

# PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the March 10, 2022  
Board of Education Meeting

Board Approved 3-24-2022

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on March 10, 2022 and called to order by President Sue Kresge at 7:04 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Kristine Porter, followed by a moment of silence. Mrs. Kresge asked all to keep Pleasant Valley families in their thoughts and prayers. During the 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. Melanie Zipp. Absent: Ms. Diane Serfass, Mr. Delbert Zacharias.

**Administrative staff in attendance:** Dr. James Konrad, Superintendent, Dr. Rae Lin Howard, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Michael Simonetta, Business Manager, Mrs. Tammy Smale, Assistant Business Manager, 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.

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

## **Notification of Executive Session:**

President Sue Kresge announced that an executive session was held on March 10, 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.

## **IU20 Budget Presentation – Dr. Christopher Wolfel; Ms. Jackie Bartek**

IU20 Executive Director Dr. Christopher Wolfel, Director of Special Education Ms. Jackie Bartek, and Chief Financial Officer Mr. Hans Baltzersen were present. Dr. Wolfel provided a PowerPoint presentation of the 2022-2023 General Operating Budget outlining the CIU20 mission and vision as well as review of the budget breakdown. Dr. Wolfel reviewed the General Operating Budget summary recommending a 2022-2023 General Operating Budget of \$3,835,200 with an overall increase of 2.3%. Contribution for Pleasant Valley is \$26,825.00 with increase to the school district withholding at 0%. Dr. Wolfel reviewed the services, support services and programs provided by CIU20 to school districts. A summary of revenues and expenditures was also included. The presentation is attached. Mrs. Kresge stated that the 2022-2023 Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 General Operating Budget will be on the agenda for approval at the March 24<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting.

## **Nomination of Representative IU20 Board**

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jecker to nominate Mr. Michael Galler to serve on the Colonial IU20 Board for a three-year term from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. The nominee's name will be placed on the ballot.

VOICE VOTE: 7-0 CARRIED

President Sue Kresge announced the meeting procedures and provided an opportunity for public comment on agenda items only. Mrs. Kresge also stated that Agenda item #12.A. has been removed.

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

Peter DeSanto, Polk Township, asked for clarification of the Edgenuity Service Agreement expressing his opinions and concerns.

Antoinette Gravell, Polk Township, expressed concern about the IU report relating to the agreement between Intermediate Units and the PA Department of Health to collaborate in the administration of COVID-19 Prevention/Outreach/Testing Project. She expressed her opinion that parents have the right to opt out.

Mercedes Reed, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her opinions and concerns about the Bilingual School Psychologist Evaluation Contract.

Noelle Swatkowski, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about the change in dress code for this year.

End of public comment

Dr. Konrad provided an explanation about the Edgenuity Contract which would replace VLN. He provided comparative costs and the savings to Pleasant Valley and said it is a better program through cyber learning.

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

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on February 24, 2022; to approve the Board Meeting Agenda of March 10, 2022 as amended to reflect the removal of Agenda item #12.A.

VOICE VOTE: 7-0 CARRIED

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Mrs. Tammy Smale**

Ms. Greggo motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Agenda item #3.A. – Accounts Payable, and Agenda item #3.E. – Financial Statements for February 2022, as attached:

Approval of Agenda item #3.B. – Manual Checks February 1, 2022 through February 28, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #3.C. – Manual Checks February 1, 2022 through February 28, 2022 - PSDLAF

Approval of Agenda item #3.D. – Accounts Payable February 10, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #3.F. – Trial Balance/Financial Statement February 2022

Approval of Agenda item #3.G. – Asset Cost Summary February 2022

Approval of Agenda item #3.H. – Condensed Board Summary II/Expenditures and Revenues February 2022.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #3.I. - The Accounts Payable approved at the February 24, 2022 Board of Education meeting was attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.** – Mr. Fitzgerald updated all on negotiations involving the Board and its two labor unions. He stated that PVEA has had significant results which allowed for the strike set to begin on February 28<sup>th</sup> to be averted. He said that the parties are finalizing language issues and that a contract could come back within the next couple of weeks for execution by both parties. Mr. Fitzgerald also stated that support staff negotiations are scheduled with the Association later this month. The bargaining team consisting of Mrs. Jecker, Mrs. Kresge, and Mrs. Zipp will be providing updates. Mrs. Kresge thanked all involved in the negotiations.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Monroe Career & Technical Institute: Mr. Todd Kresge** – An informational report was provided. Mrs. Kresge stated that the JOC approved that 100% of the excess revenue will be sent back to each district. Mrs. Kresge recommended to hold off putting this item on an agenda at this time and after brief discussion, it was agreed by all to possibly put the item on a May agenda after reviewing our financial situation.

**Colonial IU20: Mr. Michael Galler** – An informational report was provided. Mr. Galler thanked Mr. Norman Burger for the \$1,000 scholarship opportunity for a PV MCTI Senior in the construction trade of Carpentry, Drafting & Design, Electrical, HVAC, Masonry, or Plumbing.

