

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the March 23, 2023 Board of Education Meeting

CALL TO ORDER:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on March 23, 2023 and was called to order by President Sue Kresge at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Cassidy Shupp followed by a moment of silence. The meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley School District Conference Room, 2233 Route 115, Brodheadsville, PA 18322.

Roll Call – Assistant Board Secretary: Mrs. Kathleen Franklin

School Board members in attendance: Mrs. Sue Kresge, Mr. Todd Kresge, Mr. Robert Clark, Mr. Norm Burger, Ms. Teresa Greggo, Mr. Delbert Zacharias, Mrs. Diane Serfass, Mr. Michael Galler, Mrs. Melanie Zipp.

Administrative staff in attendance: Dr. James Konrad, Superintendent, Dr. Rae Lin Howard, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Lori Fulmer, Supervisor of Human Resources, Mrs. Tammy Smale, Assistant Business Manager, Mr. Bill Gasper, Director of Operations, Dr. Susan Mowrer Benda, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Ms. Julie Harris, Director of Special Education, Mr. Michael McMullen, Assistant Director of Special Education, Mr. Chuck Tomori, Technology Coordinator, Mrs. Lynn Courtright, Chief of School Police/Security.

Building Administrative staff in attendance: Mr. Roger Pomposello, Ms. Kendal Askins, Mr. Jason Van Voorhis, Mr. Jonathan Ayre, Mr. Brian Boylan, Ms. Jamie Rockwell.

Student Government representative in attendance: Ms. Cassidy Shupp, President

School Solicitor in attendance: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Notification of Executive Session:

President Sue Kresge announced that an executive session was held on March 20, 2023 and March 23, 2023 immediately prior to the regularly scheduled meeting for the purposes of personnel matters including, but not limited to, performance and/or discipline; negotiations; and legal issues.

Superintendent's Response to Community Questions: Dr. Konrad addressed three community questions. The first question was regarding a request to move one of the portable restrooms located outside of the middle school to the service road by the softball fields. The second question was in regards to early dismissals the last week of school. The schedule will be finalized and communicated to staff and families in the near future. The third question was in regards to a parent's concerns regarding her child. Dr. Konrad encourages all parents with concerns to contact the building administration.

Student Government President, Cassidy Shupp – Ms. Shupp highlighted activities and events at the high school:

- Leo Club hosted Concert FTK this past Saturday and raised over \$200 for Mini-THON.
- Tomorrow an allotment of high school student leaders will travel to Wyoming Valley West to attend a regional student leadership conference. This has been fully financed by our Student Council.

- The Drama Club is hosting the musical production "Once Upon a Mattress" this Friday through Sunday.
- The National Honor Society is set to host the annual talent show next Friday.

Recognition:

Mr. Brian Boylan and Mr. Jonathan Ayre presented Pleasant Valley High School senior Oluwafeola Olaniyan with a trophy, mug and certificate for being recognized on Sunday, March 5, 2023 by the National Football Foundation Lehigh Valley Chapter. He was the first ever Pleasant Valley student athlete to be awarded this scholarship.

March Students of the Month:

The student of the month event was presented by principals, assistant principals, and teachers recognizing students nominated by their teachers. Statements of praise and accomplishments were shared by teachers and administrators of their respective students who received the honor of being named Student of the Month. Students recognized along with their families were: PVE students – Trinity Pope, Cole Costenbader, Jamir Williams; PVI students – Zoey Goff, Ashlyn Borger, Kolton Meckes; PVMS students – Alexandra DePalma, Brooke Burke, Madison Cerrone; PVHS student – Briannah Aylsworth, Abigail Dominick, Sarah Holmes and James Rosa.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Mrs. Tammy A. Smale, Board Secretary

Mr. Galler motioned, seconded by Mr. Clark to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on March 9, 2023; approve the Board Meeting Agenda of March 23, 2023.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

Mrs. Kresge announced the meeting procedures and an opportunity was given for Pleasant Valley citizens to address the Board on agenda items:

Pleasant Valley Citizens – (Agenda items):

Linda Zak, Ross Township, expressed her opinion about hiring administrators after furloughs.

John Gesiskie, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his opinion regarding an additional administrator position after furloughs, the cyber program teaching a different curriculum with outside teachers and taking on a large loan. He also feels we need to bring back more staff.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Mrs. Diane Serfass

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to approve Agenda item #4.A. – Accounts Payable, as attached:

Approval of Agenda item #4.B. – Accounts Payable March 23, 2023

Approval of Agenda item #4.C. – Financial Statements for February 2023

Approval of Agenda item #4.D. – Trial Balance/Financial Statement February 2023

Approval of Agenda item #4.E. – Asset Cost Summary February 2023

Approval of Agenda item #4.F. – Condensed Board Summary II/Expenditures and Revenues February 2023

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq. – No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Monroe Career & Technical Institute: Mrs. Diane Serfass – No report.

