

# PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the April 7, 2022  
Board of Education Meeting

**Board Approved 4-21-2022**

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on April 7, 2022 and called to order by President Sue Kresge at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Julie Harris, followed by a moment of silence. Mrs. Kresge stated that the Board wishes to remember Mr. Charles Allen Conklin who passed away on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Conklin served on the Pleasant Valley School Board for six years beginning 1973 through 1979. 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, Ms. Diane Serfass, Mr. Michael Galler, Ms. Melanie Zipp. Absent: 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, Dr. Susan Mowrer Benda, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

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

## **Notification of Executive Session:**

President Sue Kresge announced that an executive session was held on April 7, 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.

Superintendent James Konrad stated that the two resolutions on the Board agenda this evening not only impact our teaching staff, but also our students and community. He said that these are difficult decisions that affect people who have dedicated time in supporting our students but with issues such as declining enrollment and the financial challenges that the District is facing, hard decisions need to be made. Dr. Konrad stated that individuals impacted by the resolutions will be informed in the upcoming days. He also stated that no programs are being eliminated.

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

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

Tyler Mann, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about the gifted program and expressed his opinion that the resolutions be postponed for further consideration.

Nellie Gordon, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about transparency surrounding the expenditures; cyber teacher reassignment; cyber charter school costs.

Dominic Roberti, Eldred Township, expressed concern about the gifted program; AP and Honors programs; lack of teachers and paraprofessionals.

Emily Vasquez, Polk Township, expressed concern about the gifted program.

Kate Crawford, Polk Township, expressed concern about the gifted program as compared to AP classes.

Linda Zak, Ross Township, expressed concern about furloughing teachers; administrator furloughs; budget deficit due to cyber school costs.

Drew Dymond, PVEA President, expressed concern and opinion about the resolutions on the agenda this evening.

Desiree Murray, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about retiring support staff; tabling resolutions.

Leia Leuthardt, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her concern about ESSR funds; the gifted program.

Peter Desanto, Polk Township, expressed concern about the resolutions not including administrators; reduction in special education staff; opinion to table resolutions.

Antoinette Gravel, Polk Township, expressed concern about documentation for special education students; furloughing teachers; eliminating administrators; cut sports and activities.

Karen Hope, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about the resolutions; elimination of administrators; cyber school costs; bringing out-of-district students back to PV; PVCA; bullying; and senior citizen tax rebates.

Mercedes Reed, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about Policy #200; gifted program; opinion to table resolutions.

Solicitor Mark Fitzgerald, clarified that the reduction of administrator positions is included in the resolution. He also clarified that under Guidelines in Policy #200, the change shall read: "The District shall immediately enroll identified special education students, even if the student or parent/guardian is unable to produce the required special education documents. Documentation will be formally requested by the special education office to the student's school of origin." Mr. Fitzgerald stated that we have to enroll even if we do not receive paperwork as required by law.

Desiree Murray, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about the resolutions and reduction of staff; and the proposed realignment.

Ron Reynolds, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about the gifted program; special education documentation; class size; elimination of teachers and administrators.

Brad Mann, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about the resolutions; reduction of staffing; leadership.

Emily Vasquez, Polk Township, expressed concern about the PV Cyber Academy; gifted program; elimination of teachers; realignment.

Kate Crawford, Polk Township, expressed concern about student: teacher ratio; elimination of teachers; class size; gifted program and transparency; honors classes.

End of Public Comment

Superintendent Konrad clarified that no program is being eliminated and that the gifted program will not be eliminated and is not being changed. He expressed concern about discussions by teachers to students about potential issues during instructional time. He stated that Resolution #2 has to do with professional staff; however, there are two administrators who have been informed that they will not be returning next year. Dr. Konrad addressed the special education audit which indicated that we are overstaffed and he reviewed the numbers of students and district-wide teachers and average case load. He also addressed the ESSR funding which is a non-sustainable funding source. In addition, Dr. Konrad addressed student: teacher ratio and class size as well as means to attract out-of-district students back to PV. Mrs. Jecker questioned the number of teachers in the gifted program at the high school and their case load. Discussion was held which Dr. Konrad, Ms. Harris and Dr. Howard addressed.

