

FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA – October 5, 2026, 6:30PM
BOARD ROOM

I. Meeting called to order

II. Approve Agenda

III. Resolution to move into Executive Session

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board move into Executive Session at [TIME] to discuss the employment history of specific employees, as well as an ongoing legal matter

IV. Appointment of interim director, Ed Falcone, effective as soon as civil service approves the hire.

V. Construction resolutions (see attached)

VI. Interim Budget resolution (see attached)

VII. Approval for attorney to work on charter amendment

VII. \$ 1Million transfer from NYCLASS to M&T

VIII. Approval of August bills

IX. Approval of requisitions over \$5k

X. Approval of Library Calendar

XI. Adjournment

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026.

CONSTRUCTION RESOLUTION 1

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees approved the Electric Bid from Fanshawe, Inc. dba Rockland Electric on August 26, 2026;

WHEREAS, the parties have not entered into a contract; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to further review the Project prior to proceeding with the Project;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that District hereby rescinds the approval of the Electric Bid from Fanshawe, Inc. dba Rockland Electric;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby rejects the Electric Bid from Fanshawe, Inc. dba Rockland Electric; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

CONSTRUCTION RESOLUTION 2

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees approved the General Construction Bid from Rudna Construction Inc. on August 26, 2026;

WHEREAS, the parties have not entered into a contract; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to further review the Project prior to proceeding with the Project;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby rescinds the approval of the General Construction Bid from Rudna Construction Inc.;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby rejects the General Construction Bid submitted by Rudna Construction Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

CONSTRUCTION RESOLUTION 3

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees approved the Plumbing Bid from Joe Lombardo Plumbing & Heating of Rockland Inc. on August 26, 2026;

WHEREAS, the parties have not entered into a contract; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to further review the Project prior to proceeding with the Project;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that District hereby rescinds the approval of the Plumbing Bid from Joe Lombardo Plumbing & Heating of Rockland Inc.;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby rejects the Plumbing Bid from Joe Lombardo Plumbing & Heating of Rockland Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Interim Budget Resolution

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has worked with Library Administration since May 2026 to identify opportunities for savings and to address the Library's projected budget shortfall; and

WHEREAS, through actions already taken by the Board, the projected budget shortfall has been reduced from approximately \$216,000 to approximately \$82,000; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to address the remaining shortfall through a proportionate allocation of savings targets across departments, while preserving each department's existing book budget;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby directs the Interim Director and/or Business Manager to work with department heads to develop specific, actionable cost-saving proposals that collectively address the remaining budget shortfall, using the following departmental savings targets:

- Administration: \$35,000
- Adult Services: \$10,000
- Youth Services: \$8,300
- Circulation: \$7,600
- Technology: \$7,300
- Buildings & Grounds: \$5,400
- IT: \$5,400
- Security: \$3,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the savings proposals shall not reduce any department's existing book budget;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Interim Director and/or Business Manager shall submit the proposed savings measures, including the anticipated savings, budgetary impact, and operational implications of each proposal, to the Board at least seven calendar days prior to the October 28, 2026 regular Board meeting;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proposed savings measures shall be presented to the Board for review and approval, and that no specific reductions shall be implemented pursuant to this resolution until approved by the Board, except for actions already authorized under existing Board policies, resolutions, or delegated administrative authority;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Interim Director and/or Business Manager shall identify any remaining projected budget shortfall following the proposed reductions and present additional recommendations as necessary to achieve a balanced budget by October 31, 2026.

- **Dedicated public service leader with a history of success in making library services relevant and accessible to all members of a community.**
- **Innovative manager with experience in all aspects of public administration, including management of municipal, association, special district, and school district libraries.**
- **Constituency builder able to engage diverse community populations in high-impact library service.**
- **Practiced advocate for the value libraries bring to the lives of community members.**
- **Successful fundraiser with experience in direct solicitation, event management, and grant writing.**

- Port Jervis Free Library (school district library) March 2026 – September 2026
- Pearl River Library (school district library) October 2024 – May 2025
- Field Library (association library) March 2024 – October 2024
- West Nyack Free Library (association library) April 2023 – January 2024
- Nyack Library (association library) June 2022 – February 2023
- Mamaroneck Public Library (special district library) February – October 2020

- Resolved personnel issues
- Hired professional, clerical, and custodial staff to fill full-time and part-time positions
- Successfully wrote State-funded grants to support construction projects
- Managed construction projects
- Planned Board and budget elections
- Assisted Board in hiring of new directors
- Held successful 414 budget vote (Field)
- Interviewed and retained design firm to create new library website (Field, Mamaroneck)
- Managed library during initial COVID-19 crisis and crafted successful safety/reopening plan (Mamaroneck)
- Managed move to temporary quarters (Pearl River)
- Managed migration of IT support from Library System to private contractor (Nyack)

- Managed creation and implementation of library's first Long Range Plan
- Capital improvement projects completed: Yonkers Riverfront Library – art gallery (\$500,000, 2013), technology training room (\$900,000, 2016); Grinton I. Will Library – façade project (\$4m, 2016), bathroom redesign (\$100,000 2009)
- Implemented new VOIP phone system, internet filtering system, help desk, web redesign
- Launched program to establish an ongoing performance appraisal process
- Designed new process to stream-line acquisitions through the purchase of shelf-ready materials
- Served on the Yonkers School Libraries Council and Chamber of Commerce

Ossining Public Library (school district library), *Director 1992 to 2006*

Managed a \$2.5m budget and a staff of 48 (28 FTE) serving over 33,000 town residents. Directly responsible for budgeting, collection development, facilities management, long-range planning, and personnel administration. Coordinated fundraising and public relations, edited quarterly newsletter (The Byline). Acted as liaison with community organizations, school district, and local government. Negotiated contracts. Acted as personnel director establishing training and development programs and goals, defining personnel policies, managing CSEA union relations and contract negotiations.

Key Activities and Accomplishments:

- Led successful campaigns for building expansion, culminating in the approval of a \$15.84m bond for construction of the new Ossining Public Library that opened August 2006. This 48,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art community resource was Westchester's first LEED-certified building, featuring inviting spaces for quiet study, print and non-print collections, Internet access, computer training, a 250 seat auditorium, meeting rooms, an art gallery, a café, and several special-use areas for teens and children.
- Increased circulation and traffic 75% over 10 years largely as a result of customer-focused policies and aggressive marketing efforts that brought patrons into OPL.
- Designed and maintained the OPL website, which attracted over 6,000 monthly visitors. The site included a "The Director's Corner" blog covering current events and library news of interest to the community. Posted the budget, Board minutes, and an active chronicle on construction of the new library to increase transparency of operations and build community trust and support.
- Instituted six-year collaboration with the school district for Teacher in Library program to serve "at-risk" students after school.

