

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the April 8, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

Board Approved 4-22-2021

CALL TO ORDER:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on April 8, 2021 and called to order by President Donna Yozwiak at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Sue Kresge followed by a moment of silence. The meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley High School Auditorium, Route 209, Brodheadsville, PA 18322.

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, Joseph Surridge, 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, Marcia Taylor, Accountant, Fawn Meli, Special Education Supervisor, Chuck Tomori, Technology Coordinator, Tom Toth, Athletic Director, Lynn Courtright, Chief of Police.

School Solicitor in attendance: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Notification of Executive Session: President Yozwiak announced that an executive session was held on April 8, 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.

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 and for one hour duration.

Pleasant Valley Citizens:

Ron Reynolds, Chestnuthill Township, expressed his concerns and opinions with regard to enrollment numbers and questioned plans that the Board will take relating to out-of-district students.

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

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on March 25, 2021; and to approve the Board Meeting Agenda of April 8, 2021.

VOICE VOTE: 9-0 CARRIED

TREASURER’S REPORT: Mrs. Laura Jecker

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

Approval of Agenda item #3.B. – Manual Checks March 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021.

Approval of Agenda item #3.C. – Manual Checks March 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021– PSDLAF.

Approval of Agenda item #3.D. – Accounts Payable – April 8, 2021.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #3.E. - The Accounts Payable approved at the March 25, 2021 Board of Education meeting was attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq. – No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Monroe Career & Technical Institute: Mrs. Donna Yozwiak – No report.

Colonial IU20: Mr. Daniel Wunder – No report.

PSBA Legislative Liaison Report: Ms. Teresa Greggo – No report.

Education Committee: Ms. Susan Kresge – No report. Mrs. Kresge stated that a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

Finance Committee: Mr. Len Peeters – No report. Mr. Peeters stated that the next meeting is scheduled for April 19th.

Athletic Committee: Ms. Teresa Greggo – No report.

Policy Committee: Ms. Donna Yozwiak – No report.

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

Agenda item #6.A. – 2021-2022 Budget Update Presentation: Acting Business Manager Joseph Surridge provided a presentation with regard to proposed updates from the preliminary budget. He stated that this is not the final budget and that the proposed budget will be brought before the Board for approval in May and that the final budget for 2021-2022 will be brought before the Board for approval in June. He said that meetings are still ongoing and information is still being compiled. Mr. Surridge reviewed revenues and expenditures, Pleasant Valley’s contribution to PSERS and Charter School costs. He indicated that the state budget has not been passed and we do not have final numbers as yet which when received, the numbers will be updated for the final budget.

Superintendent Lesisko stated that high school students, principals, and staff have reported all are happy to be back in school and that students have the opportunity to eat lunch in the stadium. Dr. Lesisko also stated that the Flex Ed pilot program at the middle school had a great launch and much positive feedback has been received from staff, students, and parents. He said that PVI and PVE have implemented live instruction as well. In addition, Dr. Lesisko stated that he has been in communication with the Deputy Secretary of Education, Matthew Stem at PDE and requested a variance to the process of how Pleasant Valley identifies COVID cases within our buildings. He said that the COVID length of closure time will reset every seven days back to zero giving us three days to complete case investigations, contact tracing, cleaning, and disinfecting which will offer the greatest chances of maximizing the number of days that we can keep our buildings open. Dr. Lesisko stated that he received word from Deputy Secretary Stem giving a green light to proceed as planned which will allow us to keep our schools open.

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jecker to approve Agenda item #6 – Superintendent Report/Requests:

Approval of Agenda item #6.B. – Appointment of Kathleen Franklin as Acting Board Secretary as recommended by the Superintendent.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

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

1. Policy 116 Tutoring

Agenda item #6.D. – The following policies were provided for a second reading:

1. Policy 112 Guidance Counseling
2. Policy 113.4 Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information

Agenda item #6.E. – No changes were recommended to the following policies reviewed on March 23, 2021. 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 114 Gifted Education
2. Policy 117 Homebound Instruction
3. Policy 119 Current Events
4. Policy 121 Field Trips
5. Policy 137 Home Education
6. Policy 210 Medications

Agenda item #6.F. – Informational: The Enrollment Report for April 2021 was provided.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Mrs. Jessica Tomon

Mrs. Tomon requested that Agenda item #7.H. be amended to reflect start/end dates April 8, 2021 to June 10, 2021.

