

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the May 9, 2022

Board of Education Special Meeting

Board Approved 5-12-2022

CALL TO ORDER:

A special meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on May 9, 2022 and called to order by President Sue Kresge at 8:10 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. James Serfass followed by a moment of silence. The meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley District Administration Building, 2233 Route 115, 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, Mrs. Diane Serfass, Mrs. Melanie Zipp, Mr. Delbert Zacharias. Absent: Mr. Michael Galler, Ms. Teresa Greggo.

Administrative staff in attendance: Dr. James Konrad, Superintendent (via Zoom), Dr. Rae Lin Howard, Assistant to the 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, Ms. Julie Harris, Director of Special Education, Dr. Susan Mowrer Benda, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Marcia Taylor, Accountant.

School Solicitor in attendance: Alicia Luke, Esq. (via Zoom)

Presentation: Highlights of the Collective Bargaining Agreement – Mr. Michael Simonetta, Business Manager

Superintendent James Konrad stated that the contract has been ratified by the PVEA for a four year term, July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025. He introduced Mr. Michael Simonetta who provided highlights of the Contract agreed to by the parties. Items included salary information with an average net salary increase over four years of 2.5%; benefits information; miscellaneous language changes; and the average annual impact on the budget of 2.0%.

President Sue Kresge announced the meeting procedures and provided an opportunity for public comment on agenda items followed by non-agenda items.

Pleasant Valley Citizens:

Anne Morton, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about lack of availability to the public of the Collective Bargaining Agreement; lack of transparency.

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

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to approve the Special Board Meeting Agenda of May 9, 2022.

VOICE VOTE: CARRIED

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

Mrs. Serfass motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to approve Agenda item #3. – Superintendent Items:

Approval of Agenda item #3.A. – Collective Bargaining Agreement between Pleasant Valley School District and Pleasant Valley Education Association effective for four (4) years from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025.

Prior to the roll call vote, Mrs. Jecker questioned transparency and was informed that procedures were followed upon advice of counsel.

Mrs. Kresge stated that although Mr. Galler is absent this evening, he was in favor of approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

SOLICITOR: Alicia Luke, Esq. – No report.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Mrs. Kresge stated that the negotiating process began in January of 2021 making it this Board's priority in order to achieve labor peace in the District. She expressed pride for the parties' collective ability to achieve a contract that strikes the balance of the fiscal needs of our community, the taxpayers, along with recognizing the hard work of our teachers and that the contract agreed to balances the fiscal concerns expressed by the Board along with working

condition concerns raised by the Association. Mrs. Kresge extended thanks to members of the negotiating team - Mr. Galler, Mrs. Serfass, and Mr. Burger, as well as Mr. Simonetta, Mrs. Smale, and Dr. Howard for their support. In addition, she thanked Dr. Konrad for his assistance in engaging the union in honest and transparent discussions and for his leadership which is greatly valued. Mrs. Kresge stated that the Board's priority now is to settle the support staff contract and a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday of this week.

Mr. Burger expressed his appreciation for Mrs. Serfass and Mr. Galler working together with the rest of the negotiating team and he looks forward to seeing this being a step forward in the healing process in making Pleasant Valley whole again.

Mrs. Serfass stated this was a very good negotiated process and the net effect was beneficial to both parties. She thanked all involved.

Dr. Konrad thanked the negotiating teams of both the Pleasant Valley School District and the Pleasant Valley Education Association for working through the contract over the course of these last five months. He said this is a positive outcome as we continue to work together for a bright future.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Zacharias motioned, seconded by Mrs. Serfass to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Smale, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:
May 12, 2022 @ 7:00 PM