

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the January 28, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

**Board Approved 2-11-2021**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on January 28, 2021 and called to order by President Donna Yozwiak at 7:02 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Len Peeters followed by a moment of silence. The Administrative Offices are located at 2233 Route 115, Brodheadsville, PA 18322. The meeting was held virtually in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. President Yozwiak announced 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, Todd Kresge, Teresa Greggo, Norm Burger, Laura Jecker, Treasurer, Delbert Zacharias, Sue Kresge, Dan Wunder.

**Administrative staff in attendance:** Lee Lesisko, Superintendent, Rae Lin Howard, Assistant to the Superintendent, Jessica Tomon, Director of Human Resources, Joseph Surrige, Acting Business Manager, Tammy Smale, Assistant Business Manager, Bill Gasper, Director of Operations, Julie Harris, Director of Special Education, Susan Mowrer Benda, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Lori Hagerman, Reading Supervisor, Tom Toth, Athletic Director, Chuck Tomori, Technology Coordinator.

**Building Administrative staff in attendance:** Matt Triolo, Roger Pomposello, Jason Van Voorhis, Kendal Askins.

**Student Council Representative:** Alexis Neri, President

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

**Notification of Executive Session:** President Yozwiak announced that an executive session was held on January 28, 2021 immediately prior to the regularly scheduled meeting for purposes of legal issues, negotiations, personnel matters including, but not limited to, performance and/or discipline.

**School Director Recognition Month: Matt Triolo/Jason Van Voorhis –**

Dr. Lesisko announced that in continuation of School Director Recognition Month, two presentations at the secondary level will be presented. Mr. Van Voorhis presented a video created by SGA and NJHS in recognition of School Director Recognition Month. He thanked the Board for their support. Mr. Triolo thanked the Board for their volunteerism and giving up personal time to serve the community. Emma Barrett, President of NHS, extended gratitude to the Board and stated that although this has been a difficult time, a lot of awesome things have happened. Kyli Ramsey expressed her gratitude to the Board and stated that community events have been successful. She stated that a tutoring initiative has been started where over 19 students have signed up and has been successful. A video presentation was provided where students and advisors expressed their thanks to the Board. Mr. Triolo stated that the NHS has purchased masks for all Board members in appreciation for all they do.

**Student Council Representative:** Alexis Neri, President

Ms. Neri reported on activities and events at the high school:

- Hybrid learning – teachers are available anytime.
- MCTI applications are available to all students for submission to the Guidance Office by the end of February.
- The 2021-2022 Program of Studies is available to review on the website.
- FBLA competed virtually on January 11<sup>th</sup> at the Region 21 event.
- Winter sports began on January 18<sup>th</sup>.
- January 22<sup>nd</sup> – end of marking period and grades can be viewed on the website.
- Tutoring initiative program has been started.
- Thank you to the Board on behalf of the high school.

Dr. Lesisko stated that he was notified about a rumor that the Boys' Lacrosse season and the entire program at the high school is being cancelled. He assured all that this is not true. He said that about half of the team from last year thus far will be returning this year. In addition, Dr. Lesisko informed all of a survey sent to teachers and parents of K-6 children regarding the reintegration of school and that those results will be shared this evening. He also stated that many Board members and administration have toured PVE and PVI to hear comments and concerns from building principals and in addition, consistent communication

with St. Luke's University Health Network is ongoing. Dr. Lesisko stated that information is being gathered to bring students back to school and expressed concerns about limited spacing and COVID cases as well as the mental health of students and staff. He assured all that the top priority is the health and safety of our students and staff.

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:**

Michele Krayem, Chestnuthill Township, expressed that a large part of the community wants to bring students back for five days and she urged the Board to consider giving teachers a chance to get a vaccine before returning. In addition, as a teacher outside the District, she suggested measures taken by her district to insure safety as well as learning models. Also, Ms. Krayem asked the Board to consider holding in person Board meetings in the event students return for five days.

Erin Beers, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her support for students returning five days for in person learning with all precautions being followed including not attending if you are sick. She expressed her opinion about vaccinations.