Field Library of Peekskill (association library), *Director 1985 to 1992*

Managed a \$975k budget and staff of 17 FTE serving over 19,000 city residents. Directly responsible for budgeting, collection development, facilities management, long-range planning, and personnel administration. Prepared budget presentations for the City Council. Managed endowment. Developed a substantial audio-visual collection and maintained a large local history collection.

Key Activities and Accomplishments:

- Increased circulation 135% in seven years largely driven by a focused effort to identify and meet the needs and interests of the community
- Started a comprehensive public law library funded by the local Bar Association
- Opened the original Field Library Bookstore, a major funding source for library acquisitions
- Coordinated Peekskill's implementation of the WESTLYNX automation system
- Guided the organization through its Centennial in 1987

Brooklyn Public Library, *Assistant Branch Librarian 1980-1983, Branch Librarian 1983-1985*

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION

Professional leadership (selected):

- Public Library Director's Association - three-time President
- New York Library Association - Active member, past Treasurer
- Westchester Library Association -Former Treasurer

Degrees:

- Masters in Public Administration, Baruch College
- Masters in Library Science, Pratt Institute
- Bachelor of Arts, Brooklyn College

RCLS Construction Grants Awarded to FML

Year	Grant #	Grant Name	Projected Cost of Project	Amount Awarded	Amount Received (90%)	Project Status	Notes
2026	0386-27-2306	Electrical Construction for Library Expansion	Did Not Summit			Not Submitted	
2025	0386-26-1685	New Entry	\$650,000	\$194,532	In the mail	Open	
2024	0386-25-1171	Geothermal Installation	\$819,011	\$385,782	\$347,203	Open	Testing has been done
2023	0386-24-0682	Demolition & Foundation	\$502,500	\$208,538	\$187,684	Open	Enrichment Center has been demolished
2023	0386-24-0550	2 New Boilers (& Air Handler)	\$587,000	\$243,605	\$219,244	Open	2 Boilers are installed.
2022	0386-23-0083	Purchase & Install 2 New Boilers	Did Not Submit			Not submitted	
2021	0386-22-9344	Roof Replacement & Parking Garage Deck & Waterproofing	\$785,000	\$245,090		Closed	
2020	0386-21-9073	Security & Safety Upgrades	\$137,868	\$66,739		Closed	
2018	0386-19-7823	HVAC Generator & External Security Cameras	\$731,893	\$432,398		Closed	
2016	0386-17-6854	Administration Renovations, 4 Public Restrooms, Automated Handler & 2 Self-Checkout Kiosks	\$407,379	\$172,491		Closed	
2015	0386-16-6372	Adult Reference Desk Construction	\$148,638	\$111,479		Closed	
2014	0386-15-5729	Youth Services, Technology Lab & Staff Area Renovations	\$123,201	\$43,120		Closed	
2006	0386-07-3706	Prior FY Application Imported from MSAccess	\$136,747	\$45,768		Closed	

Year	Grant #	Grant Name	Projected Cost of Project	Amount Awarded	Amount Received			
2023	0386-24-0550	2 New Boilers & Air Handler	\$587,000	\$243,605	\$219,244			
		30-H1620-200-00						
Date	Voucher #	Vendor	Check #	Amount				
6/30/2024	28120	Journal News	244	\$104				
8/28/2024	28364	Galway Bay Restoration Inc	245	\$92,700				
8/28/2024	28404	Perillo Associates	246	\$2,500				
1/22/2025	29295	Mike Esmay Architect	251	\$1,500				
1/22/2025	29453	Galway Bay Restoration Inc	253	\$92,700				
5/28/2025	30182	Galway Bay Restoration Inc	259	\$15,188				
7/31/2025	30860	Galway Bay Restoration Inc	263	\$73,610				
7/31/2025	30858	Trane US Inc Rental Services	264	\$2,320				
7/31/2025	30859	Trane US Inc Rental Services	264	\$1,160				
8/27/2025	30890	All Bright Electric	265	\$1,206				
8/27/2025	30910	Hauser Brothers Inc	266	\$11,528				
10/31/2025	31559	VSR Mechanical	271	\$9,750				
6/24/2026	33158	Perillo Associates	285	\$8,500				
8/31/2026	33555	VSR Mechanical	287	\$89,300				
Expenses to date				\$402,066	Total			

Year	Grant #	Grant Name	Projected Cost of Project	Amount Awarded	Amout Received
2023	0386-24-0682	Demolition & Foundation (Addition)	\$502,500	\$208,538	\$187,684

		30-H1620-660-00			
Date	Voucher #	Vendor	Check #	Amount	
1/22/2025	29355	Tekcon Construction Inc	252	\$32,413.50	
4/23/2025	30165	Tekcon Construction Inc	257	\$3,528	
6/18/2025	30468	Tekcon Construction Inc	260	\$89,058.50	
8/27/2025	31122	Tekcon Construction Inc	268	\$250	
12/10/2025	31895	Busy Bee Septic and Excavating	275	\$1,500	
Expenses to date				<u>\$126,750.00</u>	<u>Total</u>

Year	Grant #	Grant Name	Projected Cost of Project	Amount Awarded	Amout Received
2024	0386-25-1171	Geothermal Installation	\$819,011	\$385,782	\$347,203
		30-H1620-680-00			
Date	Voucher #	Vendor	Check #	Amount	
10/31/2025	31595	Friendly Heating & Plumbing	272	\$12,880	
4/29/2026	32758	Friendly Heating & Plumbing	282	\$12,880	
Expenses to date				<u>\$25,760</u>	<u>Total</u>

Year	Grant #	Grant Name	Projected Cost of Project	Amount Awarded	Amout Received
2025	0386-26-1685	New Entry (Addition)	\$650,000	\$194,532	In the mail

