

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the November 19, 2020 Board of Education Meeting

Board Approved 12-3-2020

CALL TO ORDER:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on November 19, 2020 and called to order by President Donna Yozwiak at 7:01 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Delbert Zacharias, followed by a moment of silence. The meeting was held virtually in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mrs. Yozwiak announced that this virtual meeting is being recorded.

Roll Call – School Board Recorder: Mrs. Debra Duff

School Board members in attendance: Donna Yozwiak, President, Todd Kresge, Teresa Greggo, Norm Burger, Laura Jecker, Treasurer, Delbert Zacharias, Sue Kresge, Len Peeters, Vice President, Dan Wunder.

Administrative staff in attendance: Lee Lesisko, Superintendent, Jessica Tomon, Director of Human Resources, Robert Mauro, Interim Assistant to the Superintendent, Susan Famularo, Business Manager, Bill Gasper, Director of Operations, Julie Harris, Director of Special Education, Susan Mowrer Benda, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Tom Toth, Athletic Director, Chuck Tomori, Technology Coordinator, Shavonne Liddic, K-12 Curriculum Supervisor, Lori Hagerman, K-12 Curriculum Supervisor.

Building Administrative staff in attendance: Matt Triolo, Roger Pomposello, Jason Van Voorhis, Todd Breiner.

Student Council Representative: Tyler Mann

School Solicitor in attendance: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Notification of Executive Session: President Yozwiak announced that an executive session was held on November 19, 2020 immediately prior to the regularly scheduled meeting for purposes of legal issues, negotiations, personnel matters including, but not limited to, performance and/or discipline.

Student Representative: Tyler Mann, President of HOSA.

Mr. Mann announced activities and events at the high school:

- Cheerleading fundraiser;
- Community Trick or Treat Night event;
- Recognition activities for Veterans Day;
- Clubs holding virtual meetings so all students can be involved;
- HOSA – Trauma theme where students toured St. Luke’s ambulances;

Mr. Mann stated that the High School is putting forth a positive environment.

President Yozwiak announced that the meeting procedures were attached to the agenda and posted online. She provided the opportunity for Pleasant Valley citizens to comment on agenda items only with a three-minute time limit.

Pleasant Valley Citizens: None.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Mrs. Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on November 5, 2020; and to approve the Board Meeting Agenda of November 19, 2020.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

The Minutes of the Buildings & Grounds meeting held on November 9, 2020 were provided for informational purposes.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Mrs. Laura Jecker

Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Agenda item #3.A. per attached: Approval of Agenda item #3.B. – Accounts Payable 11-19-2020.

Approval of Agenda item #3.C. – Financial Statements for month ending October 31, 2020, per attached:

Approval of Agenda item #3.D. – Trial Balance/Financial Statement-October 2020.

Approval of Agenda item #3.E. – Asset Cost Summary-October 2020.

Approval of Agenda item #3.F. – Condensed Board Summary II/Expenditures and Revenues-October 2020.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED
Abstained on Agenda item #3.B. Check No. 00229372: Mrs. Yozwiak 8-0-1 CARRIED;
Abstained on Agenda item #3.B. Check No. 00229367: Mr. Wunder 8-0-1 CARRIED
(Abstention forms attached)

Agenda item #3.G. - The Accounts Payable approved at the November 5, 2020 Board of Education meeting was attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq. – Mr. Fitzgerald informed all that Secretary Rachel Levine of the PA Department of Health issued an updated guidance with regard to mitigation efforts surrounding COVID. Updates included universal masking orders during the day to day schooling as the orders for the most part are consistent with the earlier guidance orders. In addition, indoor sports for the winter must be addressed by the Athletic Director's Department as well as PIAA and District XI to address conflicting issues relating to the order of wearing masks. Mr. Fitzgerald also informed all of the initiative put forth by Secretary Levine with regard to traveling over the Thanksgiving Day holiday in particular for those traveling interstate and upon return to Pennsylvania to either have a negative COVID test result or quarantine for 14 days. He and Dr. Lesisko are working on this issue.

Mrs. Yozwiak recognized that it is American Education Week and stated that "teachers do not teach for the income, teachers teach for the outcome." She thanked all teachers for their dedication.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Yozwiak stated that the Committee Reports were attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

SUPERINTENDENT-REPORT/REQUESTS: Dr. Lee J. Lesisko

Dr. Lesisko stated that because of COVID, the mental health of staff, parents, and students is at the forefront. He introduced representatives from St. Luke's University Health Network, Jody McCloud Missmer, Dr. Howard Levin, Jason Frei, and John Hauth. A presentation was given on the impact COVID is having on all of us and ways to unify to support students, families, community, and each other. An outline of what to be aware of and what we can do to help meet the needs of all including ourselves was provided. Resources were provided for those in need.

