

# PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

## Minutes of the May 11, 2023 Board of Education Meeting

Board Approved 5-25-2023

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on May 11, 2023 and called to order by President Sue Kresge at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Jamie Rockwell 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 – School Board Recorder:** Ms. Debra Duff

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

**Administrative staff in attendance:** Dr. James Konrad, Superintendent, Mrs. Lori Fulmer, Supervisor of Human Services, Mr. Michael Simonetta, Business Manager, Mrs. Tammy Smale, Assistant Business Manager, Mrs. Kathleen Franklin, Assistant Board Secretary, Mr. Chuck Tomori, Technology Coordinator, Ms. Julie Harris, Director of Special Education, Mr. Michael McMullen, Assistant Director of Special Education.

**Building Administrative staff in attendance:** Ms. Sabrina Albright, Ms. Jamie Rockwell, Mr. Jason Van Voorhis.

**School Solicitor in attendance:** Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

### **Notification of Executive Session:**

President Sue Kresge announced that an executive session was held on May 11, 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.

**Election of Board Treasurer:** Mr. Burger motioned to nominate Mrs. Diane Serfass as Board Treasurer of the Pleasant Valley School District. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Zipp. There being no further nominations, the motion was unanimously passed by acclamation and Mrs. Diane Serfass is elected Treasurer of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education.

**Superintendent's Response to Community Questions:** Dr. Konrad responded to community questions, two of which dealt with safety and security concerns. Dr. Konrad stated that these concerns were addressed at the last Board meeting and were followed up by building administrators. He encouraged parents/guardians to continue to be partners in education ensuring our students are safe. He addressed a question which focused on open committee meetings. Dr. Konrad outlined the meetings held per month including the District Planning Meeting which is open to the public and encompasses areas such as finance, athletics, operations, etc. In addition, Mrs. Kresge noted that a half hour prior to the District Planning Meeting is an opportunity for community questions and answers.

**Student Highlights – Pleasant Valley Middle School:** Mr. Van Voorhis stated that the goal is to give students more opportunities throughout the year and he introduced Dr. Alexandria Gibb. Dr. Gibb outlined the opportunities given to students and provided a video highlighting students sharing their thoughts about teachers who have inspired them this year as well as, among other things, their favorite subject, most important learning experience, most fun activity, what they will miss about the middle school and what they are looking forward to next year. Mr. Van Voorhis stated that the video will be shared with all middle school students.

**Aavidum Presentation –** Ms. Rockwell introduced Juniors Ayla Castellaneta and Kara Miller who highlighted the message of Aavidum which is "We've Got Your Back." They outlined events and activities surrounding their message as mental health advocates and thanked the Board and administration for their support. Mrs. Kresge and Dr. Konrad applauded their activities and messages of kindness that are visible throughout the high school.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mrs. Tammy Smale, Board Secretary**

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on April 27, 2023; approve the Board Meeting Agenda of May 11, 2023 amended to correct Agenda item #11.A. to reflect no cost to the District.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 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):**

Desiree Murray, Chestnuthill Township, recognized Ms. Sabrina Albright in her hiring as PVI Principal and expressed her high opinion of her.

**TREASURER’S REPORT: Mrs. Diane Serfass**

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

Approval of Agenda item #4.B. – Manual Checks April 1, 2023 through April 30, 2023.

Approval of Agenda item #4.C. – Manual Checks April 1, 2023 through April 30, 2023 – PSDLAF

Approval of Agenda item #4.D. – Accounts Payable May 11, 2023.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.** – Mr. Fitzgerald referred to Agenda item #13.F. – to enter into an attorney-client fee contract for the commencement of class action litigation seeking potential damages surrounding social media companies. He said that there is no fee other than attorney’s fees which is 25% of the amount that is recovered in damages.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Monroe Career & Technical Institute: – Mrs. Diane Serfass** – An informational report was included on the agenda.

**Colonial IU20:** – An informational report was included on the agenda.

**PSBA Legislative Liaison Report: Mrs. Melanie Zipp** – No report.

**Education Committee: Mrs. Sue Kresge** – No report.

**Finance Committee: Mr. Norm Burger** – Mr. Burger stated that upon final review a 2% increase in taxes will be imposed for 2023-2024.

**Athletic Committee: Ms. Teresa Greggo** – An informational report was included on the agenda. Ms. Greggo highlighted the undefeated Girls Lacrosse team and extended congratulations to them. She also extended congratulations to the PV Band who placed first as well as receiving other awards at the Music Showcase Festival in Hershey.