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

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on January 14, 2021; approve the minutes of the Board of Education Special Meeting held on January 19, 2021; and to approve the Board Meeting Agenda of January 28, 2021.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #2.B. – Informational: The minutes of the Operations Workshop Meeting held on January 11, 2021 was provided.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Mrs. Laura Jecker**

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Agenda item #3.A. per attached: Approval of Agenda item #3.B. – Accounts Payable 1-28-2021.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #3.C. - The Accounts Payable approved at the January 14, 2021 Board of Education meeting was attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.** – Mr. Fitzgerald stated that no new guidance has been ordered from the state or Department of Health regarding COVID. However, he anticipates that the proposed stimulus package by the new administration in Washington which would also include the reinstatement of the Family First Corona Relief Act which provided paid leave for qualifying events, along with updated federal guidance with regard to school reopening, could potentially provide additional stimulus funds which would impact the District.

**Other:** Mrs. Jecker questioned plans for graduation and any conversation or plans about the prom. Dr. Howard stated that she met with Mr. Triolo and that tentative plans have been made. She said that it is early and as we get closer to the date, more definitive plans can be made with adherence to any parameters that will be required for attendance, etc.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

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

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to approve Agenda item #6.A. and Addendum #7.:

Approval of Agenda item #6.B. – Homebound Instruction – Per Board policy, re-evaluation will be done in ninety (90) days:

Pleasant Valley Middle School:

Student No.	Reason
HB012121LP-M	Medical, retroactive to 01/21/21

Approval of Addendum item #7.A. – Homebound Instruction – Per Board policy, re-evaluation will be done in ninety (90) days:

Pleasant Valley High School:

Student No.	Reason
HB011121AR-H	Medical, retroactive to 01/11/21

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

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

- Policy No. 309 Assignment and Transfer
- Policy No. 331 Job Related Expenses

Addendum item #7.B. – The following policy was provided for a first reading, per attached:

- Policy No. 815.1 Use of Livestream Video on School District Property

**HUMAN RESOURCES: Mrs. Jessica Tomon**

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

Approval of Agenda item #8.B. – Hiring of Long Term Substitutes:

1.	Name:	Cindy Foster
	Position:	Spanish Teacher
	Building:	PVMS
	Education Level:	BS: Elementary Education
	Undergraduate School:	Bloomsburg University
	Certificate:	Instructional I: Elementary K-6 04 Emergency Permit: Spanish
	Salary:	\$244.93 per diem
	Effective Date:	January 4, 2021 - end of the 2020/2021 School Year
	Replace:	Stefanie Santiago
2.	Name:	Rachel Borger (pending receipt of required paperwork)
	Position:	School Nurse
	Building:	PVHS
	Education Level:	Nursing Program Diploma
	Undergraduate School:	St. Luke’s School of Nursing
	Certificate:	Registered Nurse
	Salary:	\$244.93 per diem
	Effective Date:	February 15, 2021
	Replace:	Kathleen Balch/Susan Ryan

Approval of Agenda item #8.C. – Sabbatical Leave:

	Name	Position	Building	Semester(s)
1.	Sarah Sipler	Teacher	PVES	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester of 2020/2021 School Year

Approval of Agenda item #8.D. – Extension of Child Rearing Leave:

	Name	Position	Building	Semester(s)
1.	Joanne Gantt	Monitor	PVIS	January 9, 2021 – end of the 2020/2021 School Year

Approval of Agenda item #8.E. – Child Rearing Correction:

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates	Previously Approved
1.	Cassandra Crawford	Teacher	PVES	Fifty-two (52)	January 12, 2021 – March 26, 2021	January 14, 2021

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

1.	Name:	Jennifer Clayton
	Position:	Kindergarten Teacher
	In for:	Cassandra Crawford

Extended to:	March 26, 2021
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Approval of Agenda item #8.G. – 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.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Salary</b>
1.	Todd Urland	Girls Lacrosse	Varsity Assistant	1	\$4,550.00
2.	Joseph Anderton	Baseball	JV Assistant	6	\$5,150.00
3.	Dan Beck	Softball	JV Assistant	6	\$5,150.00
4.	Paul McCrone	Baseball	Jr. High Assistant	1	\$3,400.00
5.	Chris Enderes	Baseball	Jr. High Assistant	3	\$3,600.00