		30-H1620-660-00			
Date	Voucher #	Vendor	Check #	Amount	

Federal Award Grant				
Grant #	Grant Amount	Grant Name	Project Period	Extension Requested Until
CE150364	\$2,000,000	Community Project Funding	9/30/2023 - 9/29/2026	9/26/2027
		30-H1620-660-00		
Date	Voucher #	Vendor	Check #	Amount
4/30/2024	27371	Mike Esmay Architect	242	\$15,000
1/22/2025	29296	Mike Esmay Architect	251	\$7,500
3/26/2025	29902	National Construction Rental (Fencing)	255	\$5,345.92
4/23/2025	30039	Mike Esmay Architect	256	\$60,000
5/28/2025	30198	United Assurance Insurance	258	\$36,630.94
7/31/2025	30696	Spring Valley Village of Panning Board	261	\$375
7/31/2025	30698	Spring Valley Village of Panning Board	262	\$4,000
8/27/2025	30911	Mike Esmay Architect	267	\$1,875
10/31/2025	31420	Mike Esmay Architect	270	\$60,000
12/10/2025	31899	Spring Valley, Village Zoning Board	277	\$750
12/10/2025	31900	Spring Valley, Village Zoning Board	278	\$3,500
1/21/2026	32153	Mike Esmay Architect	279	\$60,000
3/25/2026	32531	Mike Esmay Architect	281	\$4,948
3/25/2026	32532	Mike Esmay Architect	281	\$81,375
6/24/2026	33159	Mike Esmay Architect	284	\$2,166.33
6/24/2026	33159	Mike Esmay Architect	284	\$49,500
8/31/2026	33556	Journal News Legal Advertising	286	\$741.60
			Total	<u>\$393,707.79</u>
		Legal Advertising	\$741.60	
		Architect	\$342,364.33	
		Land Survey	\$4,375	
		Permits	\$4,250	
		Insurance	\$36,630.94	
		Fencing	\$5,345.92	
		Total	<u>\$393,707.79</u>	

	Account Code	Category	2025-2026	4.50%	Interim Budget
00	10-L1964-400-00	REFUND OR REAL PROPERT TAXES		\$ -	
00	10-L4800-150-00	OTHER PREPAID EXPENSES		\$ -	
00	10-L7410-141-00	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 400,139.00	\$ 420,151.00	\$ 407,138.71
00	10-L7410-144-00	CLERICAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 155,506.00	\$ 167,945.00	\$ 167,945.00
00	10-L7410-145-00	CLERICAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 70,718.96	\$ 61,915.36	\$ 61,915.36
00	10-L7410-200-00	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
00	10-L7410-201-00	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	\$ 42,627.00	\$ 37,727.00	\$ 37,727.00
00	10-L7410-417-00	COMPUTER SOFTWARE	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
00	10-L7410-429-00	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$ 4,940.00	\$ 5,440.00	\$ 3,000.00
00	10-L7410-430-00	LIBRARY SUPPLIES	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
00	10-L7410-432-00	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 17,259.00	\$ 17,259.00	\$ 15,000.00
00	10-L7410-433-00	POSTAGE & FREIGHT	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
00	10-L7410-434-00	PROGRAMS - LITERACY	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
00	10-L7410-435-00	PUBLICITY & PUBLICATIONS	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
00	10-L7410-436-00	COMPUTER NETWORK - ANSER	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 112,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
00	10-L7410-437-00	HR CONSULTING-STRATUS		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-438-00	COMPUTER SUPPLIES		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-439-00	CONSULTING SERVICES	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
00	10-L7410-440-00	BOOK PROCESSING		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-441-00	MILEAGE & TRAVEL	\$ 7,600.00	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
00	10-L7410-442-00	MEETINGS, MEMBERSHIPS & CONFERENCES	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
00	10-L7410-443-00	PAYROLL PROCESSING	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
00	10-L7410-444-00	COMPUTER SERVICES		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-445-00	SERVICE CONTRACTS & TECH SUPPORT		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-446-00	EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
00	10-L7410-447-00	CENTENIAL PROGRAMMING		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-448-00	CREDIT CARD FEES	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
00	10-L7410-449-00	GRANT WRITING EXPENSES.		\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
00	10-L7410-450-00	UTILITIES	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
00	10-L7410-452-00	BUILDING REPAIRS - AUTO ACCIDENT		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-454-00	LIABILITY INSURANCE	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 126,451.00
00	10-L7410-460-00	ENRICHMENT CENTER		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-461-00	ENRICHMENT CENTER-INSURANCE 0.00		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-900-00	SEWER TAXES . 14,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
00	10-L7410-901-00	ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE 10,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
00	10-L7410-903-00	PROFESSIONAL & LEGAL FEES 70,000.00	\$ 54,500.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
00	10-L7410-904-00	MTA PAYROLL TAX 0.00		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L7410-905-00	RCLS ANNUAL FEE 0.00		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L8801-000-00	OTHER EXPENSE 0.00		\$ -	\$ -
00	10-L9010-800-00	EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT 740,000.00	\$ 640,000.00	\$ 740,000.00	\$ 740,000.00
00	10-L9030-800-00	SOCIAL SECURITY 400,000.00	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 400,000.00
00	10-L9040-800-00	WORKERS COMPENSATION 80,000.00	\$ 78,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
00	10-L9050-800-00	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE 15,000.00	\$ 7,350.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
00	10-L9055-800-00	DISABILITY INSURANCE 17,500.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 17,500.00
00	10-L9060-800-00	HEALTH INSURANCE 1,800,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00
00	10-L9089-800-00	TUITION REIMBURSEMENT 3,675.00	\$ 2,675.00	\$ 3,675.00	\$ 3,675.00
01	10-L7410-141-01	PROFESSIONAL SALAIRES - F.T.	\$ 535,976.00	\$ 550,610.00	\$ 547,748.82
01	10-L7410-142-01	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 134,425.00	\$ 115,802.00	\$ 115,802.00
01	10-L7410-143-01	PARA-PROFESSIONAL SALARIES	\$ 224,661.32	\$ 361,372.52	\$ 361,372.52
01	10-L7410-144-01	CLERICAL SALARIES - F.T.		\$ -	
01	10-L7410-145-01	CLERICAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 19,120.92	\$ -	\$ -
01	10-L7410-200-01	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
01	10-L7410-201-01	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT		\$ -	\$ -