**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 with various aspects affecting the budget including contracts with bargaining units, and that further updates will be provided at subsequent meetings. The next Financial Committee meeting is scheduled for March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Athletic Committee: Ms. Teresa Greggo** – An informational report was provided. Ms. Greggo stated that all the All Sports Club officers are retiring in June and help is needed. She stated that a flyer is being prepared to include a description of what the officers do and what

the All Sports Club does for all sports. She said that anyone interested in continuing the Club, should reach out in the next month for the benefit of our sports teams and student athletes. Mrs. Kresge said that the All Sports Club approved \$10,000 worth of weight equipment and encouraged anyone interested should reach out to carry the organization forward.

**Policy Committee:** – No report.

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

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

Agenda item #6.A. – Informational: Second Reading of Policy No. 221 Dress and Grooming. This policy will go into effect on April 1, 2022.

Dr. Konrad thanked all involved with the emergency incident involving a PVM student for their quick response and support of the student until the ambulance arrived.

**HUMAN RESOURCES: Mr. Michael Simonetta**

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

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

1.	Name:	Nicole Cohen
	Effective Date:	TBD
2.	Name:	Ashley Dillon
	Effective Date:	TBD
3.	Name:	Tristan Dorn
	Effective Date:	TBD
4.	Name:	Jessica Maksoud
	Effective Date:	TBD
5.	Name:	Dylan Ryzner
	Effective Date:	TBD
6.	Name:	Savanah Stevens
	Effective Date:	TBD

Approval of Agenda item #7.C. – Change to Current Assignment:

1.	Name:	Jamie Rockwell
	Current Position:	Educational Consultant
	New Building:	PVHS
	New Position:	Dean of Students
	Effective Date:	March 14, 2022
	Salary:	No change

Approval of Agenda item #7.D. - Supplemental 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.

	Name	Sport	Position	Level	Salary
1.	Kassidy McKeever	Track & Field	Jr. High Assistant	1	\$3,400.00
2.	Matt Gould	Track & Field	Jr. High Assistant	1	\$3,400.00

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.	Patrick Luchowski	Baseball	Varsity Announcer / Scoreboard Operator	\$40.00 per event
2.	Patrick Luchowski	Baseball	JV Scoreboard Operator	\$30.00 per event
3.	Patrick Luchowski	Baseball	JV Scorebook / Scorekeeper	\$30.00 per event

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

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sport</b>
1.	Bob Constantinou	Baseball

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

1.	Employee ID:	3116
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Building:	PVHS
	Number of Days:	Ten (10)
	Dates:	February 22, 2022 – March 8, 2022
2.	Employee ID:	921
	Position:	Secretary
	Building:	PVMS
	Number of Days:	One-half (½)
	Dates:	February 17, 2022
3.	Employee ID:	3789
	Position:	Custodian
	Building:	PVIS
	Number of Days:	Eleven (11)
	Dates:	March 1, 2022 – March 15, 2022
4.	Employee ID:	1855
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVHS
	Number of Days:	Two (2)
	Dates:	February 15, 2022 – February 16, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #7.H. – Family and Medical Leave: Date Correction:

1.	Employee ID:	4176
	Previously Approved:	February 10, 2022
	Dates Approved:	February 24, 2022 – February 28, 2022
	Correct Dates:	February 24, 2022

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

1.	Name:	Lizbeth Blair
	Position:	Monitor
	Building:	PVIS
	Number of Days:	Six and one-half (6½)
	Dates:	April 4, 2022 (1/2) and April 5, 2022 – April 12, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #7.J. – Retirement:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
1.	Barbara Kutzman	Custodian	PVMS	June 3, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #7.K. – Resignations:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
1.	Debra Hvasta	Monitor	PVHS	March 4, 2022
2.	Michelle Kuehner	Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	N/A	February 23, 2022

3.	Kristen McCree	Paraprofessional Associate	PVIS	March 11, 2022
4.	SarahJean Rotenberger	Teacher	PVIS	On or before April 29, 2022

Approval of Agenda item #7.L. – Termination due to expired clearances after multiple notices: Employee #4519.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED  
Voting No on Agenda item #7.C.: Mrs. Jecker 6-1 CARRIED

**ADDENDUM – HUMAN RESOURCES: Mr. Michael Simonetta**

Ms. Greggo motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to approve Addendum item #8.A. – Personnel Addendum Items:

Approval of Addendum item #8.B. – Change to Current Assignment:

1.	Name:	Gianpaolo Sarnelli
	Current Position:	Security Officer
	New Position:	Security Sergeant
	Effective Date:	March 14, 2022
	Replace:	Michael Menzoff

Approval of Addendum item #8.C. – Retirement:

	Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
1.	Curtis Frantz	Custodian	PVIS	August 5, 2022

Approval of Addendum item #8.D. – Resignations:

	Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
1.	Dana West	Event Manager	n/a	March 4, 2022
2.	David Probert	Substitute Custodian	n/a	March 7, 2022

Approval of Addendum item #8.E. – Memorandum of Understanding: Modified Conditional Retirement Incentive as provided.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

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

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Ms. Greggo to approve Agenda item #9.A. – Curriculum/Staff Development Items:

Approval of Agenda item #9.B. – Library Discards: The provided list of outdated or unused books, weeded using the CREW method for weeding and Board Policy #706.1, to be discarded/donated from the PVE, PVMS, and PVHS libraries.

