

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheads ville, PA 18322

**Minutes of the September 10, 2015 Board of Education Meeting**

**Board Approved 9-24-15**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on September 10, 2015 and called to order by Board President Russell Gould at 8:03 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Debra Duff followed by a moment of silence. Mr. Gould welcomed those present and referred to the meeting procedures that were attached to the agenda. The meeting was held in the Administrative Offices, 2233 Route 115, Brodheads ville, PA 18322.

**Roll Call - School Board Recorder:** Ms. Debra Duff

**School Board members in attendance:** Russell Gould, President, Steve Borger, Vice President, Charles Hoffman, Treasurer, Linda Micklos, Len Peeters, Bob Serfass, Daniel Wunder, Dominick Sacci, Sue Kresge.

**Administrative staff in attendance:** Carole Geary, Superintendent, Ken Newman, Assistant to the Superintendent, John Burrus, Director of Human Resources, Susan Famularo, Business Manager, Monica Kotzmann, Administrative Assistant to the Business Manager, Josh Krebs, Director of Support Services, Shavonne Liddic, Mathematics Supervisor, Keri Ramsay, Reading Supervisor.

**School Solicitor in attendance:** Gerard Geiger, Esq.

**Notification of Executive Session:** Mr. Gould announced that an executive session was held on September 10, 2015 immediately prior to the regularly scheduled meeting for the purposes of personnel matters, including, but not limited to performance and/or discipline; Negotiations; and Legal Issues.

**Pleasant Valley Citizens:**

Representatives from the American Legion Post 927 were present. Mr. Everett Shaver introduced Vietnam veterans, Post Commander Tom Franklin, Bishop Jim Mills, and Mr. John DeFazio. Mr. Shaver stated that Representative Jack Rader asked them to address the Board with regard to an issue with the transfer tax. Mr. Shaver provided background history of the American Legion chartered in 1919 servicing veterans and the community. He stated that they host Boy Scout Troup #102. In addition, he stated that one of the members is the founder of Valor which provides shelter for homeless veterans. Mr. Shaver explained that they are a not for profit organization and said that due to changes in the law, the IRS moved the Post from a 501(C)(3) to a 501(C)(19) Veterans Organization. The Home Association incorporated to run the business is now a 501(C)(7) for social clubs. He further stated that the LCD redefined the Home Association as an affiliated organization of an incorporated unit such as a Post of a National Veteran Organization. Mr. Shaver stated that in order to be in compliance with the standardized by-laws set by the Department in Harrisburg, the Home Association may not own property but explained that according to Section 8 of Post 927, the Post may authorize the formation of a Home Association. He said that the American Legion would like to transfer property internally from the Home Association to the Post and requests that they be exempt from the transfer tax. Mr. Shaver asked for guidance on where to address this issue. Solicitor, Mr. Geiger, recommended that their attorney, Mr. Weidenbaum, get in touch with him so that they can discuss the issue. Board member Dominick Sacci, thanked the veterans present for their service to our country and to our community for which all applauded.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT: Ms. Susan Famularo, Secretary**

Mr. Serfass motioned, seconded by Mr. Sacci to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on August 27, 2015.

CARRIED

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. H. Charles Hoffman**

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve agenda item #3 per attached, as follows:  
Approval of #3.1 Accounts Payable – 8-1-15 through 8-31-15  
Approval of #3.2 Accounts Payable – 9-1-15 through 9-10-15  
Approval of #3.3 Trial Balance/Financial Statement  
Approval of #3.4 Asset Cost Summary  
Approval of #3.5 Condensed Board Summary/Expenditures-Revenues

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

The Accounts Payable (#3.6) approved at the August 27, 2015 Board meeting was provided and attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Solicitor:** Gerard Geiger, Esq. – No report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Monroe Career & Technical Institute: Ms. Linda Micklos**

Ms. Micklos announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday night.