Approval of Agenda item #8.H. – 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.	Elaine Cucci	Girls Basketball	JV Ticket Staff	\$36.00 per event
2.	Elaine Cucci	Boys Basketball	Freshman Ticket Staff	\$36.00 per event
3.	Elaine Cucci	Boys Basketball	JV Ticket Staff	\$36.00 per event
4.	Holli Capricuso-Register	Track and Field	Jr. High Judge	\$35.00 per event
5.	Bobbi Shupp	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00 per event
6.	Diane Dudak	Track and Field	Varsity Judge	\$35.00 per event
7.	Diane Dudak	Track and Field	Jr. High Judge	\$35.00 per event
8.	Christine Konstantopoulos	Softball	Varsity Scorebook / Scorekeeper	\$40.00 per event
9.	Joe Bush	Girls Lacrosse	JV Scorebook / Scorekeeper	\$30.00 per event
10.	Sherri Fallon	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00 per event
11.	John Gesiskie	Track and Field	Varsity Judge	\$35.00 per event
12.	Robert Petit-Clair	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00 per event
13.	Bron Leupold	Baseball	Varsity Scorebook / Scorekeeper	\$40.00 per event

14.	Diane DeBarry	Track and Field	Varsity Judge	\$35.00 per event
15.	Sandi Kaspszyk	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00 per event
16.	Sandi Kaspszyk	Track and Field	Jr. High Timer	\$35.00 per event
17.	Dana West	Boys Lacrosse	Varsity Scoreboard Operator	\$40.00 per event
18.	Dana West	Boys Lacrosse	JV Scoreboard Operator	\$35.00 per event
19.	Dana West	Girls Lacrosse	Varsity Scoreboard Operator	\$40.00 per event
20.	Dana West	Girls Lacrosse	JV Scoreboard Operator	\$35.00 per event
21.	Dana West	Track and Field	Jr. High Timer	\$35.00 per event
22.	Dana West	Track and Field	Varsity Statistician	\$48.00 per event
23.	Carol Priebe	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00 per event
24.	Robbin Serfass	Track and Field	Jr. High Timer	\$35.00 per event
25.	Drew Dangler	Track and Field	Varsity Judge	\$35.00 per event
26.	Bobby Hahn	Baseball	Varsity Announcer / Scoreboard Operator	\$40.00 per event
27.	Bobby Hahn	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00 per event
28.	Bobby Hahn	Track and Field	Varsity Judge	\$35.00 per event
29.	Bobby Hahn	Track and Field	Jr. High Timer	\$35.00 per event
30.	Bobby Hahn	Track and Field	Jr. High Judge	\$35.00 per event
31.	Hillary Atkinson	Softball	Varsity Announcer / Scoreboard Operator	\$40.00 per event
32.	Hillary Atkinson	Softball	JV Scoreboard Operator	\$30.00 per event
33.	Hillary Atkinson	Track and Field	Varsity Timer	\$35.00 per event
34.	Hillary Atkinson	Track and Field	Jr. High Timer	\$35.00 per event
35.	Hillary Atkinson	Track and Field	Varsity Judge	\$35.00 per event
36.	Hillary Atkinson	Track and Field	Jr. High Judge	\$35.00 per event

Approval of Agenda item #8.I. – 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>Grades</b>	<b>Salary</b>
1.	Vivien Kloss	Science Curriculum Leader (Replacing Malcolm McKinsey)	4-6	\$2,275.00

Approval of Agenda item #8.J. – Intramural Advisors: If the program runs at least 9 weeks and a total of 54 hours, one stipend of \$1,240.00 will be distributed. In the event the program does not meet the 54-hour requirement, payment will be distributed using the hourly intramural rate of \$21.00 per hour per the Supplemental Contract.