Colonial IU20: - Mr. Michael Galler – Meeting was held last evening and he will have report for next meeting.

PSBA Legislative Liaison Report – Mrs. Melanie Zipp – A report is attached.

Education Committee: Mrs. Sue Kresge – Mrs. Kresge shared that there were two presentations for curriculum at the District Planning Meeting. One presentation was for Phonics for Grades 4 and 5 and the other was the Middle School and High School Curriculum Update. Both presentations are attached to the District Planning Meeting Agenda from this past Monday night.

Finance Committee: Mr. Norm Burger – Mr. Burger gave a financial update from the District Planning Meeting.

Athletic Committee: Ms. Teresa Greggo – A report is attached.

Policy Committee: Mrs. Diane Serfass – No report.

SUPERINTENDENT-REPORT/REQUESTS: Dr. James R. Konrad

Mr. Galler motioned, seconded by Ms. Greggo to approve Agenda item #7.A. – Superintendent Items:

Approval of Agenda item #7.B. – Agreement of Expulsion, as provided.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

HUMAN RESOURCES: Mrs. Lori Fulmer

Ms. Greggo motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to approve Agenda item #8.A. – Personnel Items: Approval of Agenda item #8.B. – Hiring of Professional Staff:

1.	Name:	Tricia Hernandez
	Position:	Special Education Teacher
	Building:	PVHS
	Salary:	M/36, Step 2: \$63,457 (prorated)
	Effective Date:	On or before April 30, 2023

Approval of Agenda item #8.C. – Hiring of Professional Staff Substitute: Julie Weiss.

Approval of Agenda item #8.D. – Recall and Remove from Support Staff Furlough List:

1.	Name:	Robin Woyke
	Building:	PVIS
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Salary:	Step 2: \$26,333
	Effective Date:	March 27, 2023

Approval of Agenda item #8.E. – Building Volunteers:

1. Elizabeth Golat
2. Jennifer Misero

Approval of Agenda item #8.F. – Leave Without Pay:

1.	Name:	Gerald Wollett
	Position:	Custodian
	Building:	PVIS
	Number of Days:	Four and one-half (4 ½)
	Dates:	January 18, 2023 (½); January 24, 2023; January 26, 2023; January 27, 2023 and February 22, 2023
2.	Name:	Gabriella Fasanelli Demaio
	Position:	Food Service Employee
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Three (3)
	Dates:	March 2, 2023; March 16, 2023 and March 17, 2023
3.	Name:	Christina Blomberg
	Position:	Food Service Employee
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	March 2, 2023

Approval of Agenda item #8.G. – Memorandum of Understanding between Pleasant Valley School District and Pleasant Valley Education Association.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda Item #8.H. – Informational: Family and Medical Leave

1.	Employee ID:	140
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	February 22, 2023
2.	Employee ID:	4531
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Forty-six (46)
	Dates:	March 27, 2023 – end of the 2022/2023 school year
3.	Employee ID:	3137
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVES
	Intermittent:	February 24, 2023 – end of the 2022/2023 school year
4.	Employee ID:	2460
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Thirty (30)
	Dates:	February 21, 2023 – April 3, 2023

ADDENDUM – HUMAN RESOURCES: Mrs. Lori Fulmer

Ms. Greggo motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Addendum item #9.A. – Personnel Addendum Items:

Approval of Addendum item #9.B. – Hiring of Professional Staff Substitutes (pending receipt of required paperwork): Dawson Stuart.

Approval of Agenda item #9.C. – Change to Current Assignment:

1.	Name:	Gerald Wollett
	Position:	Custodian
	Current Building:	Districtwide
	New Building:	PVES
	Effective Date:	March 26, 2023

Approval of Agenda item #9.D. – Supplemental Contracts: Athletic:

Appointment herein and the District’s obligation to pay the coaches and supplemental positions approved in this motion(s) is subject to the District's ability to hold and/or participate in the activity in light of the COVID-19 Crisis. In the event (1) the District is closed or providing modified services, (2) unable to hold the activity as the result of direction from outside agencies such as PDE, PIAA, the CDC, the Governor’s Office, District XI, etc., or (3) the Administration determines not to hold such activities for the safety of the students and community, the District shall have no obligation to pay athletic and non-athletic contracts appointed herein. In the event sports and/or activities are reduced, the athletic and non-athletic contracts approved herein shall be paid a pro-rata amount of the stipends herein based on the percentage of the season/activity that was held and students participated. The decision to cancel and/or discontinue the activities or sports season shall be at the exclusive discretion of the administration based, in part, on guidance from the Center for Disease Control, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, other health agencies, and student participation in such activities.

