

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the December 3, 2020 Board of Education Meeting

Board Approved 12-17-2020

CALL TO ORDER:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on December 3, 2020 immediately following the Organization meeting and called to order by President Donna Yozwiak at 7:15 PM. The Administrative Offices are located at 2233 Route 115, Brodheadsville, PA 18322. The meeting was held virtually in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mrs. Yozwiak stated that this meeting is being recorded.

Roll Call – School Board Recorder: Mrs. Debra Duff

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

School Solicitor in attendance: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Notification of Executive Session: President Yozwiak announced that an executive session was held on December 3, 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.

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 with a three-minute time limit.

Pleasant Valley Citizens: None.

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

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jecker to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on November 19, 2020; and to approve the Board Meeting Agenda of December 3, 2020.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

TREASURER’S REPORT: Mrs. Laura Jecker

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Ms. Greggo to approve Agenda item #3.A. – Accounts Payable, as attached:

Approval of Agenda item #3.B. – Manual Checks November 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020.

Approval of Agenda item #3.C. – Manual Checks November 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020 – PSDLAF.

Approval of Agenda item #3.D. – Accounts Payable – December 3, 2020.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #3.E. - The Accounts Payable approved at the November 19, 2020 Board of Education meeting was attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq. – Mr. Fitzgerald informed all of activities by the PA Department of Education and Department of Health relating to the ability for school entities who are in the counties with substantial transmission levels to maintain in-person delivery of education. He stated that ten days ago the Department of Health issued attestation forms that each district had to submit to the PA Department of Education. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that issues addressed were modification on the universal masking orders which came out on November 17th, as well as a new scheme as it relates to when buildings must close if there are COVID positive cases from the buildings.

Other: Mrs. Kresge raised questions regarding the status of the Cyber Academy staffing for an educational administrator and a full time secretary. She expressed concern that additional help

is needed. Mr. Tomori stated that Ms. George resumed her position at the high school but is still available to provide assistance when needed. He also addressed the secretarial status and discussion took place. Mrs. Yozwiak requested a needs assessment be done and brought back to the Board. Mr. Wunder assured Mr. Tomori that the department has the Board's support. Mr. Wunder requested an updated organizational chart from Dr. Lesisko when completed.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

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

Dr. Lesisko made a statement and assured the Pleasant Valley community that the Board of Education, administration, and staff are working together to keep our schools safe. He said that we will continue to follow government recommendations and by working together hope to remain in a hybrid model. Any closing of school would be done on an individual building basis. Dr. Lesisko informed all that even with our due diligence, we may need to transition to a fully remote learning environment possibly sooner than later and to prepare accordingly. He urged parents not to send their child to school if they are experiencing COVID-like symptoms but rather to seek medical attention. He stressed the importance of following personal hygiene methods.

Dr. Lesisko stated that the PA Department of Education recommendation is that counties in the substantial COVID status should now be in remote learning and Monroe County is in the substantial category. He stated that we will continue in a hybrid model for as long as possible, however be prepared for a change to fully remote learning if it is mandated by the Governor.

Dr. Lesisko stated that a letter has been posted on the pvbears website regarding snow days because of COVID-19. He stated that if we have a snow day, it will be a remote learning day to help ensure that our end of year school calendar will not be extended.

Agenda item #6.A. – Superintendent Items: Dr. Lesisko requested a change to times for the Board of Education Meetings and the Operations Workshop Meetings and the name change for Buildings & Grounds, as follows:

- Board of Education Meetings: 7:00 PM to 6:30 PM;
- Change name - Buildings & Grounds to Operations Workshop;
- Buildings & Grounds Meetings: 7:00 to 6:00 PM.

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Zacharias to approve Agenda item #6.B. - 2021 Board Meeting Dates/Operations Workshop Dates, as amended.

Prior to roll call, Mrs. Kresge stated that she is not in favor of changing the meeting time for Board meetings but would not oppose to changing the meeting time for the Buildings & Grounds meeting as well as the name change. She expressed concerns about the community being involved and about future board candidates not wishing to sit on the board due to earlier time starts. Mr. Burger, Mr. Kresge, and Mr. Wunder, and Ms. Greggo all oppose the time change for the Board of Education meetings. Mrs. Kresge also requested that the October Board meeting dates as presented, be changed to October 7th and October 21st. Mr. Fitzgerald asked if there were any objections to the date changes as indicated by Mrs. Kresge. There being none, Mr. Fitzgerald said the above motion by Mr. Peeters and seconded by Mr. Zacharias is amended to reflect those date changes.