	Account Code	Category	2025-2026	4.50%	Interim Budget
01	40-L7410-4141-01	SERVICES AND ANNUALS	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
01	10-L7410-412-01	DATABASE	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
01	10-L7410-415-01	PERIODICALS	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
01	10-L7410-416-01	MICROFORMS		\$ -	\$ -
01	10-L7410-417-01	COMPUTER SOFTWARE		\$ -	\$ -
01	10-L7410-418-01	VIDEO GAMES	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
01	10-L7410-420-01	AUDIO - COMPACT DISCS	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
01	10-L7410-422-01	VIDEO - DVD'S	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
01	10-L7410-424-01	AUDIO BOOKS:	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
01	10-L7410-425-01	DIGITAL DOWNLOADS	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 95,000.00
01	10-L7410-426-01	MUSEUM PASSES	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
01	10-L7410-429-01	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
01	10-L7410-430-01	LIBRARY SUPPLIES	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
01	10-L7410-434-01	PROGRAMS	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 21,251.00
01	10-L7410-435-01	PROGRAMS - YOUNG ADULT		\$ -	\$ -
01	10-L7410-439-01	CONSULTING SERVICES		\$ -	\$ -
01	10-L7410-441-01	Adult Services-Mileage		\$ -	\$ -
01	10-L7410-442-01	Adult Services-Meetings		\$ -	\$ -
01	10-L7410-445-01	TECH SUPPORT & LICENSES	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-141-02	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - F.T	\$ 451,140.00	\$ 443,890.00	\$ 441,279.20
02	10-L7410-142-02	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 53,560.00	\$ 113,542.00	\$ 113,542.00
02	10-L7410-143-02	PARA-PROFESSIONAL SALARIES	\$ 181,771.00	\$ 188,473.00	\$ 188,473.00
02	10-L7410-145-02	CLERICAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 35,880.00	\$ 46,800.00	\$ 46,800.00
02	10-L7410-146-02	PAGE SALARIES	\$ 83,018.00	\$ 93,704.00	\$ 93,704.00
02	10-L7410-150-02	SALARIES - YOUTH EMPLOYMENT GRANT		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-200-02	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
02	10-L7410-201-02	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-203-02	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT- CARLUCCI YA		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-410-02	BOOKS - CHILDREN	\$ 129,500.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
02	10-L7410-411-02	SERVICES AND ANNUALS-CHILDREN		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-412-02	MACHINE READABLE MAT & SEARCH SVCS		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-413-02	BOOKS (TEEN /YA)	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
02	10-L7410-415-02	PERIODICALS	\$ 250.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
02	10-L7410-417-02	COMPUTER SOFTWARE		\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
02	10-L7410-420-02	AUDIO - COMPACT DISCS		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-421-02	BOOKS WITH CASSETTES		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-422-02	AV/ DVD/ CD	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
02	10-L7410-424-02	AUDIO BOOKS	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 4,400.00
02	10-L7410-429-02	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
02	10-L7410-430-02	LIBRARY SUPPLIES	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,500.00
02	10-L7410-432-02	TARGET GRANT-SNACKS.		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-434-02	PROGRAMS	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
02	10-L7410-435-02	PROGRAMS - YOUNG ADULT	\$ 7,750.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
02	10-L7410-437-02	GRANTS		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-438-02	BOOKS & SUPPLIES - DIA BOOK CLUB		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-439-02	CONSULTING SERVICES - WEB SITE		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-441-02	Children's Services-Mileage		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-442-02	Children's Services-Meetings		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-444-02	TARGET GRANT-CONSULTANTS		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-445-02	TECH SUPPORT & LICENSES		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-452-02	BUILDING & REPAIRS - CARLUCCI YA		\$ -	\$ -
02	10-L7410-462-02	ARTS COUNCIL DRUMMING GRANT 0.00		\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-141-03	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 157,936.00	\$ 175,776.00	\$ 173,385.10

	Account Code	Category	2025-2026	4.50%	Interim Budget
03	10-L7410-142-03	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - F.T.		\$ -	
03	10-L7410-144-03	CLERICAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 408,880.00	\$ 361,942.00	\$ 361,942.00
03	10-L7410-145-03	CLERICAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 275,158.00	\$ 290,859.00	\$ 290,859.00
03	10-L7410-146-03	PAGE SALARIES	\$ 80,614.00	\$ 119,940.00	\$ 119,940.00
03	10-L7410-147-03	COURIER SALARIES - F.T.		\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-200-03	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-201-03	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT		\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-412-03	AUDIO ON LINE		\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-417-03	COMPUTER SOFTWARE		\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-420-03	AUDIO - COMPACT DISCS	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
03	10-L7410-422-03	VIDEO - DVD'S	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
03	10-L7410-425-03	DIGITAL DOWNLOADS	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-429-03	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
03	10-L7410-430-03	LIBRARY SUPPLIES	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
03	10-L7410-435-03	PUBLICITY & PUBLICATIONS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
03	10-L7410-441-03	Circulation-Mileage		\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-442-03	Circulation-Meetings		\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-445-03	TECH SUPPORT & LICENSES		\$ -	\$ -
03	10-L7410-451-03	CIRCULATION-SERVICE CONTRACTS	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
03	10-L7410-452-03	CIRCULATION-GAS FOR VAN		\$ -	\$ -
04	10-L7410-141-04	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 395,715.00	\$ 380,044.00	\$ 376,046.60
04	10-L7410-142-04	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - P.T.		\$ -	
04	10-L7410-143-04	PARA-PROFESSIONAL SALARIES P.T.		\$ -	
04	10-L7410-144-04	CLERICAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 318,473.00	\$ 332,837.00	\$ 332,837.00
04	10-L7410-145-04	CLERICAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 7,700.00	\$ 17,420.00	\$ 17,420.00
04	10-L7410-200-04	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
04	10-L7410-201-04	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT		\$ -	\$ -
04	10-L7410-410-04	BOOKS - ADULT	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 149,000.00
04	10-L7410-413-04	BINDERY EXPENSE	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
04	10-L7410-429-04	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
04	10-L7410-430-04	LIBRARY SUPPLIES	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
04	10-L7410-434-04	PROGRAMS		\$ -	\$ -
04	10-L7410-438-04	COMPUTER SUPPLIES		\$ -	\$ -
04	10-L7410-439-04	CONSULTING SERVICES		\$ -	\$ -
04	10-L7410-440-04	BOOK PROCESSING	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
04	10-L7410-441-04	Technical Services-Mileage		\$ -	\$ -
04	10-L7410-442-04	Technical Services-Meetings		\$ -	\$ -
04	10-L7410-443-04	TECHNICAL SERVICES -MAKER SPACE	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
04	10-L7410-445-04	TECH SUPPORT & LICENSES		\$ -	\$ -
05	10-L7410-147-05	CUSTODIAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 335,975.00	\$ 350,850.00	\$ 347,409.00
05	10-L7410-148-05	CUSTODIAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 40,320.00	\$ 43,285.00	\$ 43,285.00
05	10-L7410-149-05	SECURITY SALARIES		\$ -	\$ -
05	10-L7410-150-05	COURIER SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 49,970.00	\$ 52,142.00	\$ 52,142.00
05	10-L7410-200-05	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
05	10-L7410-201-05	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
05	10-L7410-429-05	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
05	10-L7410-441-05	Buildings & Grounds-Mileage		\$ -	\$ -
05	10-L7410-442-05	Bulidings & Grounds-Meetings		\$ -	\$ -
05	10-L7410-451-05	BLDG. MAINTENANCE-SERVICE CONTRACTS	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 148,000.00
05	10-L7410-452-05	BUILDING REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
05	10-L7410-453-05	SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACTS	\$ 9,400.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
05	10-L7410-455-05	EQUIPMENT RENTAL		\$ -	\$ -
05	10-L7410-456-05	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	\$ 25,250.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 20,000.00