	Name	Sport	Position	Level	Salary
1.	Isaac Blagogee	Boys Soccer	Head Coach	L1	\$6,100.00
2.	Tara Hyland	Girls Soccer	Head Coach	L2	\$6,200.00
3.	Steven Krechel	Boys Tennis	Head Coach	L6+	\$5,450.00
4.	John Gesiskie	Girls Volleyball	Head Coach	L6+	\$7,150.00
5.	Blaec Saeger	Football	Head Coach	L2	\$7,550.00
6.	Corin Ower Mohle	Field Hockey	Head Coach	L2	\$6,200.00
7.	Amy Keller	Cross Country	Head Coach	L1	\$4,750.00
8.	Dawn Hahn	Cheerleading	Head Coach	L2	\$6,200.00

Approval of Agenda item #9.E. – Supplemental Contracts: Athletic Non-Athletic:

Appointment herein and the District’s obligation to pay the coaches and supplemental positions approved in this motion(s) is subject to the District's ability to hold and/or participate in the activity in light of the COVID-19 Crisis. In the event (1) the District is closed or providing modified services, (2) unable to hold the activity as the result of direction from outside agencies such as PDE, PIAA, the CDC, the Governor’s Office, District XI, etc., or (3) the Administration determines not to hold such activities for the safety of the students and community, the District shall have no obligation to pay athletic and non-athletic contracts appointed herein. In the event sports and/or activities are reduced, the athletic and non-athletic contracts approved herein shall be paid a pro-rata amount of the stipends herein based on the percentage of the season/activity that was held and students participated. The decision

to cancel and/or discontinue the activities or sports season shall be at the exclusive discretion of the administration based, in part, on guidance from the Center for Disease Control, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, other health agencies, and student participation in such activities.

	Name	Sport	Position	Salary
1.	Jacqueline Tortora	All	Substitute Event Worker	per event pay
2.	Erin Tortora	All	Substitute Event Worker	per event pay

Approval of Agenda item #9.F. – Building Volunteer: Destinee Smith.

Approval of Agenda item #9.G. – Creation of Principal Position for Pleasant Valley School District’s Bear Academy.

Approval of Agenda item #9.H. – Job Description – Principal of PVSD’s Bears Academy.

Approval of Agenda item #9.I. – Memorandum of Understanding – Act 93 Retirement Incentive.

Prior to roll call, Ms. Greggo discussed board agenda item 9.D. and is asking the board to consider approving to end the supplemental contract a year early. Ms. Kresge agreed with Ms. Greggo to continue this discussion after reviewing prior supplemental years’ contracts.

Prior to roll call, Ms. Greggo shared her concerns regarding board agenda items 9.G. and 9.H. Ms. Greggo, Mr. Kresge, Mr. Galler and Mr. Zacharias said they would be voting no on board agenda items 9.G. and 9.H.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED
 Voting No on Agenda Items 9.G. and 9.H.:
 M. Galler, T. Greggo, T. Kresge, D.
 Zacharias 5-4-0 CARRIED

CURRICULUM & STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Dr. Rae Lin Howard -

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Zipp to approve Agenda item #10.A. – Curriculum & Staff Development items:

Approval of Agenda item #10.A. – Approval of Field Trip to Spring Reading Challenge – PVMS Students.

1.	Organization/Grade	PVMS - ELA
	Teacher(s) Involved	Alexandria Gibb
	Destination	Easton Area High School
	Purpose	Spring Reading Challenge
	Date	April 20, 2023
	District Bus Needed	One
	Cost for Student	None
	Cost for District	\$340.70 Bus and \$40.00 Entrance Fee

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

OPERATIONS SERVICES: Mr. William Gasper

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to approve Agenda item #11. – Operations Items:

Approval of Agenda item #11.A. – Facility Usage Requests:

1.	Organization	PVYA
	Schedule ID Number	11836
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School Stadium, Track, Field
	Purpose	PVYA Boys Lax Home Games
	Dates/Times	April 2nd, April 16th, April 30th and May 14th, 2023 10:00AM – 3:00PM
	Requestor	Kristen Pierri
	Attendance	250
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
2.	Organization	PV Bruins Wrestling
	Schedule ID Number	11802
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Elementary School Cafeteria/Stage
	Purpose	Bruins Banquet-Snow Day
	Dates/Times	March 24, 2023 6:00PM – 8:00PM
	Requestor	Trista Vanderah
	Attendance	300
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

BUILDING REPORTS – March 2023

Informational reports were provided for the month of March. Mr. Boylan shared FBLA events and the play this weekend.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Tammy Smale

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mrs. Serfass to approve Agenda item #13.A. – Business Management Items:

Approval of Agenda item #13.B. – Cafeteria Fund as provided:

- Cafeteria Accounts Payable for March 23, 2023.

Approval of Agenda item #13.C. – The following contracts:

1. McGraw Hill Achieve 3000 - Actively Learn AL Social Studies Program for High School. Terms: 11/22/2023 - 04/30/2024. Total Cost: \$3,750.30 to be paid through Ready to Learn Grant.
2. McGraw Hill Achieve 3000 - Actively Learn AL ELA for High School. Terms: 05/01/2023 - 04/30/2028. Total Cost: \$16,130.00 to be paid through Ready to Learn Grant.

3. Nearpod - Nearpod Premium Plus with training. Terms: 04/17/2023 - 06/30/2024. Total Costs: \$6,650.00 to be paid through Ready to Learn Grant.
4. Renaissance - Star Reading Subscription Terms: 07/01/2023-06/30/24. Total Cost: \$34,387.50 to be paid through Ready to Learn Grant.
5. NextUp - NextUp Transition Curriculum. Terms: 07/01/2023-06/30/24. Total Cost: \$3,000.00
6. Jasmina Nakevska - Bilingual Psychological Assessment Contact and Agreement. Total Cost: \$2,178.00 per evaluation.
7. Johnson Controls - Replace 4 IP04-24T-R2A EXACQ 24TB A SERIES RECORDER - Total Cost: \$40,072.84. To be paid through Ready to Learn Grant
8. Johnson Controls - Upgrade Security Cameras at PVHS - Total Cost: \$23,176.42. To be paid through Ready to Learn Grant
9. Johnson Controls - Upgrade Security Cameras at PVMS - Total Cost: \$19,018.57. To be paid through Ready to Learn Grant
10. Johnson Controls - Add Addition Security Cameras at PVES - Total Cost: \$4,306.69. To be paid through Ready to Learn Grant
11. Savvas - Purchase of digital six (6) year package High School World History Interactive Courseware. Total Cost: \$39,572.00. To be paid through Ready to Learn Grant

Approval of Agenda Item 13.D. - Rescind the Approval of Agenda item #15.B. dated December 19, 2022 – Sportsman QTY: 25 Baseball Braided Game Pants - White for \$1,030.00 and Sportsman QTY: 25 Baseball Braided Game Pants - Gray for \$1,030.00 as the vendor can longer provide requested items until after the spring season has concluded.

Approval of Agenda item #13.E. – Award Spring Athletic Supplies and Equipment Bid Items 2022-2023 School Year:

BSN - QTY 25 Baseball Braided Game Pants - White - \$1,312.50

BSN - QTY 25 Baseball Braided Game Pants - Gray - \$1,218.75

Approval of Agenda item #13.F. – MCTI Excess Revenues: Approval of MCTI retaining the excess revenue from the 2021-2022 final audit in the amount of \$1,463,014.00. These funds will be transferred to MCTI capital reserve fund for future capital projects. The PVSD share is \$323,496.00.

Approval of Agenda item #13.G. – Payment from the 2018 Bond Fund as per attached - \$25,351.40.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #13.H. – Informational: Student Fundraiser Report as provided.

Agenda item #13.I. – Informational: District Investment Report as provided.