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

Approval of Agenda item #7.B. – Hiring of Support Staff (pending receipt of required paperwork):

1.	Name:	Kathy Kleinle
	Position:	Health Room Technician
	Building:	PVES
	Salary:	\$29,760 (prorated)
	Effective Date:	TBD
	Replace:	Karen Deppen
2.	Name:	Erica Sciarrone
	Position:	Monitor
	Building:	PVMS
	Salary:	\$10.97 per hour
	Effective Date:	TBD

Replace:	Jennifer Carr
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Approval of Agenda item #7.C. – Hiring of Support Staff Substitutes (Pending receipt of required paperwork):

1.	Name:	Dawn Chechel
	Position:	Monitor
	Salary:	\$10.97 per hour
	Effective Date:	April 12, 2021
2.	Name:	Erica Sciarrone
	Position:	Monitor
	Salary:	\$10.97 per hour
	Effective Date:	TBD

Approval of Agenda item #7.D. – Addition to Current Assignment:

1.	Name:	Randi Slamiak
	Position:	Substitute Custodian
	Salary:	\$10.38 per hour
	Effective Date:	April 12, 2021

Approval of Agenda item #7.E. – Position Descriptions as provided:

1. Assistant Business Manager
2. School Counselor
3. School Nurse

Approval of Agenda item #7.F. – Proposal for New Supplemental Positions: Jr. High Track & Field Announcer and Statistician:

In order to run a track meet at any level, a statistician and announcer are needed. The announcer makes the calls to let the athletes and coaches know what events are coming up next. There is a first, second, and third call that the announcer makes for each event. Athletes that do multiple events, some of these occur at the same time, need those calls to alert them as to where they need to be and when. For example, an athlete doing the long jump might also run the 100 M dash. If they are in a flight for the long jump, and they hear “third call for the 100 M dash”, they would leave the long jump and report to the starting line for the 100 M dash. After the race they would finish their series of jumps for the long jump. The statistician is trained on specific software to compile the results of the meet and then ultimately determine the outcome. Without this person no results could be compiled, and the outcome of the meet could not be determined. These positions were overlooked when the last Supplemental Contract was created.

1. Statistician: 1 person at \$48 per track and field meet
2. Announcer: 1 person at \$40 per track and field meet

Approval of Agenda item #7.G. – 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.

	Name	Academic Remediation	Subject(s)	Level	Salary
1.	Danielle Unger	Spring School	English	30 hr/1 credit course	\$1,687.50
2.	James Ward	Spring School	History	30 hr/1 credit course	\$1,687.50
3.	Talitha Graham	Spring School	Math & Science	30 hr/1 credit course	\$1,687.50
4.	Lisa Kandl	Spring School	Special Education	30 hr/1 credit course	\$1,687.50
5.	Kelsey Tompkins	Spring School	Health & Physical Education	7½ hr/¼ credit course	\$434.38

Approval of Agenda item #7.H. – Intramural Advisor:

If the intramural runs at least 9 weeks and a total of 54 hours, one stipend of \$1,240.00 will be distributed. In the event the intramural 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:	Boys Basketball
	Advisor:	Robert Hahn
	Dates:	April 8, 2021 – June 10, 2021
	Day(s):	Monday – Thursday
	Times:	Between 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM
	Building:	PVHS
	Received in HR Office:	March 29, 2021

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

1.	Name:	Christopher Becker
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	Twenty Four (24)
	Dates:	March 23, 2021 – April 16, 2021 & April 19, 2021 - April 28, 2021
2.	Name:	India Johnson
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Building:	PVMS
	Number of Days:	Two (2)
	Dates:	March 29, 2021 and March 30, 2021

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

1.	Name:	Elizabeth Blair
	Position:	Monitor
	Building:	PVIS
	Number of Days:	Ten (10)
	Dates:	March 31, 2021; April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2021; May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021 and June 2, 2021
2.	Name:	Mary Ellen Perloni
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Building:	PVIS
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	March 16, 2021
3.	Name:	Jodi Swanson
	Position:	Monitor
	Building:	PVIS
	Number of Days:	Three (3)
	Dates:	March 24, 2021 – March 26, 2021
4.	Name:	Dolores Walsh
	Position:	Monitor
	Building:	PVHS
	Number of Days:	Seventy-eight (78)
	Dates:	October 13, 2020, October 19, 2020, November 2, 2021 – March 12, 2021

Approval of Agenda item #7.K. – Resignation:

	Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
1.	Laura DePompo	Monitor	PVMS	April 9, 2021

Approval of Agenda item #7.L. – Termination of the 2017 MOU – Summer Hours. Approval to terminate the previous 2017 Memorandum of Understanding for Summer Hours approved at the May 25, 2017 Board Meeting.