Dr. Lesisko addressed rumors about transitioning to remote learning. He stated that there is no spread of COVID in our schools and positive cases encountered have originated from the outside which has been verified through contact tracing and working with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Dr. Lesisko said that the hybrid model is working well and he has met with superintendents in Monroe and Northampton Counties and all but three school districts will remain in the hybrid model including Pleasant Valley. He said that if the Governor orders schools closed or if contact tracing suggests that the virus is spreading within our schools, we will switch to a full remote learning model and until such time, the situation is being monitored closely.

Dr. Lesisko took this opportunity to recognize Mr. Bob Hines whose last day of school is November 24th having spent 42.5 years in education with 21.5 of those at Pleasant Valley. He congratulated Mr. Hines and wished him luck in his retirement.

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Zacharias to approve Agenda item #6:

Approval of Agenda item #6.A. – The following policies, per attached:

1. Policy #118 Independent Study
2. Policy #123 Interscholastic Activities
3. Policy #123.1 Concussion Management
4. Policy #123.2 Sudden Cardiac Arrest

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #6.B. – The following policies were provided for a first reading, per attached:

1. Policy #126 Class Size
2. Policy #829 Electronic Signatures

Agenda item #6.C. – No changes were recommended to the following policies reviewed on November 11, 2020. The revision date only will be updated on the policy. Unless otherwise required or requested, the policy will be reviewed again per the policy review cycle.

1. Policy #125 Adult Education
2. Policy #130 Homework

HUMAN RESOURCES: Ms. Jessica Tomon

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jecker to approve Agenda item #7.A. – Personnel Items:

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

1.	Name:	Diane Nagy
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Current Building:	PVES
	New Building:	PVHS
	Effective Date:	August 31, 2020

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

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates
1.	Gregory Duff	Paraprofessional Associate	PVHS	Six (6)	September 27, 2020 – November 3, 2020
2.	Rachel Goodwin-Brown	Secretary	PVMS	Nine (9)	November 4, 2020 – November 16, 2020
3.	Randy Hinton	Teacher	PVHS	One (1)	October 30, 2020
4.	Barbara Kuntzman	Custodian	PVMS	Three (3)	October 23, 2020 – October 27, 2020
5.	Holly Tuers	Secretary	Admin	Fifty-eight (58)	December 1, 2020 – February 26, 2020

Approval of Agenda item #7.D. – FFCRA – Emergency FMLA Expansion Act:

1.	Name:	Stephanie Pfancook
	Position:	Secretary
	Building:	PVES
	Type:	Intermittent
	Start Date:	November 11, 2020
	Expected End Date:	December 30, 2020

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

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates
1.	Evelyn Garced	Monitor	PVMS	Three (3)	November 24, 2020, December 21, 2020 and December 22, 2020

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

	Name	Position	Effective Date
1.	Stacey Charles	Substitute Paraprofessional Associate Substitute Monitor Substitute Food Service Employee	November 19, 2020
2.	John Stanovick	Girls Basketball – Jr. High Assistant	October 26, 2020

Approval of Agenda item #7.G. – Intramural Advisors:

1.	Club/Activity:	Let's Create
	Advisor:	Eileen Arnold
	Dates:	October 2020 – May 2021
	Day(s):	Tuesday and Thursday
	Times:	2:38 pm – 4:00 pm
	Building:	PVMS
	Received in HR Office:	November 3, 2020

2.	Club/Activity:	Boys Basketball
	Advisor:	Robert Hahn
	Dates:	September 1, 2020 – November 19, 2020
	Day(s):	Monday – Friday
	Times:	5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
	Building:	PVHS
	Received in HR Office:	November 3, 2020

Approval of Agenda item #7.H. – 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 the fall 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.	Michelle Albanese	Girls Basketball	Jr. High Assistant	1	\$3,550.00
2.	Brett Hyland	Wrestling	Jr. High Assistant	1	\$3,550.00

Approval of Agenda item #7.I. – 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 the fall 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.	Hillary Atkinson	Boys Basketball	Varsity Scorebook/Scorekeeper	\$40.00 (per event)
2.	Jackie Tortora	N/A	Winter Event Manager	\$610.41 (split stipend)
3.	Dana West	N/A	Spring Event Manager	\$610.41 (split stipend)
4.	Tim Hinton	Boys Basketball	Secondary Clock Operator	\$40.00 (per event)
5.	Tim Hinton	Girls Basketball	Message Board Operator	\$40.00 (per event)
6.	Tim Hinton	Wrestling	Message Board Operator	\$40.00 (per event)
7.	Tim Hinton	Wrestling	Varsity Scoreboard Operator	\$40.00 (per event)
8.	Tim Hinton	Wrestling	JV Scoreboard Operator	\$35.00 (per event)
9.	Tim Hinton	Wrestling	Jr. High Scoreboard Operator	\$30.00 (per event)
10.	Jenna Wernett	Wrestling	Jr. High Scorebook/Scorekeeper	\$25.00 (per event)