	Account Code	Category	2025-2026	4.50%	Interim Budget
05	10-L7410-457-05	GROUPS SUPPLIES		\$ 1,250.00	\$ -
05	10-L7410-460-05	CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.		\$ -	\$ -
05	10-L7410-461-05	B&G- GAS FOR VAN 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
06	10-L7410-141-06	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 128,164.00	\$ 136,623.00	\$ 133,290.74
06	10-L7410-143-06	PARA-PROFESSIONAL SALARIES	\$ 65,054.00	\$ 68,681.00	\$ 68,681.00
06	10-L7410-144-06	CLERICAL SALARIES - F.T.	\$ 215,690.00	\$ 227,920.00	\$ 227,920.00
06	10-L7410-145-06	CLERICAL SALARIES - P.T.	\$ 62,712.00	\$ 62,712.00	\$ 62,712.00
06	10-L7410-200-06	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
06	10-L7410-201-06	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
06	10-L7410-202-06	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT-RCLS MIGRATION		\$ -	\$ -
06	10-L7410-417-06	COMPUTER SOFTWARE	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
06	10-L7410-425-06	DIGITAL DOWNLOADS		\$ -	\$ -
06	10-L7410-428-06	MINOR EQUIPMENT - COMPUTERS	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 10,000.00
06	10-L7410-429-06	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
06	10-L7410-430-06	LIBRARY SUPPLIES	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
06	10-L7410-431-06	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$ 48,800.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
06	10-L7410-436-06	COMPUTER NETWORK - MILLENNIUM		\$ -	\$ -
06	10-L7410-438-06	COMPUTER SUPPLIES	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
06	10-L7410-439-06	TRAINING PROGRAM	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
06	10-L7410-441-06	IT-Mileage		\$ -	\$ -
06	10-L7410-442-06	IT-Meetings		\$ -	\$ -
06	10-L7410-444-06	COMPUTER SERVICES	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 27,196.00	\$ 27,196.00
06	10-L7410-445-06	TECH SUPPORT & LICENSES	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 71,500.00	\$ 71,500.00
07	10-L7410-141-07	PROFESSIONAL SALARIES - F.T.		\$ -	
07	10-L7410-145-07	CLERICAL SALARIES - P.T.		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-149-07	SECURITY SALARIES	\$ 410,468.20	\$ 429,339.12	\$ 356,365.12
07	10-L7410-201-07	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
07	10-L7410-417-07	COMPUTER SOFTWARE		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-428-07	MINOR EQUIPMENT-COMPUTERS,	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-429-07	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-431-07	TELECOMMUNICATIONS		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-436-07	COMPUTER NETWORK		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-438-07	COMPUTER SUPPLIES		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-441-07	Security-Mileage		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-442-07	Security-Meetings		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-444-07	COMPUTER SERVICES		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-445-07	TECH SUPPORT & LICENSES		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-449-07	COMPUTER NETWORK LEASE PAYMENTS		\$ -	\$ -
07	10-L7410-452-07	SECURITY EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
07	10-L7410-454-07	SECURITY CONTRACTS	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
07	10-L7410-458-07	SECURITY SUPPLIES	\$ 6,300.00	\$ 6,300.00	\$ 3,500.00
07	10-L7410-470-07	SECURITY-TRAINING 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
08	10-L7410-143-08	PARA-PROFESSIONAL SALARIES		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-144-08	CLERICAL SALARIES - F.T.		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-145-08	CLERICAL SALARIES - P.T.		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-200-08	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-410-08	BOOKS - TRADITIONAL		\$ -	
08	10-L7410-412-08	AUDIO ON LINE/ZINIO		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-417-08	VIDEO GAMES		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-420-08	AUDIO - COMPACT DISCS		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-422-08	VIDEO - DVDS		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-424-08	AUDIO BOOKS		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-425-08	DIGITAL DOWNLOADS		\$ -	\$ -

	Account Code	Category	2025-2026	4.50%	Interim Budget
08	10-L7410-429-08	MINOR EQUIPMENT		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-430-08	LIBRARY SUPPLIES		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-434-08	PROGRAMS		\$ -	\$ -
08	10-L7410-435-08	PUBLICITY & PUBLICATIONS		\$ -	\$ -
09	10-L7410-149-09	SALARIES-ENRICHMENT CENTER		\$ -	\$ -
09	10-L7410-421-09	ENRICHMENT CTR-OTHER		\$ -	\$ -
09	10-L7410-450-09	UTILITIES-ENRICHMENT CENTER	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
09	10-L7410-451-09	BLDG MAINT/CONTRACTS-ENRICHMENT CTR	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
09	10-L7410-454-09	LIABILITY INSURANCE-ENRICHMENT CTR		\$ -	\$ -
09	10-L7410-460-09	ENRICHMENT CENTER	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 22,500.00
09	10-L7410-900-09	SEWER TAXES-ENRICHMENT CENTER 0.00		\$ -	\$ -
5,	10-17410-454-05,	SECURITY CONTRACTS		\$ -	\$ -
5,	10-L7410-458-05,	SECURITY SUPPLIES		\$ -	\$ -
5,	10-L7410-459-05,	2ND FLOOR CONSTRUCTION		\$ -	\$ -
	TOTAL		\$ 10,065,846.40	\$ 10,488,222.00	\$ 10,230,555.17
				delta	\$ 215,709.17
				holiday sundays	\$ 164,109.17
				saturdays	\$ 150,109.17
				TS subs	\$ 141,109.17
				added books/digital	\$ 81,109.17



No. 18853

The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department
Before the Commissioner

Appeal of VINCENT SQUITIERI from action of the
Board of Trustees of the Peninsula Public Library
regarding board practices.

Appeal of ARIEL DAHAN from action of the Board
of Trustees of the Finkelstein Memorial Library
regarding an election.¹

Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC, attorneys for respondent Peninsula Public Library,
Tyleana K. Venable, Esq., of counsel

Law Office of Stephanie Adams, PLLC, attorneys for respondent Finkelstein
Memorial Library, Stephanie A. Adams, Esq., of counsel

Petitioner Vincent Squitieri appeals from a decision by the Board of Trustees of the Peninsula Public Library ("Peninsula") to modify its bylaws to permit appointees to serve the duration of unexpired terms. In a separate appeal, petitioner Ariel Dahan appeals from a decision by the Board of Trustees of the Finkelstein Memorial Library ("Finkelstein"; collectively, "respondents") to fill a trustee vacancy for the remainder of an unexpired term. Because the appeals present an identical legal issue, they are consolidated for decision (8 NYCRR 275.18). The appeals must be sustained.