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

Mr. Galler motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jecker to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on March 24, 2022; to approve the Board Meeting Agenda of April 7, 2022. Mrs. Smale reviewed changes to Agenda item #6.A.: Resolution #1 and Resolution #2 and stated that the Resolutions will be available on Board Docs.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

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

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to approve Agenda item #3.A. – Accounts Payable, as attached:  
Approval of Agenda item #3.B. – Manual Checks March 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022.  
Approval of Agenda item #3.C. – Manual Checks March 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022 – PSDLAF.

Approval of Agenda item #3.D. – Accounts Payable April 7, 2022

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

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

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mrs. Kresge announced that the A Night of Unity event will be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Pleasant Valley Middle School and asked for Board member volunteers to work a table. She informed all that it is the same night as the MCTI graduation. She also announced that the 2022 Children’s Round Table Community Night with the theme “In This Together” will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00-8:15 PM at Northampton Community College, Pocono Hall and is sponsored by the Children’s Round Table of Monroe County.

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

**Colonial IU20: Mr. Michael Galler** – An informational report was provided. Mr. Galler stated that on April 27<sup>th</sup> the 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary will be celebrated and an open house will be held at Colonial Academy starting at 5:30 PM.

**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 next meeting is scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup>.

**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**

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to approve Agenda item #6.A. – Superintendent items:

Approval of Agenda item #6.A. – The attached two Resolutions under Section 11-1124 of the Public School Code surrounding the Suspension of up to 17 Professional Employees. The resolution herein also authorizes the non-renewal of up to 9 Temporary Professional Employees. The resolutions detail the reasons in which the Administration is seeking the approval of the Board to suspend professional employees and non-renew Temporary Professional Employees. In the event the Board so authorizes the attached two Resolutions the Administration shall determine the appropriate individuals to be suspended or non-renewed as applicable and as required by law and shall present to the Board the list of applicable individuals for approval by the Board at a subsequent Board meeting.

Solicitor Mark Fitzgerald noted that the inclusion of up to two administrators are added in the Resolution.

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to approve Agenda item #6.B. and Addendum item #7.A. – Superintendent items:

Approval of Agenda item #6.B. – Second Reading and Adoption of Policies:

1. Policy 113 Special Education
2. Policy 200 Enrollment of Students

Approval of Addendum item #7.A. - West End Parks and Open Space Commission Elimination as attached.

The proposal is as follows:

- 1) The West End Parks and Open Space Commission recommends to all partnering bodies to disband the commission under its current Intergovernmental Agreement.
- 2) The Friends of The West End Parks and Open Space Commission would restructure into a “Friends of the Dave Fleetwood Memorial Fund”.
  - a) Existing fundraisers could continue under this new 501.C.3 organization.

- i) For Example, The Dave Fleetwood Memorial 5k and associated Scholarship Fund.
- b) The Friends of Group could work with the Chestnuthill Township staff for creating and continuing programming goals and objectives.
- 3) WEPOSC recommends all entities continue to work together on Parks and Recreation when it is mutually beneficial.

Mrs. Jecker questioned the above proposal and discussion was held about funds returned and opening the Park. Mr. Simonetta said it would be a recommendation to return the funds to the general fund.

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED  
 Voting No on Agenda item #6.B.: Mr. Galler  
 7-1 CARRIED

Dr. Konrad addressed the issue of bullying in our schools for which he takes very seriously and stated that over the next few months our anti-bullying messaging, processes, and procedures will be strengthened to ensure student mental health and safety in our schools. He shared his first-hand experiences with bullying and stated that our goal is to implement a robust anti-bullying campaign next school year to improve culture and climate in each school building. Dr. Konrad stated that he has been in contact with Sandy Hook Promise and is looking at other resources to support school safety and a review of Bullying Policy #249 has begun. Dr. Konrad also stated that May is mental health awareness month and a virtual community town hall meeting has been scheduled for Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM and the link is posted on Facebook and our webpage.