ROLL CALL: 3-6 NOT CARRIED
Voting No: Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Wunder, Ms. Greggo, Mrs. Jecker, Mr. Burger, Mr. Kresge

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve the 2021 Board Meeting Dates/Operation Workshop Dates with start times remaining at 7:00 PM; and to approve the Board Meeting October date changes to October 7th and October 21st.

ROLL CALL: 7-2 CARRIED
Voting No: Mr. Zacharias, Mr. Peeters

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Agenda item #6.C. and #6.D. Approval of Agenda item #6.C. – Expulsion Agreement – Student #E110520GB-H.

Approval of Agenda item #6.D. – Appointment of Tammy Smale as Assistant Board Secretary as recommended by the Superintendent.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #6.E. – The following policies were attached to the agenda for a second reading:

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

Agenda item #6.F. – The Enrollment Report for December 2020 was attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

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

Agenda item #7.A. – Informational: No changes were recommended to the following policies reviewed on June 16, 2020. The revision date only will be updated on the policy. Unless otherwise required or requested, each policy will be reviewed again per the policy review cycle.

1. Policy #005 Organization

No changes were recommended to the following policies reviewed on November 24, 2020. The revision date only will be updated on the policy. Unless otherwise required or requested, each policy will be reviewed again per the policy review cycle.

1. Policy #137 Home Education Programs
2. Policy #137.1 Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students

Agenda item #7.B. – Informational: The following policy was attached to the agenda for a first reading:

1. Policy #246 Student Wellness

HUMAN RESOURCES: Mrs. Jessica Tomon

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve Agenda item #8.A. – Personnel Items:

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

1.	Name:	Tiffany Brancato
	Position:	School Nurse
	Building:	PVHS
	Education Level:	BS: Nursing
	Undergraduate School:	Cedar Crest College
	Experience:	2018-present: St. Lukes, Registered Nurse
	Salary:	B, Step 1: \$45,067
	Effective Date:	TBD
	Replace:	Susan Ryan/Kathy Balch

Approval of Agenda item #8.C. – Addition to Current Assignment:

1.	Name:	Janet Dooner
	Position:	Substitute Food Service Employee
	Effective Date:	November 20, 2020
2.	Name:	Crystal Rivera
	Position:	Substitute Food Service Employee
	Effective Date:	November 20, 2020

Approval of Agenda item #8.D. – Intramural Advisors:

1.	Club/Activity:	Envirothon
	Advisor:	Maricatherine Garr
	Dates:	October 26, 2020 – June 6, 2021
	Day(s):	Monday, Thursday and others as needed
	Times:	2:30 pm – 4:15 pm
	Building:	PVHS
	Received in HR Office:	November 19, 2020
2.	Club/Activity:	Volleyball
	Advisor:	Kathleen Gesiskie
	Dates:	December 8, 2020 – March 2, 2021
	Day(s):	Tuesday and Thursday
	Times:	5:45 pm – 8:15 pm
	Building:	PVMS
	Received in HR Office:	November 17, 2020
3.	Club/Activity:	Baseball
	Advisor:	TJ Murphy
	Dates:	November 2, 2020 – January 1, 2021
	Day(s):	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
	Times:	2:45 pm – 5:00 pm
	Building:	PVHS

Received in HR Office:	November 17, 2020
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Approval of Agenda item #8.E. – Family and Medical Leave:

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates
1.	Sharon Baker	Teacher	PVES	One (1)	November 20, 2020
2.	Noreen Ciarleglio	Teacher	PVES	Eight (8)	October 15, 2020 – October 20, 2020 and October 22, 2020 – October 27, 2020
3.	Sean Kline	Teacher	PVHS	Fourteen (14)	October 13, 2020 – October 30, 2020
4.	Barbara Kuntzman	Custodian	PVMS	One (1)	November 16, 2020

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

1.	Name:	Gregory Duff
	Board Approved:	November 19, 2020
	Date(s) Approved:	September 27, 2020 – November 3, 2020
	Correct Date(s):	October 27, 2020 – November 3, 2020

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

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates
1.	David Diehl	School Police Officer	District	One (1)	November 17, 2020

Approval of Agenda item #78.H. – Resignations:

	Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
1.	Crystal Rivera	Monitor *	PVIS	December 4, 2020
2.	Jill Skinner	Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	N/A	November 23, 2020

*Would like to remain on substitute list.