### **Colonial IU#20: Mr. Daniel Wunder**

Mr. Wunder reported that the meeting was held on Wednesday, August 26, 2015. The Board approved the termination of two employees, the calendar for the Colonial Academy, and the purchase of three Pool Car Vehicles. Other routine items were provided. Mr. Wunder stated that of specific interest to Pleasant Valley, the Auditor General conducted a limited procedures engagement (LPE) that was completed for CIU20 covering the period May 23, 2013 through July 1, 2015. He stated that this LPE found that CIU20 complied in all significant respects containing no findings or observations. In addition, Mr. Wunder reported that the special education contracts for the thirteen serving districts were approved, Pleasant Valley approved at 1,652,179. He stated that we are in the center, the highest being Easton Area School District and the lowest being Delaware Valley. Also, the appointment of Sarah Jacob as an Emotional Support teacher was approved for the Pleasant Valley Middle School. A copy of *Your Investment at Work* pamphlet was provided to the Board at the last meeting.

### **PSBA Legislative Liaison Report: Ms. Susan Kresge**

Ms. Kresge reported that it is now day 71 that no state budget has been passed. In addition, Ms. Kresge shared the good news that on Tuesday, Governor Wolf and Secretary of Education Rivera announced that the U.S. Department of Education has approved Pennsylvania's Elementary and Secondary Education Act Waiver, which allows for a one year pause in the use of the state's school performance profile. The waiver in using the 2015 PSSA scores to calculate the school performance profile and teacher effectiveness ratings was requested due to the sweeping changes to the assessment that took effect in the 2014-15 school year.

Ms. Kresge also stated that PSBA has a slate of candidates for us to elect which needs to be done by September 28, 2015. She said that PSBA always endorses candidates – two are running for the president elect, three for the vice presidency, and three are up for the Eastern at Large Area – Region 8. Ms. Kresge stated that she has reviewed all the resumes and provided her recommendations for each position. The resumes can be found online for the Board to review. Discussion will be held at the next Buildings & Grounds meeting where Ms. Famularo will need direction on this matter.

### **SUPERINTENDENT-REPORT/REQUESTS: Ms. Carole Geary**

Ms. Micklos motioned, seconded by Mr. Peeters to approve agenda item #6 as follows:

Approval of #6.1 - The following policies:

- A. Policy No. 218. Student Discipline
- B. Policy No. 218.1. Weapons
- C. Policy No. 218.2. Terroristic Threats
- D. Policy No. 218.3. Metal Detection Systems
- E. Policy No. 218.4. Gangs

Prior to the roll call vote, Ms. Micklos addressed Policy No. 218.1. Weapons. She expressed concern about the many different items that can be construed as dangerous and asked for clarification about the "look-alike" weapons. Mr. Geiger said that the policy is comprehensive and he is satisfied with the way it is written and that it is subject to interpretation. Ms. Geary stated that the policy is recommended as it is written by PSBA. Mr. Sacci read a portion of the policy which defines "weapon" as any tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury to an individual. He further quoted from the policy that "Any instrument, tool or implement, while being used in an educational or a vocational process as defined by the Superintendent or designee, will not be defined as a weapon as long as that instrument, tool or implement is being used for its educationally or a vocationally defined purpose." Discussion was held and it was agreed that for the safety of students, that this policy not be tabled but be discussed further at a later date and possibly be amended to be more comprehensive.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #6.2 – Other:

Ms. Geary provided sample policies regarding tuition students which she discussed at the last meeting. She asked that the Board review these policies and provide direction on this matter. In addition, Ms. Geary provided an email received from a resident expressing her thoughts on this issue.

Ms. Geary reported that in the month of June, we raised \$1,007.15 through our denim day in support of the Children’s Tumor Foundation. Ms. Geary stated that the total raised from our staff through denim days in the 2014-2015 school year was approximately \$10,000 for various charities and organizations.

Ms. Geary stated that the opening of school went extremely well and she applauded the principals and all who made it possible.