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

ADDENDUM: HUMAN RESOURCES: Ms. Jessica Tomon

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

Approval of Addendum item #8.B. – Hiring of Administrative Staff (pending receipt of required paperwork):

1.	Name:	Rae Howard
	Position:	Assistant to the Superintendent
	Education Level:	BS: English MA: English Ed.D: Educational Administration
	Undergraduate School:	Slippery Rock University
	Graduate School:	Slippery Rock University Indiana University of Pennsylvania
	Certificate:	English 7-12 Principal K-12 Superintendent
	Salary:	\$125,000
	Effective Date:	TBD
	Replace:	Joshua Ziatyk
2.	Name:	Fawn Meli
	Position:	Special Education Supervisor
	Education Level:	BS: Special Education MEd: Special Education
	Undergraduate School:	East Stroudsburg University
	Graduate School:	East Stroudsburg University
	Certificate:	Special Education N-12 Special Education Supervisor Mid-Level English 7-9
	Salary:	\$82,000
	Effective Date:	TBD
	Replace:	Diane Siani

Approval of Addendum item #8.C. – Family and Medical Leave:

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates
1.	Noreen Ciarleglio	Teacher	PVIS	Three (3)	October 29, 2020, November 5, 2020 and November 6, 2020

Approval of Addendum item #8.D. – Leave Without Pay:

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates
1.	Joan Toolan	Paraprofessional Associate	PVHS	Two (2)	December 3, 2020 – December 4, 2020

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

	Name	Position	Effective Date
1.	Shavonne Liddic	K-12 Curriculum Supervisor	January 31, 2021

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

	Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
1.	Amanda Campbell	Monitor *	PVES	November 18, 2020
2.	Valerie Korsick	Substitute Teacher	N/A	November 13, 2020

*Would like to remain on substitute list.

Approval of Addendum item #8.G. – Athletic Volunteer:

	Name	Sport
1.	Inge Burlew	Swimming

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED
 Voting No on Addendum item #8.B.1.: Mrs. Jecker 8-1 CARRIED

Mrs. Jecker stated that she voted No on Addendum item #8.B.1. due to salary and experience level. Mrs. Kresge indicated that she voted Yes on Addendum item #8.B.1. due to the recommendation by Dr. Lesisko.

Mrs. Yozwiak congratulated Ms. Shavonne Liddic on her retirement and wished her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Dr. Susan Mowrer Benda – No report.

SPECIAL EDUCATION: Ms. Julie Harris – In recognition of National Education Support Professionals Day, Ms. Harris thanked Paraprofessionals K-12 for their outstanding work with students and staff. She also thanked the support personnel who has helped on Wednesdays at Polk.

OPERATIONS SERVICES: Mr. Bill Gasper – No report.

BUILDING REPORTS: Mrs. Yozwiak stated that all building reports including the PV Cyber Academy report for November 2020 were provided for informational purposes.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Susan Famularo

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

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

1. Cafeteria Accounts Payable for November 19, 2020 – \$47,709.43.
2. Cafeteria Fund-Asset Cost Summary – October 2020

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

1. Four Diamonds Mini-Thon Partnership Agreement for PVHS Virtual Mini-THON event on 4/10/2021 4pm-9pm.

Approval of Agenda item #13.D. – Commitments of Fund Balance: The following commitments of June 30, 2020 fund balance for inclusion in the minutes:

- Capital Needs - \$4,321,296
- Tax Stabilization - \$5,000,000.00

Approval of Agenda item #13.E. – Audited Budget Transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, per attached.

Approval of Agenda item #13.F. – Fundraiser:

1. PVHS - FBLA- Wreath Sale - 11/25/2020 - 12/10/2020
2. PVHS - Class of 2022 - Pampered Chef Fundraiser - 12/01/2020 - 12/10/2020
3. PVHS - Dance Team - Online Spirit Store Fundraiser - 12/3/2020 - 12/17/2020
4. PVHS - LEO Club - Community Egg Hunt - 3/20/2021 Rain Date 3/27/2021

Approval of Agenda item #13.G. – Payment from the 2018 Bond Fund, per attached - \$5,662.67.

Approval of Agenda item #13.H. – Authorization for the Business Manager to request two (2) medical and prescription funding holidays for active employees, one for the month of January 2021 and one for the month of February 2021, from the Trust Manager of the Employee Benefits Trust of Eastern Pennsylvania (EBTEP).