Prior to the events described herein, Peninsula's provisional charter permitted the filling of trustee vacancies for the remainder of an unexpired term, while its bylaws permitted Peninsula to fill vacancies only until the next annual election. On March 12, 2026, Peninsula amended its bylaws to state: "[i]n cases of a vacancy in the office of trustee arising other than by expiration

¹ To the extent petitioner Dahan also names the Finkelstein Memorial Library as a respondent, "there is no [legal] difference between the entities" for purposes of this appeal (*Appeal of Bello*, 65 Ed Dept Rep, Decision No. 18,699).

of an incumbent [t]rustee's term of office, such vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the Library Charter for the balance of the unexpired term by vote of the remaining trustees." That same day, a trustee resigned and Peninsula appointed a current trustee, whose term was set to expire on June 30, 2026, to carry out the remainder of the vacated seat, which is set to expire on June 30, 2029.

Petitioner Dahan is a resident of the East Ramapo Central School District, the area served by the Finkelstein Memorial Library. He was also a candidate in Finkelstein's May 2026 library election. On January 29, 2026, a trustee resigned from Finkelstein's board. Thereafter, on March 17, 2026, the board appointed Oluwaseyi Banjo to fill the vacant seat for the remainder of the term. On April 21, 2026, the library's personnel officer informed petitioner Dahan that the trustee seat held by Ms. Banjo would not be placed on the May 12, 2026 ballot. These appeals ensued. Petitioners' requests for interim relief were denied.

Petitioners argue that respondents' actions violate Education Law § 226 (4), which permits the appointment of trustees to open positions only until the next regularly scheduled election. For relief, petitioner Squitieri seeks orders invalidating Peninsula's bylaw amendment and directing it to place any trustee vacancies on the ballot at the next library election. Petitioner Dahan seeks, in addition to relief concerning the May 2026 election, an order limiting Ms. Banjo's term until the next library election.

Peninsula argues that petitioner Squitieri's appeal should be dismissed for improper service, as untimely, and for failure to join necessary parties. On the merits, respondents contend that the introductory language of Education Law § 226 permits libraries to fill vacancies for the remainder of a trustee's unexpired term.

Initially, I must address Peninsula's procedural challenges. First, I decline to dismiss the appeal for improper service. Section 275.8 (a) of the Commissioner's regulations requires that the petition be personally served upon each named respondent. Respondent has the burden of proof to establish any affirmative defenses (8 NYCRR 275.12 [a]; *see generally Appeal of Kenton*, 54 Ed Dept Rep, Decision No. 16,649; *Application of Simmons*, 53 *id.*, Decision No. 16,596; *Appeal of Mogel*, 41 *id.* 127, Decision No. 14,636). Here, respondent alleges that petitioner Squitieri "did not effect personal service on the Library Board of Trustees" by serving the district clerk of the Lawrence Union Free School District. Given the close legal relationship between school district public libraries and the school districts with which they are affiliated,² I find

² *See* New York State Public Library, "Public and Association Libraries: A Comparison," <https://nysl.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/libdev/libs/pltypes.pdf> (last accessed Sept. 17, 2026).

that Peninsula appropriately received notice of this appeal through service on the district clerk.³ Thus, Peninsula has not met its burden of proving improper service of the petition (*see Appeal of T.V. and J.V.*, 62 Ed Dept Rep, Decision No. 18,265; *Appeal of T.R.*, 59 *id.*, Decision No. 17,794; *Appeal of D.C.*, 59 *id.*, Decision No. 17,725).

Second, an appeal to the Commissioner must be commenced within 30 days from the decision or act complained of, unless any delay is excused by the Commissioner for good cause shown (8 NYCRR 275.16; *Appeal of Saxena*, 57 Ed Dept Rep, Decision No. 17,239; *Appeal of Lippolt*, 48 *id.* 457, Decision No. 15,914). Contrary to Peninsula's contention, petitioner Squitieri's challenge to its March 12, 2026 bylaw amendment is timely as he filed his appeal within 30 days thereof.

Third, I decline to dismiss the appeal against Peninsula for failure to join necessary parties. As indicated above, petitioner Squitieri challenges Peninsula's March 2026 amendment to its bylaws. For relief, he seeks annulment thereof—but not the removal of any trustees. Therefore, I find that the board is the only appropriate respondent with respect to this claim.⁴

Turning to the merits, in an appeal to the Commissioner, a petitioner has the burden of demonstrating a clear legal right to the relief requested and establishing the facts upon which he or she seeks relief (8 NYCRR 275.10; *Appeal of P.C. and K.C.*, 57 Ed Dept Rep, Decision No. 17,337; *Appeal of Aversa*, 48 *id.* 523, Decision No. 15,936; *Appeal of Hansen*, 48 *id.* 354, Decision No. 15,884).

Education Law § 226 concerns the powers that may be exercised by the trustees of educational institutions. Its introductory language contains a general disclaimer that such powers may be exercised “unless otherwise provided by law or by ... charter” Subdivision four addresses the power at issue here, indicating that trustees may “[f]ill any vacancy occurring in the office of any trustee by electing another for the unexpired term.” This is immediately followed by language added by Chapter 384 of the Laws of 1965 (“Chapter 384”), which states: “provided, however, that where trustees are elected by the legal voters the person so appointed to fill any such vacancy shall hold office until the next annual election of trustees.”

As indicated in the Assembly's memorandum of support, the intention of Chapter 384 was to prohibit the existing practice of allowing public libraries

³ In this respect, I take judicial notice that Peninsula's charter, a record on file with the State Education Department, does not identify an agent for service of process (8 NYCRR 276.6).

⁴ In any event, Peninsula would be bound by my interpretation of Education Law § 226 (4), a statute that the State Education Department is tasked with administering.

to "appoint []" individuals "... for the balance of [an] unexpired term." The memorandum explains that

many Boards of Trustees of local libraries have chosen to have their members elected by the voters of the district rather than chosen by the members of the board with the board retaining the power to fill vacancies It is inconsistent to have the voters of a district elect members to the board and still have the board retain the power to fill a vacancy for the balance of an unexpired term

Thus, the Assembly intended to ensure that these elective offices were held by people who were elected.

Given this, I find that the later-enacted language of Education Law § 226 (4) applies rather than the general disclaimer in the statute's introduction (*Appeal of P.B.*, 63 Ed Dept Rep, Decision No. 18,401 ["a more general statute generally must yield to a more specific statute"]). This is consistent with the manner in which school board vacancies are filled (*see e.g. Appeal of Rausch*, 41 Ed Dept Rep 351, Decision No. 14,710; *see generally* Education Law § 260 [trustees of school district public libraries "shall be elected by the legal voters in the same manner as trustees are elected in the school district which established said library"]; *Appeal of Crawford*, 60 Ed Dept Rep, Decision No. 17,959 [observing that both Education Law §§ 226 [4] and 1709 [7] "prescribe that a vacancy arises on a board where a member is removed from office and that a board may appoint a person to fill such vacancy only until the next election"]).