**Policy Committee: Mrs. Diane Serfass** – No report.

**Capital Improvement Plan Report: Mr. Norm Burger** – Mr. Burger stated that a tour was held at the high school including the JCM wing to help the public understand the needs for the renovation. He said that a meeting will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss any comments and feedback and on May 31<sup>st</sup> an RFP is expected to be done for the design phase of the project. He outlined further timelines for proposals and selection of a design team and on the agenda this evening is a request to approve the company to conduct the building scan of the high school.

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

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mrs. Serfass to approve Agenda item #7. – Superintendent Items:

Approval of Agenda item #7.A. – One-Time Girls Lacrosse Scholarship of \$1,000 for a PVHS Girls' Lacrosse Player, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #7.B. – Informational: The May Enrollment Report was provided.

**HUMAN RESOURCES: Mrs. Lori Fulmer**

Ms. Greggo motioned, seconded by Mr. Clark to approve Agenda item #8.A. – Personnel Items: Approval of Agenda item #8.B. – Hiring of Administrative Staff:

1.	Name:	Randy Smale
	Position:	Director of Operations
	Building:	Districtwide
	Salary:	\$100,000
	Effective Date:	July 1, 2023

Approval of Agenda item #8.C. – Change to Current Assignment:

1.	Name:	Bernadette Fierro
	Current Position:	English Teacher
	Current Building:	PVHS
	New Position:	Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction ~ Secondary
	Salary:	\$100,000
	Effective Date:	July 1, 2023
2.	Name:	Robert Miller
	Current Position:	Assistant Chief of Police
	New Position:	Chief of Police
	Salary:	\$84,000
	Effective Date:	July 1, 2023
3.	Name:	Sabrina Albright
	Current Position:	Assistant Principal
	Current Building:	PVES
	New Position:	Principal
	New Building:	PVIS
	Salary:	\$99,000
	Effective Date:	July 1, 2023

Approval of Agenda item #8.D. – Supplemental Contracts: Athletic Non-Coaching:

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.	Ryan O’Keefe	All	Substitute Event Worker	per event pay

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

	Name	Sport
1.	Melissa Bruckman	Girls Volleyball
2.	Joseph Akob	Girls Volleyball

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

- Meghan O’Brien
- Jennifer Bentley
- Harleyann Lunt

Approval of Agenda item #8.G. – Intramural Advisors:

If the intramural runs at least 9 weeks and a total of 54 hours, one stipend of \$1,240.00 will be distributed. In the event the intramural does not meet the 54-hour requirement, payment will be distributed using the hourly intramural rate of \$21.00 per hour per the Supplemental Contract.

1.	Club/Activity:	Summer Girls Basketball Workouts
	Advisor:	Corinne Morris
	Advisor:	Kelly Williams
	Dates:	May 16, 2023 – June 29, 2023
	Day(s):	Tuesday & Wednesday (May) Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday (June)
	Times:	2:30 PM – 5:30 PM (May 16, 2023 – June 1, 2023) 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM (June 20, 2023 – June 29, 2023)
	Building:	PVHS Gym PVMS Gym

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

1.	Name:	Sharon Baker
	Position:	Teacher

	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	March 28, 2023
2.	Name:	Christina Blomburg
	Position:	Food Service Employee
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	April 20, 2023
3.	Name:	Lucann Burke
	Position:	Food Service Employee
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Two (2)
	Dates:	April 26, 2023 – April 27, 2023
4.	Name:	Lisa Costenbader
	Position:	Food Service Employee
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Two (2)
	Dates:	April 24, 2023 and May 1, 2023
5.	Name:	Deborah Loughren
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVMS
	Number of Days:	One-half (½)
	Dates:	May 4, 2023

Approval of Agenda item #8.I. – Sabbatical Leave:

1.	Name:	Sherry Getz
	Type:	Educational
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVHS
	Semester(s):	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> of 2023-2024 school year

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #8.J. – Informational: Family and Medical Leave:

1.	Employee ID:	1591
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVIS
	Number of Days:	Thirty (30)
	Intermittent:	March 22, 2023 - end of the 2022/2023 school year
2.	Employee ID:	3926
	Position:	Security
	Number of Days:	Nineteen (19)
	Dates:	June 19, 2023 – July 16, 2023
3.	Employee ID:	4271
	Position:	Act 93
	Number of Days:	Forty (40)
	Dates:	May 1, 2023 – June 29, 2023

Agenda item #8.K. – Informational: Resignations:

	Name	Position	Effective Date
1.	Huayang Cerbone	Substitute Monitor Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	April 27, 2023
2.	Gerald Aruta, Jr.	Substitute Teacher	Conclusion of the 2022- 2023 school year

Agenda item #8.L. – Informational: Retirement:

	Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
1.	Dawn Phillips	Teacher	PVES	Conclusion of the 2022- 2023 School Year

**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. – Building Volunteer: Amanda Ferrari.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

Addendum item #9.C. – Informational: Resignations:

	Name	Position	Effective Date
1.	Phyllis Pugliesi Smith	Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	April 28, 2023
2.	Christina Gutierrez	Food Service Employee	May 19, 2023

**CURRICULUM & STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Mrs. Lori Fulmer –**

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to approve Agenda item #10 and Addendum item #11. – Curriculum & Staff Development Items:

Approval of Agenda item #10.A. – Field Trips:

1.	Organization/Grade	PVHS – Envirothon
	Teacher(s) Involved	Maricatherine Garr
	Destination	Camp Mount Luther, Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania
	Purpose	PA State Envirothon Competition
	Date(s)	5/24/2023
	Approx. # of Students	5
	Cost Per Student	\$0.00
	District Buses Needed (#)	Transportation provided and paid for by Conservation Envirothon
	Cost For District	\$0.00
2.	Organization/Grade	PVHS – Business/FBLA
	Teacher(s) Involved	Denise Hopely
	Destination	Kalahari Resort & Convention Center
	Purpose	Pocono Mountain Visitors Bureau Tourism Day Summit
	Date(s)	05/09/2023
	Approx. # of Students	10
	Cost Per Student	\$0.00
	District Buses Needed (#)	One (1)
	Cost For District	\$0.00 – Bus cost to be paid by PMVB

Approval of Addendum item #11.A. – Field Trip:

1.	Organization/Grade	PVHS – FBLA
	Teacher(s) Involved	Denise Hopely
	Destination	Hotel Omni, Atlanta, Georgia
	Purpose	National Leadership Conference
	Date(s)	6/26 – 07/01/2023
	# of Students	6
	Cost Per Student	\$200
	District Buses Needed (#)	None
	Cost For District	\$0.00

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

**OPERATIONS SERVICES: Mr. Michael Simonetta –**

Mrs. Zipp motioned, seconded by Ms. Greggo to approve Agenda item #12. – Operations Items:

Approval of Agenda item #12.A. – Facility Usage Requests pending resolution and notification of any conflicting scheduling as recommended by the Director of Operations:

A.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Boys Lacrosse
	Schedule ID Number	11936
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Middle School Cafeteria
	Purpose	End of Season Team Banquet
	Dates/Times	May 21, 2023 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Bob VanDerheyden
	Attendance	100
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
B.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Middle School PTO

	Schedule ID Number	11947
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Middle School Old Gym
	Purpose	Dodgeball
	Dates/Times	May 12, 2023 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Richanna Russ
	Attendance	300
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
C.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Middle School PTO
	Schedule ID Number	11951
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Middle School Old Gym
	Purpose	Wrestling
	Dates/Times	May 13, 2023 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Richanna Russ
	Attendance	500
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
D.	Organization	Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA
	Schedule ID Number	11948
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Intermediate School Cafeteria/Stage
	Purpose	Girl Scout Bridging Event
	Dates/Times	May 30, 2023 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
	Requestor	Robbin Serfass
	Attendance	60
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
E.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Wrestling
	Schedule ID Number	11960
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Elementary School Cafeteria/Stage
	Purpose	Wrestling Team End of Season Banquet
	Dates/Times	May 18, 2023 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Trista Vanderah
	Attendance	75
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
F.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Girls Soccer
	Schedule ID Number	11978
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School Front Parking Lot
	Purpose	High School Girls Soccer Car Wash
	Date/Times	July 22, 2023 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Liz Foder
	Attendance	25
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
G.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Football
	Schedule ID Number	11944
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School New Gym
	Purpose	Football Family Photographs
	Dates/Times	August 12, 2023 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Andrea Hower
	Attendance	75
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
H.	Organization	PV Cubs Football
	Schedule ID Number	11986

	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Intermediate School Upper Athletic Field
	Purpose	Cheer Clinic
	Dates/Times	June 25, 2023 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Rebecca Tippet
	Attendance	150
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
I.	Organization	Monroe County Emergency Management
	Schedule ID Number	11991
	Facility Requested	Polk Elementary Parking Lot, Gym/Stage, Athletic Field, Library/Computer Room, Music Room, Classroom, Hallway/Corridor, Cafeteria
	Purpose	Monthly Training for our K9 Search & Rescue Team
	Dates/Times	July 8th, August 5th, September 9th, December 3rd, 2023 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Dawn Wisser
	Attendance	20
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

**BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mr. Michael Simonetta**

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

Approval of Agenda item #13.B. – Cafeteria Fund as provided: Cafeteria Accounts Payable for May 11, 2023.

