

# MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

TIME: 7:00pm  
No. of Pages: 4

Type of Meeting:  
Work Session/Business Mtg.

Date: June 2, 2011

**BOARD OF EDUCATION:** President Valerie Fitzgerald PRESENT  
Vice President Guy Cohen (Arrived at  
7:15pm after attending PNW BOCES  
Tech Center Honor Induction and  
Scholarship Ceremony)  
Trustee Joseph Ferraro  
Trustee Jeanine Rufo  
Trustee David Spittal

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Interim Supt.  
Paul Lee, Asst. Supt. for Business & Finance  
Vincent Burruano, High School Principal  
Sam Oliverio, High School Assistant Principal  
Nick Bellantoni, Director of Buildings & Grounds  
Peter Kuczma, Director of Phys. Educ. & Athletics

**OTHERS:** Maureen Bellino, District Clerk  
Christine Alexander, Student Rep. to the Board  
Johnmichael Chiriyian, Student Rep. to the Board  
Dan Mahoney, Videographer  
Approximately 8 members of the public and staff

The meeting was opened by Ms. Fitzgerald at 7:08pm.

CONVENE MEETING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Mr. Kuczma presented his plans for evaluation of the District's athletic coaches. (Presentation attached to the official minutes of this meeting.)

Mr. Burruano summarized the academic eligibility program that was in place for the 2010-11 school year for all extra-curricular activity participation. He noted the number of students who were on the eligibility monitoring list each quarter. For the 2011-12 school year, students who are identified as needing this program will be placed in a program called "Select Skills" which will take place in small study halls (5 students/1 teacher). He reported that the High School will go towards a more "team oriented" approach by having the students in the "Select Skills" program assigned to teachers who will be matched to the needs of the particular students. Teachers have volunteered for this assignment as their duty period. (Presentation attached to the official minutes of this meeting.)

Mr. Oliverio gave a presentation on the community service program at the High School. He summarized the parameters of the program and noted the percentage of completed hours for each grade level. (For the 9th and 10th graders, 33% have completed their required 40 hours; in the 11th grade, over half the students have completed their required 30 hours.) The 50 students in the eleventh grade who have not completed their mandatory 30 hours for graduation are being reminded in person and through a ConnectEd phone system message to their homes. Mr. Oliverio noted that there are 3 students who have completed over 500 hours of community service. Mr. Oliverio reported that he and the guidance department keep track of the hours and that the number of community service hours for each student is an entry on their report cards. Mr. Oliverio showed three videos showing Putnam Valley High School students performing their community service at various entities: Putnam County Humane Society, a local church and shoveling snow at a neighbor's home.

In her Superintendent's Report, Dr. Fuchs noted that the Board would hear an update on the status of the BOE/District goals during her presentation. She noted that during the 2011 summer, the Board, Administration, faculty and parents will evaluate the status of the goals and will carryover or prepare new goals for the 2011-12 school year.

Dr. Fuchs asked Ms. Bellino to give an update on the action plan for the communications' goal. Ms. Bellino noted that the members of the communications committee (Maureen Bellino, Michael Lee, Dana Lopez and Barbara O'Hare) have worked on this initiative all year and a plan is in place for paperless communication beginning on July 1. It was noted that there will be lists compiled in each building that includes those parents who are unable to receive electronic communications. It was also noted that the calendar format would be changed to an electronic calendar to allow for flexibility and accuracy with dates. A question arose as to the receipt of report cards and notes from parents for early dismissal of students. Ms. Bellino noted that these types of issues can be addressed with further discussion with District administration. The Board noted that the teachers' websites/web pages were not up-to-date and this needed to be addressed.

Dr. Fuchs updated the Board on the goal for compilation of graduate data from alumni as well as all the curriculum and instruction goals. For the compilation of student data goal, the committee working on this initiative (Barbara O'Hare and the High School Guidance Counselors) have suggested utilizing Facebook to obtain data from alumni. The Board asked for more discussion on utilizing this social network tool for this purpose including seeing models of other schools who may be using Facebook successfully.

Mr. Bellantoni updated the Board on the environmental goals, the buildings' space utilization (which include a request for more storage at the High School and new lockers at the Middle School). He noted that the bus garage project is continuing and appears to be about 30 days behind schedule due to the heavy rains in the early spring and that recycling is now taking place in all the buildings. He also reported that he is continuing to monitor the transportation of students and hopes to have some cost-cutting plans in place for September. Regarding the turf field and the planned field house, Mr. Bellantoni reported that the plan is to move forward on these projects in 2014 when the District would be eligible for aid. Mrs. Fitzgerald noted that some Elementary School students questioned why a plaque had not been placed in the new wing at the Elementary School as had been done in all the other additions. She asked Mr. Bellantoni to start this process.