Approval of Agenda item #8.I. – Rescind Hiring:

	Name	Position
1.	Paul Fava	Substitute Custodian

Approval of Agenda item #8.J. – Long Term Substantial Volunteers:

	Name	Building
1.	Maria Bernard	PVE

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED
 Voting No on Agenda item #8.B.: Mr. Burger
 8-1 CARRIED

ADDENDUM: HUMAN RESOURCES: Mrs. Jessica Tomon

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Ms. Greggo to approve Addendum item #9.A. – Addendum Personnel Items:

Approval of Addendum item #9.B. – Hiring of Administrative Staff (pending receipt of required paperwork and is subject to the District entering into a three-year employment contract that has been reviewed and approved by the administration and Solicitor’s office):

1.	Name:	Thomas Cipriano Jr.
	Position:	Business Manager
	Education Level:	BS: Accounting Economics
	Undergraduate School:	Kings College
	Experience:	2018-present: Gratz College, Manager of Business Services and Facilities 2017-2018: Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29, Assistant Business Manager 2010-2017: Hanover Area School District, Business Administrator and Fiscal Coordinator of Federal Programs Title I and II 2009-2010: Foundations, Inc., Manager of School Business Services

Salary:	\$120,000 (prorated)
Effective Date:	TBD
Replace:	Susan Famularo

ROLL CALL: 8-1 CARRIED
Voting No: Mr. Burger

Mrs. Kresge stated that she voted yes on the above motion due to the recommendation by the Superintendent. Mrs. Yozwiak stated that she voted yes on the above motion due to Mr. Cipriano being the best candidate for the position.

CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Dr. Susan Mowrer Benda –

Agenda item #10.A. – Informational – The Curriculum Activities Report was provided for November 1, 2020.

SPECIAL EDUCATION: Ms. Julie Harris – No report.

OPERATIONS SERVICES: Mr. Bill Gasper – No report.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Susan Famularo

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

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

1. Cafeteria Accounts Payable for December 3, 2020

Approval of Agenda item #13.C. – Acceptance and approval of the vendor(s) for fuel oil for the 2021-2022 school year as to be recommended by the Northampton/Monroe/Pike County Joint Purchasing Board and to be approved by the Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 Board of Directors at a future regularly scheduled meeting.

Approval of Agenda item #13.D. – Payment from the 2018 Bond Fund per attached: \$3,192.16.

Approval of Agenda item #13.E. – Advertisement for sealed bids for the following items:

1. Fall Athletic Supplies and Equipment

Approval of Agenda item #13.F. – Settlement Agreement and Release NJ120320.

Approval of Agenda item #13.G. – Representative for the MCTCC (Monroe County Tax Collection Commission): Tammy Smale, for a term January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

Approval of Agenda item #13.H. – Budget transfers to move budget amounts to proper accounts, per attached.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

ADDENDUM – BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Ms. Susan Famularo –

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Addendum #14.A.:

Approval of Addendum item #14.B. – The following contract:

1. Coyle, Lynch & Company CLC Job Number 20-386, not to exceed \$7000.00.

Approval of Addendum item #14.C. – Purchase a new 2021 EZGO GAS VALOR Blue Golf Cart with Top, Windshield, USB Port, Mirror for Athletic Trainer use from Don's Auto & Golf Cart Repair, per attached – Cost \$7,500.00 as per the St. Luke's Athletic Trainer Contract.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

SOLICITOR: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq. – No report.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Mrs. Jecker thanked all staff, teachers, technology department, administrators, paraprofessionals, nursing staff, school counselors, custodians, secretaries, and security staff for their dedication and hard work during this trying time. She also thanked the parents for helping students with the hybrid model and stated we will get through this difficult time as a team.

Mr. Wunder recognized and expressed appreciation to the Cyber Academy staff – Ms. Winders, Mr. Tomori, Ms. George, and Ms. Meckes for their efforts and hard work.

Mrs. Kresge expressed her appreciation to the staff during this difficult time and that she feels the pain expressed through stories she has heard. She thanked them for everything they are doing for our students and the District.

Mrs. Yozwiak congratulated Mr. Cipriano who was hired as the Business Manager this evening and expressed that he will do very good work for us and he will help us get through these times. Mrs. Yozwiak expressed her heartfelt appreciation to the PV family and assured them of the Board's support.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS (non-agenda items):

Desiree Murray, Chestnuthill Township, stated that she is a paraprofessional at PVE and thanked the Board members for their kind words of support. She expressed that it has been challenging but all are working hard for the students. She referred to resources provided on the pvbears website for anyone facing problems.

Mrs. Yozwiak stated that the next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Zacharias motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:
December 17, 2020 @ 7:00 PM