**HUMAN RESOURCES: Mr. Michael Simonetta**

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mrs. Serfass to approve Agenda item #8.A. - Personnel Items:

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

|    |                   |                                       |
|----|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Name:             | Kristine Meckes                       |
|    | Current Building: | PVHS                                  |
|    | Current Position: | Cyber                                 |
|    | New Building:     | PVMS                                  |
|    | New Position:     | Health and Physical Education Teacher |
|    | Salary:           | Same                                  |
|    | Effective Date:   | March 28, 2022                        |
|    | Replace:          | Kyle Bonser                           |
| 2. | Name:             | Kelly Chimento                        |
|    | Building:         | PVHS                                  |
|    | Current Position: | Paraprofessional Associate (PT)       |
|    | New Position:     | Paraprofessional Associate (FT)       |
|    | Effective Date:   | April 11, 2022                        |
| 3. | Name:             | Renee Kresge                          |
|    | Building:         | PVES                                  |
|    | Current Position: | Paraprofessional Associate (PT)       |
|    | New Position:     | Paraprofessional Associate (FT)       |
|    | Effective Date:   | April 11, 2022                        |

Approval of Agenda item #8.C. – Rescind Hiring Due to Lack of Required Paperwork:

|    | ID #       | Position                         |
|----|------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | 20220407-1 | Substitute Food Service Employee |

Approval of Agenda item #8.D. - 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. | Trevor Knappenberger | Baseball      | JV Scorebook/Score keeper | \$30.00 per event |
| 2. | Norma Smith          | Track & Field | Varsity Judge             | \$35.00 per event |
| 3. | Norma Smith          | Track & Field | Jr. High Judge            | \$35.00 per event |
| 4. | Maryanne Bridy       | Track & Field | Varsity Judge             | \$35.00 per event |
| 5. | Maryanne Bridy       | Track & Field | Jr. High Judge            | \$35.00 per event |
| 6. | Karen Voulo          | Track & Field | Varsity Judge             | \$35.00 per event |
| 7. | Karen Voulo          | Track & Field | Jr. High Judge            | \$35.00 per event |
| 8. | India Johnson        | Track & Field | Varsity Judge             | \$35.00 per event |
| 9. | India Johnson        | Track & Field | Jr. High Judge            | \$35.00 per event |

Approval of Agenda item #8.E. – Supplemental Contracts: Non-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>Position</b>       | <b>Subject</b>    | <b>Salary</b> |
|----|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Joseph Agolino   | Winter School Teacher | Social Studies    | \$1,687.50    |
| 2. | Danielle Brandes | Winter School Teacher | English           | \$1,687.50    |
| 3. | Jamile Ferrara   | Winter School Teacher | Special Education | \$1,687.50    |
| 4. | Talitha Graham   | Winter School Teacher | Math and Science  | \$1,687.50    |

Approval of Agenda item #8.F. – Family and Medical Leave:

|    |                 |  |
|----|-----------------|--|
| 1. | Employee ID:    | 218  |
|    | Position:       | Paraprofessional Associate   |
|    | Building:       | PVMS   |
|    | Number of Days: | Eight (8)  |
|    | Dates:          | March 23, 2022; March 30, 2022; April 5, 2022; April 6, 2022; April 12, 2022; April 13, 2022; April 20, 2022; April 27, 2022 |
| 2. | Employee ID:    | 921  |
|    | Position:       | Secretary  |
|    | Building:       | PVMS   |
|    | Number of Days: | One-half (½)   |
|    | Dates:          | March 16, 2022   |
| 3. | Employee ID:    | 4287   |
|    | Position:       | Teacher  |
|    | Building:       | PVES   |
|    | Number of Days: | Six (6)  |
|    | Dates:          | March 25, 2022 – April 1, 2022   |

|    |                 |   |
|----|-----------------|---|
| 4. | Employee ID:    | 3372  |
|    | Position:       | Teacher   |
|    | Building:       | PVHS  |
|    | Number of Days: | Two and one-half (2½)                                 |
|    | Dates:          | March 14, 2022 (½); March 16, 2022 and March 23, 2022 |
| 5. | Employee ID:    | 1855  |
|    | Position:       | Teacher   |
|    | Building:       | PVHS  |
|    | Number of Days: | Two (2)   |
|    | Dates:          | March 16, 2022 and March 21, 2022                     |
| 6. | Employee ID:    | 2154  |
|    | Position:       | Teacher   |
|    | Building:       | PVES  |
|    | Number of Days: | Three (3)   |
|    | Dates:          | March 7, 2022; March 8, 2022 and March 14, 2022       |