**HUMAN RESOURCES: Dr. John T. Burrus**

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Sacci to approve agenda item #7 as follows:

Approval of #7.1– Hiring of Personnel Regular appointment (pending receipt of all required paperwork):

	Name	Position	Salary	Location	Start Date
1.	Erik Bonini	Substitute Teacher - English 7-12	As per Board Policy		TBD
2.	Stacey Charles	Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	As per Board Policy		TBD
3.	Anna Manwiller	Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	As per Board Policy		TBD
4.	Katie Monahan	Elementary Teacher, Full-Time - Gr. 2	Step 1 B, \$41,400	PVE	September 11, 2015
5.	Travis C. Serfass	Director of Buildings and Grounds	\$78,000.00		October 1, 2015
6.	Sherri Sprague	Monitor/Substitute Monitor	Hourly Wage \$9.23		September 14, 2015
7.	Kimberly Waldenmayer	Substitute Teacher - Elementary K-6/Special Education PK-8/Paraprofessional Associate	As per Board Policy		TBD

Approval of #7.2 – Extensions/Additions/Changes to Current Employee Assignments:

	Name	Position	Start Date
1.	Kimon Karanikolaou	From Casual Security Guard to Part-time Security Guard	September 11, 2015
2.	Lawrence Lewis	From Part-time Security Guard to Casual Security Guard	October 31, 2015
3.	Kenneth Piontkowski	Mathematics High School Department Head (9-12)	Per the 2014-2017 Supplemental Contract
4.	Eric Samson	From Casual Security Guard to Part-time Security Guard	September 8, 2015
5.	David Lewis	Science High School Department Head (9-12)	Per the 2014-2017 Supplemental Contract
6.	Chris Pachuta	Social Studies High School Department Head (9-12)	Per the 2014-2017 Supplemental Contract

Approval of #7.3 – The following Leaves of Absence (Employees are responsible for benefit payments):

	Name	Position	Leave	Days	Dates
1.	Ludmila Healy	Monitor at PVI	Leave without Pay	Fifteen (15) days	September 17, 2015 through October 8, 2015.
2.	Lindsay McKenna	Teacher at PVE	Family &	Sixty	Anticipated leave date of

			Medical Leave	(60) days	October 28, 2015 with an anticipated return to service on February 4, 2016.
3.	Nazare Pereira	Custodian at PVI	Family & Medical Leave	Fifty-seven (57) days	July 27, 2015 with a return to service date of October 15, 2015.
4.	Nicole Rejment	Teacher at PVI	Family & Medical Leave	Sixty (60) days	September 5, 2015 with an anticipated return to service on December 4, 2015.
5.	Joan Toolan	Paraprofessional Associate at PVMS	Leave without Pay	Three (3) days	October 14, 2015 through October 16, 2015.

Approval of #7.4 – The following resignations:

1. Kimberly Baldino-Waldenmayer, Paraprofessional Associate, PVI, effective August 28, 2015.
2. Robin Dahl, Food Service Employee at PVE, effective August 31, 2015.
3. Lorraine Danny, Front Desk Monitor, PVE, effective September 16, 2015.
4. Leticia DiPipi, Long-Term Substitute, Grade 4, PVI, effective August 24, 2015.

Approval of #7.5 – Contracted Services Agreement per the attached between the Pleasant Valley School District and School Operation Services Group Inc. with a term from September 14, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Voting No on Item #7.1.5: Mr. Wunder, Ms. Kresge

Abstained on Item #7.1.5: Mr. Serfass

6-2-1 CARRIED

**CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Kenneth Newman**

Mr. Newman reported with regard to approval by the U.S. Department of Education of Pennsylvania’s Elementary and Secondary Education Act Waiver, which allows for a one year pause in the use of the state’s school performance profile. He stated that the state was able to do what we needed it to do so our students will not suffer. He provided a document from the PDE website outlining the five key points policymakers should know about the 2015 PSSA for the Board’s information. Mr. Newman reviewed each point. He stated information should be released by September 29<sup>th</sup>.

