

# PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the January 27, 2022  
Board of Education Meeting

**Board Approved 2-10-2022**

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on January 27, 2022 and called to order by President Sue Kresge at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Alice Wheelis, followed by a moment of silence. The meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley High School Auditorium, Route 209, Brodheadsville, PA 18322 and via Zoom.

**Roll Call – School Board Recorder:** Ms. Debra Duff

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

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

**Building Administrative staff in attendance:** Ms. Kelli George, Mr. Brian Boyland, Mr. Jonathan Ayre, Mr. Jason Van Voorhis, Mr. Roger Pomposello, Ms. Sabrina Albright, Ms. Kendal Askins.

**Senior Student Representative:** Olivia Altman, Senior Class President

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

## **Notification of Executive Session:**

President Sue Kresge announced that an executive session was held on January 27, 2022 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.

**Board of Education Appreciation Month –** Superintendent James Konrad took this moment to honor our School Board Directors for their dedication and hard work in leading Pleasant Valley into a positive and prosperous future. He read the following proclamation from the Pennsylvania School Board Association:

WHEREAS, the role of locally elected school officials has served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and local communities in meeting the needs of public education since the passage of the Free School Act in 1834; and

WHEREAS, these local boards have discharged their responsibilities to public education in a manner which has placed public education in the forefront of our educational systems; and

WHEREAS, locally elected officials have distinguished themselves and their communities in this nonpaid, volunteer public service commitment; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of these men and women should be recognized and appreciated by those who benefit from the workings of our public school system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association hereby proclaims the month of January as School Director Recognition Month in this commonwealth; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that this proclamation be communicated to all school districts, school officials and local communities in a planned program which brings visibility and awareness of the role of locally elected school officials to the citizenry of this Commonwealth.

Unanimously approved July 18, 1985

Reaffirmed - Monday, December 13, 2021

Pennsylvania School Boards Association

Governing Board

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Principal of PVE Roger Pomposello thanked the Board on behalf of students and staff at PVE and said that posters thanking the Board were made by the students. Principal of PVI Kendal Askins expressed appreciation to the Board for all they do. Video presentations were provided for both PVE and PVI in recognition of School Director Month. Principal of the high school Kelli George and Principal of the middle school Jason Van Voorhis expressed gratitude to the Board for everything that they are doing. Education Consultant Jamie Rockwell together with Assistant Principals of the high school, Brian Boyland and Jonathan Ayre, expressed their gratitude to the Board for their dedication and commitment to Pleasant Valley. Ms. Rockwell presented the Board with homemade cookie bouquets and a video presentation was provided in recognition of School Director Month.

**Senior Class President: Olivia Altman** – Ms. Altman highlighted events and activities at the high school:

- PVHS recently formed a Dungeons and Dragons club.
- The Cheer team won back to back district championships and will be attending states on 1-28-2022.
- PV Boys Basketball team had their senior night on 1-18-2022.
- The Lady Bears basketball team had their senior night on 1-25-2022.
- Blood drive hosted by FBLA. Congratulations to FBLA test takers where 37 qualified for states.
- Congratulations to the PV Wrestling team who beat East Stroudsburg North.
- A "class decisions page" was created by the Class of 2022 where they will share their plans for after graduation.
- The Countywide spelling bee round one will take place on 2-8-2022.

President Kresge announced the meeting procedures and provided an opportunity for public comment on agenda items only.

**Pleasant Valley Citizens** – (Agenda items):

Richard Hill, Polk Township, asked for clarification on a new club formed.

End of public comment.

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

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Zacharias to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on January 13, 2022; to approve the Board Meeting Agenda of January 27, 2022 amended to reflect the removal of Agenda item #11.A. due to cancellation of the event.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

The minutes of the Operations Workshop Meeting held on January 10, 2022 were provided for informational purposes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Ms. Diane Serfass**

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jecker to approve Agenda item #3. – Accounts Payable:

Approval of Agenda item #3.A. – Accounts Payable January 27, 2022.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #3.B. - The Accounts Payable approved at the January 13, 2022 Board of Education meeting was attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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

**Other:** Mrs. Kresge provided clarification regarding the Senior Citizens Property Rebate which has been improved from previous years. She assured senior citizens that the program mirrors the state senior rebate program at 50% of social security income.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Monroe Career & Technical Institute: Mr. Todd Kresge** – No report.