As the Attorney General observed in a memorandum of no objection, the Legislature could have "more appropriately" accomplished the goal of Chapter 384 by amending section 260 of the Education Law concerning the trustees of public libraries. But "[t]he primary consideration ... in the construction of statutes is to ascertain and give effect to the intention of the Legislature" (McKinney's Statutes § 92; *see also id.* at § 95). Given the unambiguous intention of Chapter 384, I decline to adopt respondents' interpretation thereof, which would render its enactment an exercise in futility.⁵

Thus, I find that petitioners have met their burden of showing that respondents' actions violated State law and, therefore, were arbitrary and capricious. As a remedy, I will direct respondents to place all trustee positions occupied by appointees who are not scheduled to participate in the next annual

⁵ The opinion of the Comptroller cited by Peninsula, Opinion 90-5, is inapposite as it concerns the process by which public library trustees may increase the size of their boards.

election of trustees on the ballot in May 2027. Any appointed trustees may continue to serve on, and shall be considered valid members of, their respective boards until that time.

In light of this determination, I need not address the parties' remaining contentions, including the applicability of Article XIII of the New York Constitution.

THE APPEALS ARE SUSTAINED.

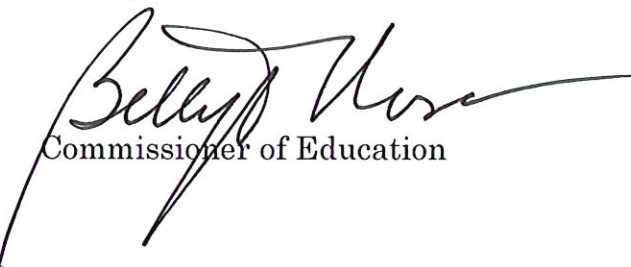
IT IS ORDERED that Peninsula's March 12, 2026 amendment to its bylaws is annulled; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondents modify their charters in conformity with this decision within 60 days; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondents place all trustee positions occupied by appointees who are not scheduled to participate in the next annual election of trustees on their respective ballots at the May 2027 election.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Betty A. Rosa, Commissioner of Education of the State of New York, for and on behalf of the State Education Department, do hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of the State Education Department, at the City of Albany, this 22nd day of September 2026.


Commissioner of Education

PO PURCHASE REQUISITION STATUS REPORT

Finkelstein Memorial Library

Status: Unapproved

FY 2026-2027

Requisitions: 0 to 2147483647

Purchase Orders: 0 to 2147483647

PO Dates: 07/01/2026 to 06/30/2027

PO Number	Pur Req Number	PO Date	Vendor	Status	Amount(\$)	Disc(\$)	Tax(\$)	Total(\$)	Invoice(\$)	Remaining Amount(\$)	Invoice Status
0	27837	08/31/2026	1405	UNAPPROVED	5,417.00	0.00	0.00	5,417.00	0.00	5,417.00	
Vendor:	Ramapo Catskill Library System			Reviewed By 1:				Reviewed By 3:			
Entered By:	Akoblick			Reviewed By 2:				Reviewed By 4:			
Approved By:											
Requested By:	A. Koblick										
0	27840	09/02/2026	1312	UNAPPROVED	5,679.29	0.00	0.00	5,679.29	0.00	5,679.29	
Vendor:	Midwest Tape Llc			Reviewed By 1:				Reviewed By 3:			
Entered By:	Sdaley			Reviewed By 2:				Reviewed By 4:			
Approved By:											
Requested By:	Susanne										
0	27845	09/08/2026	3667	UNAPPROVED	10,010.80	0.00	0.00	10,010.80	0.00	10,010.80	
Vendor:	The Law Office Of Stephanie Adams, Pllc			Reviewed By 1:				Reviewed By 3:			
Entered By:	Akoblick			Reviewed By 2:				Reviewed By 4:			
Approved By:											
Requested By:	A. Koblick										
0	27883	09/22/2026	3653	UNAPPROVED	6,633.28	0.00	0.00	6,633.28	0.00	6,633.28	
Vendor:	Metropolitan Security Services, Llc			Reviewed By 1:				Reviewed By 3:			
Entered By:	Jliz			Reviewed By 2:				Reviewed By 4:			
Approved By:											
Requested By:	J. Liz										
0	27884	09/22/2026	2643	UNAPPROVED	10,897.80	0.00	0.00	10,897.80	0.00	10,897.80	
Vendor:	E-Rate Advantage Llc			Reviewed By 1:				Reviewed By 3:			
Entered By:	Rowe			Reviewed By 2:				Reviewed By 4:			
Approved By:											

TOTALS -	ITEM AMOUNT:	\$38,638.17
	DISCOUNT:	\$0.00
	TAX:	\$0.00
	PO TOTAL:	\$38,638.17
	INVOICED:	\$0.00
	REMAINING AMOUNT:	\$38,638.17

FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2027 LIBRARY CALENDAR

24 CHESTNUT STREET
 SPRING VALLEY, NY 10977
 (845) 352-5700

DRAFT #1

BETH ZAMBITO, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

S M T W TH F S

JANUARY

						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							

1/1 - CLOSED - New Year's Day
 1/8 OPEN 11am - 6pm Staff Development
 1/10 - CLOSED - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 1/27 Board Meeting 6:30 P.M.

FEBRUARY

		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28							

2/5 OPEN 11am - 6pm Staff Development
 2/15 - CLOSED - Presidents' Day
 2/24 Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

MARCH

		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

3/5 OPEN 11am - 6pm Staff Development
 3/24 Board Meeting 6:30p.m.
 3/26 CLOSED - GOOD FRIDAY
 3/28 CLOSED - EASTER

APRIL

					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30		

4/22 OPEN 9 - 1 Passover (First Day)
 4/22 CLOSED - Good Friday
 4/22 CLOSED - Easter
 4/22 OPEN 11am-6pm Staff Development
 4/28 Board Meeting 6:30pm

MAY

							1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

5/7 OPEN 11am-6pm Staff Development
 5/31 CLOSED - Memorial Day
 5/26 Board Meeting 6:30pm