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

|    |                 |                                       |
|----|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Name:           | Victoria Weaver                       |
|    | Position:       | Food Service Employee                 |
|    | Building:       | PVES                                  |
|    | Number of Days: | Five (5)                              |
|    | Dates:          | February 14, 2022 – February 18, 2022 |

Approval of Agenda item #8.H. – Rescind Retirement:

|    | Name             | Position  | Building | Previously Approved |
|----|------------------|-----------|----------|---------------------|
| 1. | Barbara Kuntzman | Custodian | PVMS     | March 10, 2022      |

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

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

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

Approval of Addendum item #9.B. – Retirement Incentive PVESPA 2022:

|     | Name                      | Position                        | Building |
|-----|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1.  | Sandy Bojko               | Paraprofessional Associate (FT) | PVES     |
| 2.  | Linda Cuprill             | Paraprofessional Associate (FT) | PVES     |
| 3.  | Bonnie Drinkwater         | Paraprofessional Associate (PT) | PVIS     |
| 4.  | Christina Fiorito-McGowan | Paraprofessional Associate (PT) | PVES     |
| 5.  | Jane Foust                | Paraprofessional Associate (FT) | PVES     |
| 6.  | Cheryl Heckman            | Secretary                       | PVES     |
| 7.  | Wanda Jones-Jordan        | Custodian                       | PVES     |
| 8.  | Barbara Kuntzman          | Custodian                       | PVMS     |
| 9.  | Barbara Lackey            | Custodian                       | PVES     |
| 10. | Diane Nagy                | Paraprofessional Associate (FT) | PVHS     |
| 11. | Karen Newton              | Paraprofessional Associate (FT) | PVIS     |
| 12. | James Serfass             | Custodian                       | PVES     |
| 13. | Mary Smith                | Paraprofessional Associate (FT) | PVIS     |
| 14. | Arline Wojy               | Paraprofessional Associate (FT) | PVIS     |
| 15. | Paulette Chopick          | Paraprofessional Associate (PT) | PVIS     |
| 16. | Juanita Atkins            | Custodian                       | PVHS     |
| 17. | Martha Smith              | Paraprofessional Associate (PT) | PVIS     |

Approval of Addendum item #9.C. – Rescind Retirement:

|    | Name          | Position  | Building | Effective Date |
|----|---------------|-----------|----------|----------------|
| 1. | Curtis Frantz | Custodian | PVIS     | March 10, 2022 |

Approval of Addendum item #9.D. – Resignation:

|    | Name            | Position             | Effective Date |
|----|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Savanah Stevens | Substitute Teacher   | March 31, 2022 |
| 2. | David Probert   | Substitute Custodian | March 7, 2022  |

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

**CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Dr. Rae Lin Howard/Dr. Susan Mowrer Benda**  
Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Galler to approve Agenda item #10. – Curriculum/Staff Development Items:  
Approval of Agenda item #10.A. – Library Discards: Discard/donation of unused/out-of-date science textbooks from PVI as attached.

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

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

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

**BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mr. Michael Simonetta**

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

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

1. Cafeteria Accounts Payable for April 7, 2022.

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

1. PowerSchool - Special Programs License and Subscription Fees 3/30/2022 – 3/29/2023  
Cost: \$31,097.22
2. TruGreen Lawn Care - Terms: 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026 Total Cost: \$ 9,458.00 per application
3. McGraw Hill Achieve 3000 - Actively Learn ELA Program for High School through Ready to Learn Grant Terms: 8/1/2022 - 6/30/2023 Total Cost: \$17,920.00

Approval of Agenda item #13.D. – CSIU #16 Computer Services Rate for 2022-2023: Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit #16 computer service rate for 2022-2023 as attached for Fund Accounting, Payroll, Staff Portal and Personnel applications. Estimated cost to the school district for 2022-2023 school year is \$34,460.