1.	Club/Activity:	K-3 PV Cyber Career Advisor
	Advisor:	Tracy Pio
	Advisor:	Paige Saffioti
	Dates:	February 2021 – June 2021
2.	Club/Activity:	4-8 PV Cyber Career Advisor
	Advisor:	Sean Crosby
	Advisor:	Christopher Jarrow
	Advisor:	Bobbi Shupp
	Dates:	February 2021 – June 2021
3.	Club/Activity:	9-11 PV Cyber Career Advisor
	Advisor:	Denise Hopely
	Advisor:	Melissa Ruschak
	Dates:	February 2021 – June 2021
4.	Club/Activity:	PV Cyber Senior Portfolio Advisor
	Advisor:	Denise Hopely
	Advisor:	Melissa Ruschak
	Dates:	February 2021 – June 2021

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

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates
1.	India Johnson	Paraprofessional Associate	PVMS	One (1)	December 10, 2020
2.	Barbara Kuntzman	Custodian	PVMS	One (1)	December 7, 2020
3.	Danielle Staples	Teacher	PVES	Two (2)	December 10, 2020 – December 11, 2020

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

	Name	Position	Building	Number of Days	Dates
1.	Kathleen Browne	Monitor	PVHS	Thirty-eight (38)	November 23, 2020 – February 8, 2021
2.	James Haldemen	Custodian	PVMS	One-half (½)	December 16, 2020
3.	Mary Perloni	Paraprofessional Associate	PVIS	One and one-half (1½)	December 18, 2020 (1) and January 4, 2021 (½)
4.	Jodi Swanson	Monitor	PVIS	One (1)	December 21, 2020

Approval of Agenda item #8.M. – Terminations due to expired clearances after multiple notices:

Employee #
4425
3838
3524
4422
4418

Employee #
4630
3586
2256
3783
2748

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Mrs. Jecker stated that she still has concerns which she stands by in connection with Agenda item #8.J.

**ADDENDUM: HUMAN RESOURCES: Ms. Jessica Tomon**

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

Approval of Addendum item #9.B. – Correction to Supplemental Contracts: Athletic:

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>Level</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Previously Approved</b>
1.	Greg Duff	Track and Field	Jr. High Assistant	6	\$3,850.00	January 14, 2021
2.	Drew Dymond	Softball	Varsity Assistant	4	\$4,950.00	January 14, 2021

Approval of Addendum item #9.C. – Family and Medical Leave:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Number of Days</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1.	Jillian Hansen	School Counselor	PVES	Three (3)	January 21, 2021 – January 25, 2021

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

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

Dr. Lesisko introduced Dr. John Hauth, Senior Network Administrator, Sports Medicine Relations, and Dr. Rajika Reed, Chief Director of Epidemiology & Strategy at St. Luke’s University Health Network.

Agenda item #10.A. – Survey sent to parents and staff with regard to bringing students back to school 5 days per week K-6 – Dr. Howard reviewed the survey results and stated that 1,241 parents responded. The survey results are attached hereto. Board members were given the opportunity to pose questions. Mrs. Kresge requested receiving a copy of the survey results including comments. She questioned the change from bringing kindergarten students back to now bringing K-6 students back. Dr. Lesisko stated that the decision was made after looking at the requirements from the Department of Education and Department of Health to bring all elementary students back. Mrs. Kresge also expressed frustration about learning things after the fact and also read a statement from an article that was in the Times News which Dr. Lesisko stated was incorrect and discussion was held on how the District will proceed forward as a team in conjunction with St. Luke’s. Mrs. Jecker questioned the previously discussed 3 options – PVCA, Hybrid, and full remote and Dr. Lesisko said that we are looking at all options. Mrs. Yozwiak stated that she toured PVE and PVI and also received research on the rationale for returning to school. She invited Dr. Hauth and Dr. Reed from St. Luke’s to provide the Board with information on their knowledge and data and to let the science speak for us.