Agenda Item #8.2 – Mathematics Supervisor: Ms. Shavonne Liddic provided a written report.

**SUPPORT SERVICES: Mr. Joshua Krebs**

Mr. Sacci motioned, seconded by Mr. Peeters to approve Agenda Item #9.1 through #9.5 and #9.7 as follows:

Approval of #9.1 – 2015-2016 Co-Curricular Positions:

- A. Freshman Class Advisor: Elaine Adams
- B. Junior Class Advisor: Jacqueline Ludka

Approval of #9.2 – Intramural Advisors:

- A. Weightlifting, M-F beginning 9/8/15, 3-4:30 PM, New Weight Room – Advisor: Justin Micklos
- B. Boys’ Basketball, 9/7/15 through 11/5/15, 3-5 PM, HS Old Gym – Advisor: Matthew Gould; Co-Advisors: John Gilbert, Greg Duff, Tom Kresge, Jamie Gould

Approval of #9.3 – 2015-2016 Facility Use Requests as were attached.

Approval of #9.4 – Long Term Substantial Volunteer: Kim Tuin

Approval of #9.5 – 2015-2016 Field Trips:

- A. Grade/Organization: PVHS Marching Band  
Teacher(S) Involved: James DeVivo  
Destination: Whitehall High School  
Purpose: Marching Band to perform at football game.

- Date(s): 9/18/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 3 plus Bank Truck  
Cost Per Student: None
- B. Grade/Organization: PVHS Marching Band  
Teacher(S) Involved: James DeVivo  
Destination: North Penn High School  
Purpose: Marching Band to perform at football game.  
Date(s): 9/26/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 3 plus Bank Truck  
Cost Per Student: None
- C Grade/Organization: PVHS Marching Band  
Teacher(S) Involved: James DeVivo  
Destination: North Warren HS  
Purpose: Marching Band to perform at football game.  
Date(s): 10/3/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 3 plus Bank Truck  
Cost Per Student: None
- D. Grade/Organization: PVHS Marching Band  
Teacher(S) Involved: James DeVivo  
Destination: East Stroudsburg South HS  
Purpose: Marching Band to perform at football game.  
Date(s): 10/9/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 3 plus Bank Truck  
Cost Per Student: None
- E. Grade/Organization: PVHS Marching Band  
Teacher(S) Involved: James DeVivo  
Destination: Nazareth Area High School  
Purpose: Marching Band to perform at football game.  
Date(s): 10/10/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 3 plus Bank Truck  
Cost Per Student: None
- F. Grade/Organization: PVHS Marching Band  
Teacher(S) Involved: James DeVivo  
Destination: East Stroudsburg North HS  
Purpose: Marching Band to perform at football game.  
Date(s): 10/24/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 3 plus Bank Truck  
Cost Per Student: None
- G. Grade/Organization: PVHS Marching Band  
Teacher(S) Involved: James DeVivo  
Destination: West Chester University  
Purpose: Marching Band to perform at football game.  
Date(s): 10/31/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 3 plus Bank Truck  
Cost Per Student: None
- H. Grade/Organization: PVHS Marching Band  
Teacher(S) Involved: James DeVivo  
Destination: Stroudsburg Area HS  
Purpose: Marching Band to perform at football game.  
Date(s): 11/6/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 3 plus Bank Truck  
Cost Per Student: None
- I. Grade/Organization: 9-12 FBLA  
Teacher(S) Involved:  
Destination: State College PA (Penn Stater)  
Purpose: FBLA Workshop Training Session  
Date(s): 10/24/15 through 10/26/15

District Buses Needed(#): None  
Cost Per Student: \$50 food and incidentals \$75 per student for lodging

