fee for the permit, there are time deadlines for submitting your applications, as well as notice of reimbursement of fees for city personnel working your event. The second item was the 2017 Garbage pickup and Recycle Guide. Mrs. Maginsky relates that she has read through it and there is a lot of helpful information contained in the Guide. The third item was a link to the Investors Service Report which is the financial status report for the City of Port Jervis. She states it contains the most recent overview of the city's financials and improvements. Mrs. Maginsky encouraged all residents to check out the website for these very important items.

Deerpark liaison Flo Santini stated that they will be replacing another bridge on Route 97. They will be holding a public hearing on February 23 and will be sending out a Notice of Public Hearing shortly with more information.

Education Committee liaison Tanya Parker-Hughes reported that they had a meeting on January 6 at HBE. She states they have decided that each month they will hold their meeting at a different building. This not only allows them to tour the buildings, but also lets them see the newest education initiatives in action. She related that when they did the tour, she saw many classrooms with learning targets and new extra help clubs, which she feels will encourage students to participate, because all kids want to be a part of a club! Mrs. Parker-Hughes also stated that the Committee also received an attendance update from Mr. Hipsman as to where we are now and the direction we are going in with attendance initiatives. Mrs. Parker-Hughes said that the meeting was very informative and enjoyable, and she is looking forward to the next meeting which will be held at the MS in March.

Agenda Item 19 – Board Member Comments

Member Tanya-Parker Hughes thanked all who attended and helped make the play at ASK this past weekend a success. She was thrilled at the amazing outpouring of support for our students.

Member Valerie Maginsky commented that while she appreciated the other Members' opinions on the Planning Study vote, but she would like them to consider the Study in the same way as they did the driveway repair that they voted to approve at this meeting. Mrs. Maginsky stated that she always held the belief that more information is always better, and the more information we have the better prepared we are to make a judgement of what is best for our district to move forward. Like the driveway, she feels to do the Study now may save the district taxpayers money in the end. She wanted the Members to know that she would like to gather more information and discuss this Study further at a future meeting.

Agenda Item 20 - Dates to Remember

President Lasch read the dates to remember.

Agenda Item 21 - Adjournment

Florence Santini moved, seconded by Cathy Sadaghiani to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm. Motion carried with a 7-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item 22 – Budget Presentation/Workshop

There was a Budget Presentation/Workshop for the Members after the Adjournment of this meeting.

The next meeting/workshop of the Port Jervis City School District Board of Education will be on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the High School Cafeteria.

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

01/17/2016