Approval of Agenda item #9.C. – ASSE International Student Exchange Program for a student from Italy to attend Pleasant Valley High School for the 2022-2023 school year pending completed paperwork. Mr. Brian Morgan will be the guidance counselor.

Approval of Agenda item #9.D. – ISE International Student Exchange Program for a student from Slovakia to attend Pleasant Valley High School for the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. Brian Morgan will be the guidance counselor.

Approval of Agenda item #9.E. – The 2022-2023 PV High School Program of Studies and the 2022-2023 PV Middle School Programs of Studies as provided.

Prior to roll call, Mr. Galler questioned if a set agenda for the exchange programs will be provided and Dr. Howard explained the process and said that an agenda will be provided. Mrs. Kresge said that an error was in the Music Appreciation section of the PVHS Program of Studies which was corrected after speaking to Principal George. Mrs. Kresge read the corrected language in the sentence.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

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

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Galler to approve Agenda item #10.A. – 2022 PV Cub Summer Academy for Reading and Math in Grades K-6 at Pleasant Valley Elementary School from Tuesday, July 5, 2022 through Thursday, July 28, 2022 as recommended by the Assistant Superintendent and Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

**SPECIAL EDUCATION: Ms. Julie Harris** – No report.

**OPERATIONS SERVICES: Mr. William Gasper** – No report.

**BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mr. Michael Simonetta**

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

Approval of Agenda item #13.B. – Cafeteria Fund, per attached.

1. Cafeteria Accounts Payable for March 10, 2022
2. Cafeteria Fund – Asset Cost Summary February 2022

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

1. Bilingual School Psychologist Evaluation Contract - Total Cost: \$1,300.00 per evaluation
2. IDEA-Part B Use of Funds Agreement between Pleasant Valley School District and Colonial Intermediate Unit #20 for the July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2023
3. IDEA/American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Use of Funds Agreement between Pleasant Valley School District and Colonial Intermediate Unit #20 for the July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2023
4. Edgenuity - All access to all Edgenuity Courses and MyPath K-12 remediation/enrichment program for PV Cyber seats effective for the 2022-2023 School Year through 2024-2025.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #13.D. – Informational – Purchase using St. Luke’s District Sport Facility Sponsorship: Manitowoc Ice Maker for the Athletic Trainer Area in Pleasant Valley High School; total cost: \$4,583.

Agenda item #13.E. – Informational: Student Activity Accounts:

Beginning Balance: February 1, 2022: \$208,920.06

Receipts: \$17,549.63

Expenditures: (\$12,804.92)

End Balance: February 28, 2022: \$213,664.77

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

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

Approval of Addendum item #13.B. – The following contracts:

1. Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21. Intergovernmental Agreement for Special Education Services for the 2022-2023 school year. S.I.T.I.E.S program cost: \$100.00 per student per day.
2. Dr. Janine Wargo - Independent School Psychologist - Total Cost: \$125.00/hour
3. Edgenuity supported by Seneca Valley School District for 2022 summer school courses.

Prior to roll call, Mrs. Jecker requested clarification about the independent contract. Mr. Fitzgerald addressed it and stated they are on an as needed case-by-case basis.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

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

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

Ms. Greggo announced the upcoming musical to be held the weekend of March 18<sup>th</sup> and is looking forward to it, expressed her enjoyment of all the winter sports and is looking forward to the spring sports season.

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

Nellie Gordon, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about credit requirements at the high school and concerns about students entering higher education.

Danielle Serfass, Eldred Township, expressed concern about PV losing teachers and in particular Mrs. Rotenberger and the consequences for the music program at PVI.

Peter DeSanto, Polk Township, thanked Dr. Konrad for clarifying the Edgenuity contract.

Mercedes Reed, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her gratitude to all involved with negotiations. She expressed concern about spending in general and costs of the independent evaluations. She requested that questions by PV citizens be answered and suggested a subcommittee be formed.

End of public comment.

Dr. Konrad thanked the PVHS Dance Team, PVE and PVI Administrative Team, PVE and PVI teachers, custodians, staff and Vickie O'Rourke for the assemblies with FEFE and FEEROUS from the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs which entertained the students. In addition, Dr. Konrad highlighted Read Across America celebrated in our schools last week.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Galler to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Smale, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:  
March 24, 2022 @ 7:00 PM