Approval of Agenda item #13.I. – Award Spring Athletic Supplies & Equipment Bid, per attached:

Spring Athletic Supplies & Equipment Bid 2020 - 2021 School Year

- BSN Sports - \$1952.53
- Pyramid School Products - \$630.67
- Scholastic Sports Sales, Ltd. - \$58.00
- Sportsman's - \$3,345.83
- Triple Crown Sports - \$1,230.00

Total 2020-2021 Spring Athletic Supplies & Equipment Bid- \$7,217.03.

Approval of Agenda item #13.J. – Participation in the Northampton/Monroe/Pike County 2021-2022 Joint Purchase Bid Paper and Janitorial Paper Supplies.

Approval of Agenda item #13.K. – Settlement Agreement and Release RW111920.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #13.L. –Informational: Student Activity, per attached:

Beginning Balance: October 1, 2020: \$226,198.13

Receipts: \$4,915.31

Expenditures: (\$8,156.84)

Ending Balance: October 31, 2020: \$222,956.60.

Agenda item #13.M. – Informational: District Investment Report for October 31, 2020 as attached.

ADDENDUM: BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Susan Famularo

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

Approval of Addendum item #14.B., as amended – Advertisement of Sealed Proposals: Contracted Transportation Services.

Approval of Addendum item #14.C. – Fundraiser: PVHS - Shakey's Players Club - Improv Show - 12/21/2020.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

SOLICITOR: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq. – As an update on comments previously made by Dr. Lesisko with regard to remaining with in person hybrid programming at this time, Mr. Fitzgerald recommended that action be taken by way of a motion as proposed by him as follows:

The Board so authorizes the District to maintain In Person Hybrid Programming with the understanding that the Superintendent of Schools will continue to review transmission levels within Monroe County along with information surrounding the number of cases in school, evidence of transmission in school, staffing levels at each building, and adherence by students and staff toward preventative measures to limit the spread of COVID-19. This motion directs the Superintendent to engage discussion with the State Department of Health as may be needed during this time period. In the event the Superintendent so determines the criteria noted herein justify a modification of the current delivery of In Person Hybrid Programming he shall be so authorized to modify the current delivery of instruction.

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to accept the above motion proposed by Mr. Fitzgerald.

Prior to roll call, Mrs. Kresge asked for clarification on the criteria for authorizing modification of the current delivery of instruction which Mr. Fitzgerald addressed. Mrs. Kresge also questioned if a committee has been formed with administrators and principals with regard to COVID issues. Dr. Lesisko stated that they meet in person at least once a week.

As recommended by Mr. Fitzgerald, a roll call vote on the above motion will take place following Board of Directors' and public comment.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Mrs. Kresge referred to the PVE building report and noted that this is the 17th year that the West End Rotary has provided dictionaries to our 3rd graders – 350 for this year. She suggested that possibly a resolution might be presented to the West End Rotary for their great partnership. Mrs. Kresge also questioned a date of completion for the PVE roof which Mr. Gasper addressed.

Mr. Wunder wished Mr. Hines and Ms. Liddic good luck in their retirement and thanked them for all they have done for Pleasant Valley.

Mrs. Jecker thanked the educational support staff and wished them a happy American Education Week. She thanked Mr. Hines for his service and wished him well in his retirement. Mrs. Jecker also requested a possible monthly update on graduation plans.

Ms. Greggo stated that winter sports practices are beginning and she wished all good luck in the winter sports season.

Mrs. Yozwiak extended her congratulations to Mr. Hines and wished him well in his retirement.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS (non-agenda items):

Mr. Joe Fiduccia, Chestnuthill Township, read a statement on behalf of his wife and son expressing concern about the Health and Safety Plan not being followed throughout the district.

Ms. Alexandria Gibb, Chestnuthill Township, expressed gratitude to middle school for a flawless presentation by the Drama Club. She thanked the students who helped with the Veterans Day presentation. Ms. Gibb also extended best wishes to Mr. Hines and Ms. Liddic in their retirement.

Mr. Robert Mullin, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his disappointment for school not being in session for five days a week and requested that action be taken.

Ms. Heather Blum, Chestnuthill Township, thanked PVI administrators for supporting the PTO Dress Down Day for Veterans Day as they were able to donate food to Valor House.

Mr. Tyler Mann, student in the high school, thanked Dr. Lesisko and Mr. Triolo for their hard work during COVID. He shared his experience having COVID and his recovery and expressed his understanding of the measures taken.

There being no further comments, a roll call vote was taken on the above motion made by Mr. Burger and seconded by Mr. Wunder:

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Dr. Lesisko addressed concerns made by Mr. Fiduccia and suggested that he have a conversation with principals. He also addressed Mr. Mullin's comments about going back to 5 days in school learning and stated that it is not feasible at this time due to the need to follow social distancing guidelines.

Mrs. Yozwiak stated that the next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Zacharias motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:
December 3, 2020 (Organization) @ 7:00 PM