Dr. Hauth stated that ongoing conversations are occurring with Superintendents on a regular basis to provide updates on any measurable changes. Dr. Reed shared data showing that the daily trends are looking good and overall Pennsylvania is starting to see somewhat of a downward trajectory. Data was provided showing hospitalizations going down overall. Dr. Reed reviewed the Department of Health K-12 school recommendations with the level of community transmission in the county at the substantial level. Dr. Lesisko asked several questions including mental health aspects, returning to school for five days with social distancing in place, target date for returning, and status of vaccinations. Lengthy discussion was held regarding CDC recommendations including specific social distancing requirements for cafeteria use. Mr. Kresge said that with CDC recommendations to social distance 6 feet apart, it does not make sense to bring K-6 students back. Mrs. Yozwiak questioned if CDC and Department of Health will change recommendations once the vaccines are taken. Dr. Hauth stated that it is wise to start planning. Mr. Burger questioned if any encouraging

information about distribution of vaccines is available and discussion was held. Mrs. Jecker expressed concern about classroom capacity. Mrs. Kresge expressed concern about the mental health issues in bring students back to school. Mrs. Yozwiak thanked Dr. Hauth and Dr. Reed for their presentation this evening.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION: Ms. Julie Harris** – Ms. Harris reported the following:

- Child Study Team Procedure
- Aavidum – Selected as finalist for their 30 minute video submitted to Prevent Suicide PA's contest. Voting opens 1/27/2021. Good luck Ms. Connors and all of the students in Aavidum.

Ms. Harris stated that the FBLA has started a tutoring lab for students on Tuesday evenings and the information is posted on building web pages.

Mr. Wunder requested clarification about the Child Study Team Procedure relating to the referral process which Ms. Harris addressed.

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

**BUILDING REPORTS:** Mrs. Yozwiak stated that all building reports for January 2021 were attached to the agenda and provided for informational purposes.

**BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Tammy Smale/Mr. Joseph Surridge**

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to approve Agenda item #14.A. (#14.B., #14.C., #14.E., #14.F., #14.G., and #14.I. - #14.D. and #14.H. have been removed) – Business Management Items:

Approval of Agenda item #14.B. – Cafeteria Fund per attached.

1. Cafeteria Accounts Payable for January 28, 2021 – \$7,176.01.

Approval of Agenda item #14.C. – The following Fundraisers:

1. PVHS - NHS- Virtual Murder Mystery - 3/26/21
2. PVHS - Shakey's Players - Dress Down Day for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society - 2/1/21 and 2/5/21

Approval of Agenda item #14.E. – The following five (5) Lease Agreements with Pitney Bowes for postage meters were recommended as follows, per attached:

- Administration Office - Model SendPro C Series- Version 4 - \$157.11 to be billed quarterly to start 3/16/21 for a term of 60 months.
- PV Elementary School - Model SendPro C Series- Version 4 - \$157.11 to be billed quarterly to start 3/16/21 for a term of 60 months.
- PV Intermediate School - Model SendPro C Series- Version 4 - \$157.11 to be billed quarterly to start 3/16/21 for a term of 60 months.
- PV Middle School - Model SendPro C Series- Version 4 - \$157.11 to be billed quarterly to start 3/16/21 for a term of 60 months.
- PV High School - Model SendPro C Series- Version 4 - \$157.11 to be billed quarterly to start 3/16/21 for a term of 60 months.

Approval of Agenda item #14.F. – Add Procurement Card Holders: Add Dr. Rae Howard, Assistant to the Superintendent, Tammy Smale, Assistant Business Manager, and Julie Harris, Director of Special Education to cardholder list.

Approval of Agenda item #14.G. – Transfer Procurement Card Holders: Transfer the accounts payable procurement card from Tricia Altemose to Lauren Nelson.

Approval of Agenda item #14.I. – Settlement Agreement #20210111MB.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #14.J. –Informational: District Investment Report for December 31, 2020, per attached.

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

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

Mr. Peeters stated that he and other Board members attended the recently held tour at PVE and PVI and encouraged Board members to take advantage of the opportunity to tour PVE and PVI on February 6<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Mr. Pomposello and Mr. Breiner.

Mr. Kresge expressed his concerns about options such as hybrid, PVCA, and full remote creating additional work for teachers to prepare for such as more lesson plans, etc. for which Dr. Howard addressed and stated that she will work with each principal.



Mr. Wunder questioned if teachers' concerns have been reviewed and Dr. Lesisko stated that teachers' input will be part of the decision-making.