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

1. Penn's Peak - Prom 2024 Event Contract - May 11, 2024 - Room Rental Fee \$750.00.
2. IntegraOne - Barracuda Message Archiver, Web Security Gateway and Back Server Appliance Subscription Renewal - Total Cost: \$50,280.00 Term: 7/1/2023 to 6/30/2024.
3. CDW - GoGuardian Software Subscription - Terms: 5/1/2023 to 6/30/2024 - Total Cost: \$42,117.00.

Approval of Agenda item #13.D. – Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit #16 computer service rate for 2023-2024 as attached for Fund Accounting, Human Resources, and Payroll applications. Estimated cost to the school district for 2023-2024 school year is \$36,420.00.

Approval of Agenda item #13.E. – Bid Award: Propane fuel award to Heller’s Gas for one year (2023-2024) at a rate not to exceed \$1.64 per gallon as presented.

Approval of Agenda item #13.F. – Attorney-Client Fee Contract: Enter into an Attorney-Client Fee Contract with the Frantz Law Group, ALPC, 402 West Broadway, Suite 860, San Diego, California, 92101, and Dillon McCandless King Coulter & Graham, LLP, 128 West Cunningham Street, Butler, Pennsylvania, 16001, for the commencement of a legal action against the Social Media Companies (Meta, Tik Tok, YouTube, etc.). Said action shall be for the purpose of claiming money damages.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #13.G. – Informational: ESSER Fund Allocations per attached:

1. Hillyard - Four (4) Tennant TTTT7800D Auto-Scrubber T7 32 Rider - Total Cost: \$93,000.00 to be paid from ESSER II.

**ADDENDUM – BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mr. Michael Simonetta**

Mrs. Zipp motioned, seconded by Mrs. Serfass to approve Addendum item #14.A.:

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

1. IntegraOne - Cisco SmartNet Condensed Renewals - Terms: 7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024 - Total Cost: \$107,611.94
2. Trane - Middle School Chiller Service Maintenance - Terms: 7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024 - Total Cost: \$7,297.00

Approval of Addendum item #14.C. – High School Building Scan Services: PMC Corporation to conduct Building Scan and REVIT Modeling Services at the High School for the High School Renovation Project at the total amount not to exceed \$70,208.50.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

**SOLICITOR: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.** – No report.

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

Mrs. Kresge congratulated the new administrative hires: Mr. Smale, Ms. Albright, Ms. Fierro, and Mr. Miller.

Mr. Burger requested cooperation from the Special Education Department and stated that the West End Fair is providing an opportunity for special education students who are sensitive to sounds and other disruptive things to arrive before others. He requested that the Board consider providing information to parents that our district is aware of this opportunity and to bring those students in before others arrive. He suggested it be brought before the Board for approval at the next Board meeting.

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

Alexis Murphy, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about seeking help with regard to the Keystone Exams. Mrs. Rockwell will meet with Ms. Murphy about this issue.

End of Public Comment

**SUPERINTENDENT REMARKS:**

Dr. Konrad expressed congratulations to the PV FBLA students and Advisor Denise Hopely as six students will represent PV at the National Leadership Conference in Atlanta, GA. He congratulated the Class of 2024 students and Advisor Daisy Genovese for the successful car and motorcycle show. Dr. Konrad also congratulated our Special Olympic athletes who competed at East Stroudsburg South High School. He stated that PV is receiving two Colonial IU20 2023 Excellence in Education Awards this evening, one for our Learning Recovery Opportunity Program and one for our Preschool Ready, Set, Learn Program. Dr. Konrad acknowledged the Varsity Girls Lacrosse team and our Varsity Boys Baseball team who are competing against Parkland today. He stated that the Girls Lacrosse team is one of three finalists for the Female Athlete Team of the Year Award given out by St. Luke's Health Network and on June 15<sup>th</sup> are invited to the televised awards ceremony on WFMZ from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM where the winner will be announced.

Mrs. Kresge expressed appreciation to all teachers in observance of Teacher Appreciation Week.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Smale, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next scheduled Board of Education meeting:  
May 25, 2023 @ 7:00 PM