ADDENDUM – BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Tammy Smale

Ms. Greggo motioned, seconded by Mrs. Serfass to approve Addendum item #14.A. – Business Management Addendum Items:

Approval of Addendum item #14.B. – The following Contracts:

1. Ideum - Three (3) Presenter 65 U045-65 with computer for Pleasant Valley High School. Total Cost \$48,670.83. To be paid from Ready To Learn Grant.
2. Singer Equipment Company - Purchase of Cafeteria Trays - QTY: 120 Model# CT121614, QTY: 408 Model# 2615-104, QTY: 408 Model# BCT1014186, QTY: 408 Model# TR-152-PB Total Cost: \$8,274.98 to be paid using ESSER II Funds.
3. PowerSchool - eSchoolPlus SIS Data Migration. Terms: 2/13/2023 - 2/14/2024 Total Cost - \$72,000.00. To be paid from Ready to Learn Grant.
4. TimeClock Plus, LLC - Upgrade four (4) TimeClock Units plus annual Hardware Support and Maintenance - Total Cost: \$10,763.45
5. SNEN Services , LLC- Annual Inspection and maintenance of freezers and coolers across district. Total Cost - \$8,000.00 per year plus labor rate up to \$142.50/hour plus trip rate of \$55.00. Terms: 7/1/2023 - 6/30/2026

Approval of Addendum item #14.C. – Student Placement: Student #22-23-S-26 –Salisbury Township School District, effective 03/14/2023.

Approval of Addendum item #14.D. – Request to solicit requests for proposals (RFP) from Food Service Management Companies for the operation of district wide cafeteria services in accordance with established guidelines from the PA Department of Education.

Approval of Addendum item #14E. – Approve the Government Entity Claims Settlement as presented.

Approval of Addendum item #14.F. – Worker’s Compensation Insurance with EHD – Encova 2023-2024 school year at an estimated cost of \$305,082.00.

Approval of Addendum item #14.G. – Purchase of RTE8X24R-10 - 8.5’ X 24’ enclosed cargo trailer with rear ramp door 10,000 GVW at a total cost of \$11,343.00 to be paid from Ready to Learn Grant.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

Addendum item #14.H. – Informational – Purchase of playground equipment through ESSER III funding for Pleasant Valley Elementary and Intermediate Schools not to exceed \$450,000.00.

SOLICITOR: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.: None.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Mr. Galler wished the high school students in HOSA good luck next week at the conference in Valley Forge.

Ms. Greggo asked about students with questions about the MCTI twenty-minute transition time and Mr. Boylan stated that School Counselor Bridgid Rosendale is addressing questions any students have.

Mrs. Kresge asked the community if they have a concern to ask the question before you post it on social media.

Mr. Galler asked everyone to get the word out to the community regarding the Monroe County Transition & Community Resource Fair presented by the Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the high school gymnasium.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS – Agenda items/Non-Agenda items:

James Sinisko, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his opinion on misinformation put out by people in the school district.

Danielle Serfass, Eldred Township, expressed concerns regarding moving administration out of the middle school and online learning in the building.

Richanna Russ, Eldred Township, expressed concern with the TB Test requirement for volunteers. Mr. Fitzgerald commented that a TB Test is not needed for field trip volunteers, only if they are frequent volunteers.

Nellie Gordon, Chestnuthill Township, agreed with board members who voted against items 9.G. and 9.H. She feels a special education teacher should be hired and not moved from another building for cyber school.

End of public comment.

Mrs. Kresge referred to Mrs. Smale that Mike Simonetta shared additional staff member information added this year and for next year at the District Planning meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT REMARKS: Dr. Konrad shared that he presented some facts, figures and information regarding the cyber program. The school district used VLN prior to his arrival. After speaking with staff students and parents and analyzing the costs, the decision was made to move to Edgenuity and partner with Seneca Valley School District starting this school year. Within the first seven months, our PV Bears Academy numbers doubled from 107 to 212 full time students. He stated that we have 46 special education students in the PV Bears Academy and there is a need for a special education teacher. He shared the Act 93 administrator numbers are the lowest since the 2016-17 school year. He also shared that each of the school buildings are hosting academic fairs. The elementary and the intermediate schools is Thursday, April 20, 2023. The middle school is Tuesday, April 18, 2023, and the high school is Friday, May 5, 2023. More information including the times will be communicated to the parents. Best of luck to all of our high school students who are participating in this weekend's "Once Upon a Mattress."

Ms. Greggo asked Dr. Konrad to clarify the PV Bears Academy contract. Dr. Konrad explained it is one bill for 2022-23 school year from Seneca Valley School District. He is estimating the cost of the program this year is \$800,000 compared to the millions of dollars in years prior to VLN. He said the program is about providing the right support and resources to our students as it continues to grow. He also said that he wants our Pleasant Valley teachers more involved in the program but there are limitations due to teacher certifications at the secondary levels. He will continue to work to improve the success of the program.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Zacharias motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy A. Smale, Board Secretary

Kathleen M. Franklin, Assistant Board Secretary

Next scheduled Board of Education meeting:
April 13, 2023 @ 7:00 PM