Mrs. Kresge questioned the outcome of the high school going live. Mr. Triolo stated that it is going extremely well and all students get the lessons at once. Mrs. Kresge asked for an update from other principals. Mr. Van Voorhis shared how learning is going at the middle school and stated that despite some technology needs, teachers are making it work. Dr. Howard, on behalf of PVI, and Ms. Askins shared that PVI remote learning is going well and that there has been an increase in participation. Mr. Pomposello stated that PVE staff is going above and beyond and it is going well. Mrs. Kresge also asked for an update as to middle school teachers' technological needs which Mr. Tomori addressed including leasing and the bid process.

Mrs. Jecker requested the possibility of sharing the agenda on the screen so that the public can follow. In addition, she asked that any presentations be made part of the agenda. She thanked Mrs. Erhardt, past booster soccer president, who has raised a lot of money for the District and that she is a model parent volunteer.

Mrs. Kresge expressed her frustration about the lack of communication between Board members and shared her concerns that she was unaware of discussions about doing a survey regarding bringing students back to school in person. She urged that this issue be corrected and that there be a better line of communication and that the Board govern properly.

Mrs. Yozwiak stated that she is available to call with concerns about lack of communication. In light of Board Appreciation Month, she recognized the Board as a team of ten and that they attend many meetings per week. She applauded the Board for being exceptional people with perfect attendance.

**PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS (non-agenda items):**

Erin Beers, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her concerns about live sessions and have the same curriculum in all kindergarten classes. She also expressed concern about children being told by teachers about return to school five days a week.

Robert Mullin, Chestnuthill Township, thanked the Board for discussing bringing students back to school for five days; however, suggested that this issue be discussed at every meeting. He expressed concern about transparency regarding the recent survey and expects to file a right to know request.

Edward Iandoli, Saylorsburg, expressed concern that the Athletic Committee has not approved a head coach for the Lacrosse season. He spoke in favor of T.J. Dorn and that he possesses all the qualities and relates to the students.

Joshua Haines, Chestnuthill Township, spoke in favor of Mr. Whiteford as the head coach for the Boys' Soccer Program expressing his thoughts surrounding this issue.

Tanya Iandoli, Chestnuthill Township, spoke in favor of T.J. Dorn as head coach for the Lacrosse Program expressing her endorsement of him.

Damian Sopanski, Chestnuthill Township, spoke in favor of Mr. Whiteford as head coach for the Boys' Soccer Program and expressed his opinions about the situation.

Bill Power, Chestnuthill Township, endorses T.J. Dorn as head coach for the Lacrosse Program and would be willing to help in any way. He also expressed his opinion that students should be in school five days.

Rhiannon Fetterman, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about synchronized learning and suggested that a separate teacher be considered. She also expressed concern about the lack of communication between teachers and students and lack of responses to her emails.

Jeff Kaye, Chestnuthill Township, stated that he endorses T.J. Dorn as head coach for the Lacrosse Program and expressed his experiences with him.

Ron Reynolds, Chestnuthill Township, thanked Dr. Lesisko for addressing concerns that are expressed and appreciates the transparency shown as well as the presentations from the experts. He stated that the science should be followed and should not return to school too soon and that staff and teachers as well as students must be protected. He also expressed concern about liability issues.

Aiden Green, Chestnuthill Township, spoke in favor of Coach Whiteford for the Boys' Soccer Coach and expressed his opinions about the circumstances.

Marek Jozwiak, Chestnuthill Township, spoke in favor of Mr. Whiteford as a role model for the Boys' Soccer Program and expressed his experiences with him as a coach.

Mike Walsh, Chestnuthill Township, endorsed T.J. Dorn as head coach for the Lacrosse Program and expressed his opinions about decisions made and building a program.

Damen Janotti, Chestnuthill Township, requested that the Board reconsider their decision regarding the suspension of Mr. Whiteford as the Boys' Soccer coach. He shared his experiences with Coach Whiteford.

Jeff Fors, Polk Township, stated that he understands the risks of sending students back to school but expressed concern about the risks of not doing so may be greater. He asked the Board to make a decision as soon as possible and to follow the science and spoke about looking at statistics for elementary students.

Tammy Pellerin, Chestnuthill Township, stated that she is the Vice President of the Boys' Lacrosse Booster Club and asked the athletic director and Board to reconsider their decision to not give T.J. Dorn the head coaching position. She shared a recommendation from a former coach and also expressed her opinions asking the Board to reconsider their decision to suspend Mr. Whiteford as head coach for the Boys' Soccer Program.