**Colonial IU20: Mr. Michael Galler** – No report.

**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 the Committee is continuing to work on elements relating to the budget.

**Athletic Committee: Ms. Teresa Greggo** – No report.

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

**West End Park and Open Space Commission: Ms. Melanie Zipp** – No report.

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

Dr. Konrad extended congratulations to Natalie Salmon, a 2017 graduate of Pleasant Valley for winning the 2022 Miss Earth USA title after she won the crown as Miss Pennsylvania Earth. He congratulated Chief Lynn Courtright and Assistant Chief Robert Miller who applied for the Pennsylvania’s Department of Education Office for Safe Schools Grant. We received the maximum amount for two grants available - \$25,000 in grant funding to use for equipment, and \$40,000 in the first year and \$20,000 in the second year for school police officers. Dr. Konrad thanked staff, administration, Board members, and parents for feedback and engagement during the parent/guardian engagement meetings, the last one for January being held last evening. Feedback will be shared with the Board, administration, staff, and parents in the next few weeks. Dr. Konrad stated that continuation of the work with families and students to gain valuable insight and perspective to enact positive change and that next week building level meetings with staff will be held to gain insight and perspective to continuously improve to best support our students.

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mr. Galler to approve Agenda item #6.A. –Superintendent Items:

Approval of Agenda item #6.B. – Agreement of Expulsion for Student #E01202212-H.

Approval of Addendum item #6.C. – Homebound Instruction: Per Board policy, re-evaluation will be done in ninety (90) days.

Pleasant Valley High School:

Student No.	Reason
HB01242205-H	Medical, retroactive to January 24, 2022

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #6.D. – Informational: January Enrollment Report was provided.

Agenda item #6.E. – Informational: Second Reading of Policy #808 Food Services.

**HUMAN RESOURCES: Dr. Rae Lin Howard**

Dr. Howard provided a brief description of the formation of the new TAP (The Acceptance Project) Club for which there is no cost involved as well as no stipend for the advisor. Dr. Howard stated that it is a student run and student led organization founded as a club in 2017 at Stroudsburg Junior High School and gives students the opportunity to have constructive dialogue about divisive issues facing the nation and the world.

Ms. Greggo motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jecker to approve Agenda item #7.A. - Personnel Items:

Approval of Agenda item #7.B. – Hiring of Support Staff (pending receipt of required paperwork):

1.	Name:	Richard Courtright
	Position:	Maintenance Technician
	Building:	District
	Salary:	\$18.90 per hour
	Effective Date:	TBD
	Replace:	Andrew Krock (due to change of assignment)
2.	Name:	Duane Peechatka
	Position:	Maintenance Technician
	Building:	District
	Salary:	\$18.90 per hour
	Effective Date:	TBD
	Replace:	Justin Micklos

Approval of Agenda item #7.C. – Hiring of Support Staff Substitute (pending receipt of required paperwork):

1.	Name:	David Probert
	Position:	Substitute Custodian Substitute Courier
	Salary:	\$10.38 per hour (Custodian) \$9.15 per hour (Courier)
	Effective Date:	TBD

Approval of Agenda item #7.D. – Supplement Contracts: Athletic (pending receipt of required paperwork):

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.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Salary</b>
1.	Tristan Dorn	Boys Lacrosse	Varsity Assistant	2	\$4,650.00
2.	Sarah Canfield	Softball	JV Assistant	1	\$4,550.00

Approval of Agenda item #7.E. – Supplemental Contracts: Athletic Non-Coaching (pending receipt of required paperwork):

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.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Salary</b>
1.	Dana West	Boys Lacrosse	Varsity Clock Operator	\$40.00
2.	Dana West	Boys Lacrosse	JV Clock Operator	\$35.00
3.	Dana West	Girls Lacrosse	Varsity Clock Operator	\$40.00
4.	Dana West	Girls Lacrosse	JV Clock Operator	\$35.00
5.	Lisa Wojton	Track and Field	Varsity Statistician	\$48.00
6.	Magen Snyder	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00
7.	Magen Snyder	Track and Field	Varsity Judge	\$35.00
8.	Sandi Kaspszyk	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00
9.	Sandi Kaspszyk	Track and Field	Jr. High Timer	\$35.00

Approval of Agenda item #7.F. – Athletic Volunteers:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sport</b>
1.	Steve Borger	Softball
2.	Kristen Kram	Class of 2025
3.	Mike Ditty	Softball
4.	Joseph Bush	Girls Lacrosse