Approval of Agenda item #13.E. – Colonial IU #20 General Operating 2022-202 Proposed Budget in the amount of \$3,835,200. Pleasant Valley's contribution is not to exceed \$26,825.00.

Approval of Agenda item #13.F. – Tax Assessment Settlement Agreement authorizing Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 199 Evergreen Hollow Road in Chestnuthill Township and further identified as Parcel ID 02.8.1.17 setting the standard assessment of the property at \$563,010 and preferential assessment of the property at \$535,530 for tax year 2022 (school tax year 2022-23) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #13.G. - Informational – Purchase using St. Luke's Rehabilitation Sponsorship: Purchase of weight room equipment for the Pleasant Valle High School at a total cost of \$2,068.52.

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

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

Approval of Addendum item #14.B. – Establishment of a Scholarship Fund: Pocono Mountain Art Council Legacy Scholarship and the accompanying bank account as attached.

Approval of Addendum item #14.C. – Amended Letter of Agreement for Title I with Colonial Intermediate Unit #20 (previously approved 07/15/2021). The Agreement shall commence on August 30, 2021 and terminate on June 1, 2022 or the last student day of the 2021-2022 Pleasant Valley School District school year at a cost of \$7,403.00 for instructional services; \$77.00 for Parent and Family Engagement Service; 3% of instructional cost for Administrative Services.

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

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

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

Mrs. Kresge questioned the elimination of five secondary math positions included in Resolution #2 and the impact it will have on class size as well as the elimination of seven reading positions at the middle school. Dr. Howard and Dr. Mowrer Benda addressed the questions and

discussion was held. Dr. Konrad spoke about placing additional resources at the elementary level.

Mrs. Jecker expressed condolences for the loss of Mrs. Metz who passed away recently.

Mr. Burger questioned class size at other school districts in Monroe County and PA state average. Dr. Howard will provide information.

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

Desiree Murray, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about mental health issues; special education teacher reduction.

Dominic Roberti, Eldred Township, expressed concern about class size; furloughs; state of the school district.

Linda Zak, Ross Township, expressed views on hate speech against elected officials and the impact on children.

Danielle Serfass, Eldred Township, expressed concern about furloughing teachers; furloughing administrators; lack of teachers; replacement of band teacher; realignment consequences or grades moving up; nepotism.

Ron Reynolds, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about enforcement of guidelines to the dress code; bullying.

Alice Wheelis, Ross Township, expressed concern about realignment and consequences for grades moving up.

Drew Dymond, PVEA President, spoke about ESSR funds and balancing the budget.

Kristin Heller, Polk Township, expressed concern about furloughs, in particular counselors; expressed gratitude for teachers.

Antoinette Gravell, Polk Township, expressed her opinion about teachers sharing information with students; bullying and consequences; lack of respect by students.

Leia Leuthardt, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about bullying and consequences; expressed opinion about parent responsibility to teach children about bullying.

Mercedes Reed, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about the approval of the resolutions; subcommittee of parents and community members to be formed.

Dawn Ann, Ross Township, expressed gratitude for difficult decisions made by the Board; expressed support for Mr. Galler.

Peter Desanto, Polk Township, expressed concern about the proposed tax increase.

Brianna Frost, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about plans on attracting out-of-district students to return to PV; furloughs.

Tyler Mann, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his opinion about leadership and student involvement in school issues; improvement of disciplinary actions at high school.

Nellie Gordon, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her opinion that students be able to have a voice.

End of public comment.

Dr. Konrad sent well wishes to the following cheerleaders performing at Allstar World Championships this April: PVI – Kimber Berger from Rebels Elite Cheer; Kaylee Chambers, Brea Knappenberger, and Kayla Knappenberger from World Cup Easton; PVHS seniors Dana Mead, Niya Moon, and Olivia Moore from World Cup Easton. He also said he spoke with Melissa Ruschak's first period class regarding career choices and post-secondary opportunities. In addition, in recognition of staff appreciation week, Dr. Konrad thanked Librarians, paraprofessionals, and assistant principals for all they do for students. He thanked parents for working together with staff and administration.



**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Galler motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Smale, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:  
April 21, 2022 @ 7:00 PM