Colden Rother, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his opinions about the suspension of Coach Whiteford and expressed his experiences with him. He also asked the Board to reconsider their decision about T.J. Dorn as head coach for the Lacrosse Program and shared his opinions about the decision.

E.J. Iandoli, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his support for T.J. Dorn for the head coach position of the Lacrosse Program and shared his experiences with him.

Nicholas Iandoli, Chestnuthill Township, endorsed T.J. Dorn as head coach of the Lacrosse Program and shared his opinions about the decisions made.

Jessica Place, Eldred Township, expressed her appreciation for having experts attend the meeting and as a fluid situation feels it should be done more often. She also stated that many parents want students back to school due to mental, physical, and emotional issues. Ms. Place spoke about learning practices in place and expressed concern about the survey. She is of the opinion that we can bring students back to school as other districts have done.

Eric Batstone, Eldred Township, highly recommends T.J. Dorn for the head coach position for the Lacrosse program and stated that he has coached T.J. Dorn in the past. He praised him for his abilities and understanding of Lacrosse and expressed his opinion that it is a disservice to the students and athletes by not selecting him.

Adrienne Fors, Polk Township, reiterated previous comments made by her husband relating to being essential workers and many parents struggling. She expressed her opinion about the live sessions and urged the Board to consider hiring teachers to focus on the virtual learning. She stressed the need to get students back in the classroom for those parents who support it. Ms. Fors also expressed her opinions about sports issues and other options for getting students back in school.

Melissa Bauman, Chestnuthill Township, endorsed T.J. Dorn for the head coaching position for the Lacrosse Program and supports Mr. Whiteford expressing her opinion about his situation and asked the Board to reconsider their decision. She also expressed her opinion in getting students back in school citing concerns about mental health issues.

Toni Bush, Chestnuthill Township, stated that she is proud of the students who spoke up for their coaches. She expressed that students need to go back to school and that it is possible following social distancing, etc. She expressed concern about the mental health issues.

Kelly Patrice, Polk Township, questioned the issue of changing teachers for kindergarten students. She expressed concern about cleaning buildings in the event the students go back five days. She stated that she appreciated the doctors from St. Luke's presentation.

T.J. Dorn, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his appreciation for all who spoke on his behalf. He stated that as a coach he would continue to work in building a great family culture in the program. He expressed concern about getting ready for the start of the program.

Tyler Akob, Ross Township, expressed his support for Mr. Whiteford and shared his thoughts about him as a coach of the Soccer Program.

Cassandra Bertolini, Chestnuthill Township, spoke about the Lacrosse Program as a community partnership and expressed concern about hiring a coach.

Michele Power, Chestnuthill Township, stated that she endorses T.J. Dorn as the head coach of the Lacrosse Program and spoke about positive comments made this evening. She expressed concern about the season starting and the need for a coach. She also expressed her opinion that students need to get back to school for five days as other districts are doing.

Ron Reynolds, Chestnuthill Township, urged the Board to make a decision expressing concern about parents needing help. He said that there should be continued discussions including financial aspects relating to equipment challenges, etc.

Dr. Lesisko responded to concerns expressed in the public comment portion. He said that we are following guidelines of the CDC, and addressed synchronous learning in kindergarten. He stated that the survey results will be posted and that he will get together with Mr. Toth about the sports programs but assured all that there will be a coach. Dr. Lesisko stated that better communication with regard to responding to parents will be looked into. He said that we will follow the science and financial impacts, look at all options and groups, obstacles and safety of staff and students, and that changing of teachers will be the parents' decision. He stated that cleaning is done 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> shifts. Dr. Lesisko said they are working on a solution to bring students back following DOH and CDC social distancing guidelines.

Dr. Hauth of St. Luke's University Health Network, thanked all and will be available to provide regular updates and to provide additional information.

Mrs. Jecker thanked the students for standing up for what they believe.

Mrs. Yozwiak informed all that the next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Zacharias motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jecker to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Smale, Assistant Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:  
February 11, 2021 @ 7:00 PM