Approval of Agenda item #7.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:	Jr. High Boys Baseball
	Advisor:	Christopher Enderes
	Dates:	January 28, 2022 – March 5, 2022
	Day(s):	Wednesdays & Fridays
	Times:	4:15 PM – 5:30 PM (Wed.) and 5:00 PM – 6:45 PM (Fri.)
	Building:	PVMS & PVIS
	Received in HR Office:	January 20, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #7.H. – Club/Activity Advisor:

Any club/activity not on the supplemental contract cannot exceed \$500.00 and must maintain 10 participants.

1.	Club/Activity:	Music Honor Society
	Advisor:	James DeVivo
	Dates:	October 15, 2021 – May 15, 2022
	Day(s):	Mondays & Wednesdays
	Times:	2:30 PM – 4:00 PM
	Building:	PVHS
	Received in HR Office:	January 20, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #7.I. – New Club/Activity

1.	Club/Activity:	The Acceptance Project/Bridge USA
	Advisor:	Susan Rasely Philipps (no stipend)
	Dates:	January 4, 2022 – August 27, 2022
	Day(s):	Mondays
	Times:	2:30 PM – 4:00 PM
	Building:	PVHS
	Received in HR Office:	December 17, 2021

Approval of Agenda item #7.J. – Family and Medical Leave:

1.	Employee ID:	3426
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Building:	PVIS
	Number of Days:	Nine (9)
	Dates:	January 18, 2022 – January 28, 2022
2.	Employee ID:	921
	Position:	Secretary
	Building:	PVMS
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	December 7, 2021
3.	Employee ID:	4287
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Fifty-Four (54)
	Dates:	January 6, 2022 – March 23, 2022
4.	Employee ID:	1501
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVMS
	Number of Days:	Eighteen and one-half (18½)
	Dates:	January 3, 2022 – January 12, 2022 (full days) and January 13, 2022 – January 17, 2022 (half days)
5.	Employee ID:	1855
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVHS
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	January 12, 2022
6.	Employee ID:	3796
	Position:	Security
	Building:	District
	Number of Days:	Thirteen (13)
	Dates:	November 2, 2021 – November 20, 2021
7.	Employee ID:	2886
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Four (4)
	Dates:	November 19, 2021 – November 24, 2021

Approval of Agenda item #7.K. – Leave Without Pay:

1.	Name:	Nikki Haden-Coar
	Position:	Monitor
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Two (2)
	Dates:	January 10, 2022 – January 11, 2022
2.	Name:	Kelly Heller
	Position:	Food Service Employee

	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Three (3)
	Dates:	February 23, 2022 – February 25, 2022
3.	Name:	Tina Radcliffe
	Position:	Monitor
	Building:	PVE
	Number of Days:	Seven (7)
	Dates:	December 21, 2021 – January 6, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #7.L. – Sabbatical Leave:

1.	Employee ID:	90
	Type:	Medical
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVES
	Semester(s):	2nd of the 2021-2022 School Year

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

**CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Dr. Rae Lin Howard/Dr. Susan Mowrer Benda**

Ms. Greggo motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to approve Agenda item #8. – Curriculum/Staff Development Items:

Approval of Agenda item #8.A. – FBLA Field Trip:

A.	Organization	FBLA
	Teacher(s) Involved	Denise Hopely
	Destination	State Leadership Conference
	Purpose	To Compete in FBLA State Leadership Conference
	Date(s)	4/10/2022 – 4/13/2022
	District Buses Needed (#)	Two (2)
	Cost Per Student	\$225.00
	Cost for District	\$5,230.00

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

**SPECIAL EDUCATION: Ms. Julie Harris –**

Mrs. Jecker motioned seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Agenda item #9. – Special Education Items:

Approval of Agenda item #9.A. – Human Resources Center, Inc. Transition Program.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Ms. Harris recognized Ms. Keri Freeman, Transition Coordinator, for her hard work in bringing this Transition Program to Pleasant Valley.