Approval of Agenda item #7.M. – 2021 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – PVSD/PVSPA Summer Hours as provided.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Voting No on Agenda item #7.H.: Mrs. Jecker
8-1 CARRIED; Voting No on Agenda items
#7.L. and #7.M.: Mrs. Kresge 8-1 CARRIED

CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Dr. Rae Lin Howard/Dr. Susan Mowrer Benda – Mrs. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Agenda item #8.A. – Curriculum/Staff Development Items:
Approval of Agenda item #8.B. – Building Library discard/donation of unused/out-of-date books per lists provided by each building librarian as provided.

Approval of Agenda item #8.C. – Discard/Donate/Buy Back Go Math and other out-of-date, unused math books and materials from PVI as provided.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

SPECIAL EDUCATION: Ms. Julie Harris – No report.

OPERATIONS SERVICES: Mr. Bill Gasper – No report.

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

Mrs. Jecker motioned, seconded by Mr. Kresge to approve Agenda item #11.A. – Business Management Items:

Approval of Agenda item #11.B. – Cafeteria Fund, per attached.

1. Cafeteria Accounts Payable for April 8, 2021

Approval of Agenda item #11.C. – The following contracts:

1. PenTeleData - Point to Point connectivity from PV High School to Pleasant Valley Intermediate School per E-rate Funding. Monthly Cost: \$1,760.00. Term 7/1/2021 - 6/30/2024
2. The Meadows Psychiatric Center - Educational services offered for students enrolled during the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school year - \$67.00 per day per student

Approval of Agenda item #11.D. –Advertisement of Sealed Bids for Anthracite Coal.

Approval of Agenda item #11.E. – The following fundraiser: PVHS Class of 2021 Car Show 5/1/2021 (rain date 5/18/2021).

Approval of Agenda item #11.F. – Bid Award NMPC Joint Purchasing Board for Paper – The following bid awards are for confirmation for 2021-2022 school year as per the Northampton/Monroe/Pike County Joint Purchasing Board for paper:

WB Mason – Vendor Total – \$47,221.45

XP-1 8.5x11" Paper

XP-2 8.5x14" Paper

Office Basics - Vendor Total - \$3,648.00

IP-1 8.5x11" Index

NO BIDS RECEIVED - \$0.00

ENV-1 Standard A10 Envelopes

Pleasant Valley SD Total - \$50,869.45

Approval of Agenda item #11.G. – Settlement Agreement and Release #EV032521.

Approval of Agenda item #11.H. – Student Placement: Student #092820DM – Pocono Mountain School District, effective 9/28/2020.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

SOLICITOR: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq. – Mr. Fitzgerald stated that there has been some instability surrounding the Federal Law Title IX. He said that this past August the Board approved a resolution surrounding changes to the law following directives from the then Secretary of Education but now we are told with the new administration in Washington that a new set of regulations is anticipated surrounding Title IX matters. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he will keep the Board apprised of any further information.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Ms. Greggo recognized the Cheerleading squad and stated that they will be participating in a state competition in Hershey, PA.

Mr. Kresge recognized T.J. Murphy and the baseball team for their win over Stroudsburg.

Mrs. Yozwiak recognized Mr. Stem for approving the variance in order to keep schools open.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS (non-agenda items):

Ron Reynolds, Chestnuthill Township, expressed concern about information from the Board on an action plan to bring students back to Pleasant Valley and also questioned plans for next year.

Richard Hill, Polk Township, questioned the survey results concerning returning students back to brick and mortar schools.

Dr. Lesisko addressed public comments including the enrollment numbers and bringing out-of-district students back to Pleasant Valley. He also addressed the survey on our website. Dr. Lesisko said that he will be representing Pleasant Valley at meetings in Harrisburg with the Education Committee concerning cyber-charter schools. Mrs. Yozwiak questioned if communication has been had with families of out-of-district students and Mrs. Kresge requested that the results of those contacts be made available.

Mrs. Yozwiak stated that the next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM and that the Education Committee will be meeting tomorrow at 9:30 AM for anyone wishing to attend and that the link is on the website.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Smale, Assistant Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:
April 22, 2021 @ 7:00 PM