Mrs. Hirsch reported on the goal regarding the establishment of an athletic booster club. She noted that the committee had met recently (Laura Hirsch, Doreen Cohen and Rita Sharples) to discuss the start-up plans. She noted that they would be meeting again and that they had conferred with Lisa Spittal regarding her experiences with the start-up of the Putnam Valley Education Foundation. Mr. Kuczma will also be assisting them with this endeavor.

(The action plans for all the District/BOE goals are attached to the official minutes of this meeting.)

In her Superintendent's Report, Dr. Fuchs noted that she had recently attending the Lower Hudson Superintendents' Council's annual dinner for the area valedictorians and salutatorians. Putnam Valley's valedictorian, Quinn Gilman-Forlini, and salutatorian, Christine Alexander, were recognized. Also in attendance at the dinner from Putnam Valley were Mrs. Fitzgerald and Mr. Burruano. Dr. Fuchs acknowledged the accomplishments of the Destination Imagination Middle School team reaching sixth place at the global finals under the direction of the team manager, Barbara Parmly. She also noted that art students from the High School had some of their artwork on display at the Katonah Museum of Art and that she would be participating in a roundtable discussion on June 9 with Assemblywoman Sandra Galef and others regarding consolidation of services.

The student representatives reported on upcoming dates for school events including concerts and the senior awards ceremony. They also noted that final examinations begin on June 15.

There was no report from the PTA or PTSA representatives.

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for comments from the community on the agenda items.

Ms. Fitzgerald remarked on the upcoming District and High School anniversary celebration on June 18. She announced the winners of the anniversary t-shirt design contest (for the Elementary School, Sophia Lord-4th grade, for the Middle School, Satoshi Abe-6th grade, and for the High School, Alexandra Gazzola-12th grade).

There were no further comments and the Board moved into the New Business.

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, it was resolved, to authorize Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Superintendent of Schools, to enter into an employment contract with Mr. Peter Kuczma as the Director of Physical Education and Athletics, effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, at the annual salary of \$120,000, as per Document #99/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**ENTER INTO  
AGREEMENT W/  
P. KUCZMA AS  
DIRECTOR, PHYSICAL  
EDUC & ATHLETICS**  
#320/11

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Mr. Spittal, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve personnel actions as per Document #100/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE  
PERSONNEL ACTIONS**  
#321/11

On motion by Mr. Spittal, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept the resignation of Laura Pellegrino from the Putnam Valley Central School District as per Document #101/11, attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACCEPT  
RESIGNATION OF  
L. PELLEGRINO  
EFF. 06/30/11**  
#322/11

**ACCEPT  
DONATION  
OCCUP. THERAPY  
EQUIP.-C. BURGARD**  
#323/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept a generous donation of equipment, with an estimated value of \$1,270, from Ms. Cheryl Burgard to be used in the District's occupational therapy program. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE  
H&W CONTRACT  
ARLINGTON CENTRAL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
#324/11

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, it was resolved, , on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following 2010-11 contract for Health & Welfare Services provided to resident students of Putnam Valley attending a non-public school within the Arlington Central School District and authorize the President of the Board of Education to sign the contract for two students at \$534.15 each for a total of \$1,068.30, as per Document #102/11 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for comments from the Board and/or community.

Mr. Cohen noted that he had attended the PNW BOCES Tech Honor Society and Scholarship Awards Program this evening. Two Putnam Valley students were inducted into the Honor Society to join the four Putnam Valley students who were inducted last year. Seven Putnam Valley students were also recognized for receiving scholarships.

Ms. Rufo noted that she would attend the July 19th meeting of the NYSSBA on teacher and administrative evaluations and APPR.

There were no other comments.

**CONVENE  
EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
#325/11

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Ms. Rufo, the Board moved into Executive Session, at 9:31pm, to discuss the employment history of seven particular persons. Motion carried unanimously.

Joining the Board in the Executive Session were Dr. Fuchs and Mr. Lee. Mr. Lee left the Executive Session at 10:12pm.

**ADJOURN  
EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
#326/11

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Spittal, the Board moved out of Executive Session at 10:51pm. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN  
MEETING**  
#327/11

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, the meeting was adjourned at 10:51pm. Motion carried unanimously.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**MAUREEN BELLINO  
DISTRICT CLERK**