JUNE

		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

6/4 OPEN 11am-6pm Staff Development
 6/18 CLOSED - Juneteenth
 6/23 Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	
JULY								7/4 CLOSED - Independence Day
					1	2	3	7/5 CLOSED - Independence Day
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	7/9 OPEN 11am - 6pm. Staff Development
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	7/25 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
AUGUST								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8/6 OPEN 11am - 6pm Staff Development
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8/25 Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	29	30	31					
SEPTEMBER								
				1	2	3	4	9/10 OPEN 11am-6pm Staff Development
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9/6 CLOSED - Labor Day
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10/1 OPEN 9 - 1 Rosh Hashana Eve
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	10/2 CLOSED - Rosh Hashana
	26	27	28	29	30			10/10 - CLOSED - Yom Kippur Eve
								10/11 - CLOSED - Yom Kippur
								9/22 Board Meeting 6:30pm
OCTOBER						1	2	
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10/0 OPEN 11am-6pm Staff Devel.
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10/11 -CLOSED-Indigenous People's/Columbus Day
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	10/27 Board Meeting 6:30pm
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	31							
NOVEMBER								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	11/5 OPEN 11am - 6pm Staff Development
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11/11 CLOSED - Veteran's Day
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11/17 Board Meeting 6:30pm
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	11/24 CLOSED - Thanksgiving Eve
	28	29	30					11/25 -CLOSED - Thanksgiving Day
								11/26 - CLOSED
DECEMBER								
				1	2	3	4	12/3 OPEN 12pm - 6pm Staff Development
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12/25 Chanukah (1st Day) CLOSED
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12/15 -Board Meeting 6:30pm
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	12/24 OPEN 9 -1 Christmas Eve
	26	27	28	29	30	31		12/25 CLOSED - Christmas Day
								12/31 OPEN 9 - 1 - New Year's Eve
								Board of Trustees:
								Esther Waldman - President
								Yossi Rubinstein - Vice President
								Oluwaseyi Banjo Ariel Dahan
								Darnett Davis Yehudis Gottesfeld
								James Johnson

AFTER
HOLIDAY
WEEKEND

AFTER
HOLIDAY
WEEKEND

Calendar for Year 2027 (United States)

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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31						
7:☉ 15:☉ 22:☉ 29:☉						

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						
6:☉ 14:☉ 20:☉ 28:☉						

March						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
8:☉ 15:☉ 22:☉ 29:☉						

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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6:☉ 13:☉ 20:☉ 28:☉						

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			
4:☉ 11:☉ 18:☉ 27:☉						

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
3:☉ 10:☉ 18:☉ 26:☉						

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
2:☉ 9:☉ 17:☉ 24:☉ 31:☉						

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
7:☉ 15:☉ 23:☉ 29:☉						

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
7:☉ 15:☉ 22:☉ 29:☉						

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
6:☉ 13:☉ 20:☉ 27:☉						

Holidays and Observances:

Jan 1 New Year's Day
Jan 6 Isra and Mi'raj
Jan 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb 8 First Day of Ramadan
Feb 14 Valentine's Day
Feb 15 President's Day
Mar 5 Lailat al-Qadr
Mar 10 Eid al-Fitr
Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
Mar 26 Good Friday (Many regions)
Mar 28 Easter Sunday
Mar 29 Easter Monday
Apr 15 Tax Day
Apr 21 Passover Eve
Apr 22 Passover (first day)
Apr 29 Last Day of Passover
May 5 Cinco de Mayo

May 9 Mother's Day
May 17 Eid al-Adha
May 31 Memorial Day
Jun 6 Muharram
Jun 14 Flag Day
Jun 15 Ashura
Jun 18 'Juneteenth' day off
Jun 19 Juneteenth
Jun 20 Father's Day
Jul 4 Independence Day
Jul 5 'Independence Day' day off
Aug 15 The Prophet's Birthday
Sep 6 Labor Day
Oct 2 Rosh Hashana
Oct 11 Yom Kippur
Oct 11 Columbus Day
Oct 22 Last Day of Sukkot

Oct 31 Halloween
Nov 2 Election Day
Nov 11 Veterans Day
Nov 25 Thanksgiving Day
Nov 26 Black Friday
Dec 24 'Christmas Day' day off (Most regions)
Dec 24 'Christmas Day' day off
Dec 24 Christmas Eve
Dec 25 Chanukah/Hanukkah (first day)
Dec 25 Christmas Day (Many regions)
Dec 25 Christmas Day (Most regions)
Dec 25 Christmas Day
Dec 26 Isra and Mi'raj
Dec 27 'Christmas Day' day off (Rhode Island)
Dec 31 'New Year's Day' day off
Dec 31 New Year's Eve

Jewish Holidays in 2027



15 Shevat

Saturday, January 23, 2027

- ❗ No work is permitted due to Shabbat.



Purim

Begins sunset of **Monday, March 22, 2027**

Ends nightfall of **Tuesday, March 23, 2027**

- ❗ Work should be avoided.
Consult a Rabbi if this is not possible.

Ta'anit Esther - March 22, 2027

Shushan Purim - March 24, 2027



Passover

Begins sunset of **Wednesday, April 21, 2027**

Ends nightfall of **Thursday, April 29, 2027**

- ❗ No work permitted on April 22 - 23 and April 28 - 29. Work is permitted only on April 25 - 27 with certain restrictions.
- 🕯 Yizkor is recited on Passover, Thursday, April 29

Dates listed are for outside Israel.



Second Passover

Friday, May 21, 2027

- ❗ Work permitted



Lag B'Omer

Tuesday, May 25, 2027

- ❗ Work permitted

Sefirat HaOmer - April 22 - June 10, 2027



Shavuot

Begins sunset of **Thursday, June 10, 2027**

Ends nightfall of **Saturday, June 12, 2027**

- ❗ No work is permitted.
- 🕯 Yizkor is recited on Shavuot, Saturday, June 12

Dates listed are for outside Israel.



The Three Weeks

Thursday, July 22, 2027 through Thursday,
August 12, 2027

Work permitted, except Shabbat

Fast of the 17th of Tammuz - July 22, 2027

Fast of Tish'a B'Av - August 11 - 12, 2027



The 15th of Av

Wednesday, August 18, 2027

Work permitted



Rosh Hashanah

Begins sunset of **Friday, October 1, 2027**

Ends nightfall of **Sunday, October 3, 2027**

No work is permitted.

The Month of Elul - September 3 - October 1, 2027

Fast of Gedaliah - October 4, 2027



Yom Kippur

Begins sunset of **Sunday, October 10, 2027**

Ends nightfall of **Monday, October 11, 2027**

No work is permitted.

Yizkor is recited on Yom Kippur, Monday,
October 11



Sukkot

Begins sunset of **Friday, October 15, 2027**

Ends nightfall of **Friday, October 22, 2027**

No work permitted on October 16 - 17. Work
is permitted on October 18 - 22 with certain
restrictions.

Hoshanah Rabbah - October 22, 2027

Dates listed are for outside Israel.



Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah

Begins sunset of **Friday, October 22, 2027**

Ends nightfall of **Sunday, October 24, 2027**

No work is permitted.

Yizkor is recited on Shemini Atzeret,
Saturday, October 23

Dates listed are for outside Israel.

Chanukah

Begins sunset of **Friday, December 24, 2027**

Ends nightfall of **Saturday, January 1, 2028**



⑤ Work permitted, except Shabbat