**OPERATIONS SERVICES: Mr. William Gasper –**

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mrs. Serfass to approve Agenda item #10. – Operations Items:

Approval of Agenda item #10.A. – Facility Usage Requests:

A.	Organization	Girls on the Run
	Facility Requested	PVE outside run/walking area, PVE Gym (weather location)
	Purpose	Running/walking program
	Dates/Times	March 14, 2022 thru May 18, 2022 Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. March Dates: 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, 31 April Dates: 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 May Dates: 3, 5, 10, 12, 17
	Requestor	Alison Fennel
	Attendance	25
	Tuition	N/A
	Fee by District	Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Apply
B.	Organization	PV Bruins Wrestling
	Facility Requested	PVHS Old Auditorium
	Purpose	Parent Meeting
	Dates/Times	Tuesday, February 1, 2022 - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
	Requestor	Trisha Vanderah

	Attendance	85
	Tuition	N/A
	Fee by District	Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Apply

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

**BUILDING REPORTS**

Agenda item #12.A. – Informational: January Building Reports were provided. Mrs. Kresge questioned cyber school enrollment as having 30 additional students. Mr. Tomori will provide more information on this question.

**BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Tammy Smale**

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

Approval of Agenda item #13.B. – Cafeteria Accounts Payable for January 27, 2022.

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

1. Engle-Hambright & Davies, Inc.; cost: \$449.50. Student Helper Accident Renewal Policy, effective 2/9/2022 – 2/9/2023.

Approval of Agenda item #13.D. – Payment from the 2018 Bond Fund - \$288,835.49.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #13.E. – The Student Fundraiser Report was provided for informational purposes.

Agenda item #13.F. – The District Investment Report was provided for informational purposes.

**ADDENDUM – BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Tammy Smale**

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Ms. Greggo to approve Agenda item #14.A. – Business Management Addendum Items:

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

1. Bilingual Speech and Language Evaluation Contract; total cost: \$500.00. Terms: Remaining of the 2021-2022 school year.
2. IntegraOne – Cisco Any Connect Plus Licenses; total cost: \$93.75. Terms: 2/10/2022 – 2/9/2023.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Mrs. Kresge clarified that the upcoming staff meetings at building levels include all staff.

**SOLICITOR: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.** – Mr. Fitzgerald updated all on the status of negotiations with PVEA. A session was held in the administrative offices and he looks forward to productive sessions in the near future.

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

Ms. Greggo congratulated those individuals listed below who will be inducted to the Pleasant Valley Hall of Fame at the Pleasant Valley School District 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Friday, January 28, 2022.

- Dr. Douglas C. Arnold
- Ms. Kati Lynne Dempsey
- Ms. Stacy L. Frantz
- Mr. Jamie Gould
- Mr. Guy Morfesi
- Ms. Melissa Ruschak
- Mr. Dave Stefani
- Mr. Phillip A. Yetter

Mrs. Jecker thanked all administrators and students for the Board Appreciation Month presentations.

Mr. Galler congratulated FBLA members and recognized those members present. He wished them continued success and good luck in Hershey.

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

Denise Hopely, FBLA Advisor, thanked the Board of Education Directors and Superintendent Konrad for their leadership and commitment to the students, staff, communities and the FBLA Organization and expressed appreciation for their leadership and efforts in leading us

into the future. Zachary Dooner, President of FBLA expressed his appreciation and shared the successes of FBLA. Maria Saitta, Vice President of FBLA thanked the Board for providing support to FBLA and highlighted the successes of FBLA and qualifying for Nationals.

James Weiss, Chestnuthill Township, as head coach of the Bruins Wrestling program, expressed concern about enrollment numbers and expressed thanks for support received for the program. He also addressed girls wrestling opportunities.

Ann Gravell, Polk Township, expressed her opinion and concern about the TAP club.

Leia Leuthardt, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her opinion and concern about the TAP club.

Ron Reynolds, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his thanks and encouragement for the Board. He also expressed his opinion about including items on the agenda.

Larry Sooden, Jackson Township, expressed his opinion and concern about library books and the TAP club.

Alice Wheelis, Ross Township, expressed appreciation to the Board on behalf of her children relating to the dress code among other things.

Dominic Roberti, Eldred Township, expressed his opinions and concern about negotiations for the teachers' contract and a possible strike.

Janice Griffith, Ross Township, expressed her apologies to Dr. Howard and Dr. Konrad for accusations made. She expressed support for the Bruins Wrestling coach for being present.

Linda Zak, Ross Township, expressed concern about cyber school enrollment and effect on the budget.

End of public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Zacharias motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Smale, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:  
February 10, 2022 @ 7:00 PM