J. Grade/Organization: 9-12 FBLA  
Teacher(s) Involved: Melissa Ruschak  
Destination: Stroudsburg High School  
Purpose: To participate in FBLA Workshop Training Session  
Date(s): 10/5/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 1  
Cost Per Student: \$10 per student

K. Grade/Organization: 10-12 GAPP  
Teacher(s) Involved: Miranda Ford  
Destination: Philadelphia  
Purpose: Students will explore the history of Philadelphia and experience culture  
Date(s): 10/15/15  
District Buses Needed(#): 1  
Cost Per Student: \$70 per student

L. Grade/Organization: 10-12 NAHS  
Teacher(s) Involved: Dan Mulligan  
Destination: Philadelphia Art Museum and Barnes Foundation  
Purpose: Experience first hand some of the works of art these students have learned about in Art class  
Date(s): 5/13/16  
District Buses Needed(#): 1  
Cost Per Student: \$20 per student

Approval of #9.7 – Facility Use Request:

Organization:	RK&K and PEN
Facility Requested:	PVMS Gymnasium
Purpose:	Public Meeting
Dates/Times:	Tuesday, September 22, 2015 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Requestor:	Thomas Brady
Attendance:	N/A
Tuition	N/A
Fee by District:	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED  
Abstained on Item #9.2.2: Mr. Gould  
Abstained on Item #9.2.1: Ms. Micklos  
(Abstention Forms Attached)

Agenda Item #9.6 – Informational items: District events from September 11, 2015 – September 24, 2015 were included on the agenda.

**BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Ms. Susan Famularo**

Mr. Hoffman motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve agenda item #10 as follows:

Approval of #10.1 – Establishment of the Pleasant Valley Track and Field Booster Club

Approval of #10.2 – The following contracts:

- A. Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 Special Education Services Agreement for the 2015-2016 school year.
- B. Physio-Control Inc. Cost: \$5,304.00. Technical Service Support Agreement for AED's. Agreement begins October 1, 2015 and expires on September 30, 2016.
- C. Bethany M. Lengel, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner. Cost: Ten dollars and fifty cents (\$10.50) for each ACCESS Service Description slip. This is required for medical ACCESS reimbursement.
- D. Simplex Grinnell. Cost: \$69,840.00. Fire panel upgrade at Pleasant Valley High School.
- E. Devereux. Cost: \$4.50 per 15 minute increment at a one (1) to six (6) ratio for program services for the 2015-2016 school year.
- F. Colonial Intermediate Unit #20 Special Education contract for the 2015-2016 school year. Cost for special education services are estimated to be \$1,652,179. The final reconciliation of the charges is to be made by August 2016.

- G. Colonial Intermediate Unit #20. Cost: \$20.00 per month, for 10 months, not to exceed \$200.00, plus a fee of \$1.30 per minute for interpreting services to students and staff. Effective August 31, 2015 through June 30, 2016.
- H. Colonial Intermediate Unit #20. Cost: Not to exceed \$37,964.00. To provide an associate teacher for direct, one-on-one services at Pleasant Valley Elementary School - Physical Support. Effective the first day of the 2015-2016 school year and terminates at the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

Approval of #10.3 – Settlement Agreements and Releases:

- Student #91015JE - Effective 9/11/15
- Student #91015JM - Effective 9/11/15

Prior to the roll call vote, Ms. Kresge questioned Item #10.3. Ms. Famularo stated that it relates to students, which are of confidential nature.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

**SOLICITOR:** Gerard Geiger, Esq. – No report.

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

Mr. Wunder questioned the impact on the district due to the 71 day arrears in the passing of the Governor's budget. Ms. Famularo said that the administration has discussed cash flow issues and stated that we will be okay until March but if it is not settled by November, we will be looking to see what our options are to borrow. Further discussion will be held at the B&G meeting.

Ms. Kresge thanked all for a great opening to the school year.

**PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Hoffman motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting: September 24, 2015 @ 8:00 PM