

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheads ville, PA 18322

**Minutes of the March 24, 2016 Board of Education Meeting**

**Board Approved 4-14-16**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on March 24, 2016 and called to order by Russell Gould, President, at 8:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ken Newman. 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 – Acting School Board Recorder:** Ms. Monica Kotzmann

**School Board members in attendance:** Russell Gould, President, Len Peeters, Vice President, Bob Serfass, Delbert Zacharias, Linda Micklos, Sue Kresge, Steve Borger, Daniel Wunder.

**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, Viola Murphy, Director of School Services (left at 8:06), Josh Krebs, Director of Support Services, Travis Serfass, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

**Building Administrative staff in attendance:** John Gress

**School Solicitor in attendance:** Daniel Corveleyn, Esq.

**Notification of Executive Session:** Mr. Gould announced that an executive session was held on March 10, 2016 following the regularly scheduled meeting and March 24, 2016 immediately prior to the regularly scheduled meeting for purposes of personnel matters including, but not limited to, performance and/or discipline; Negotiations; and Legal Issues.

**Appointment of New Board Member:**

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to appoint Mr. Doug Wisser as Board Member to replace Mr. Hoffman's seat.

Dan Wunder expressed that even though he will be voting no, it is not meant in a negative way, but that he feels stronger about another candidate who he feels was deserving of this position due to the support they received in the general election. He stated that he will willingly support another candidate. Sue Kresge stated that she has the same view as Mr. Wunder and therefore, will be voting no.

ROLL CALL: 6-2 CARRIED

Voting No: Ms. Kresge, Mr. Wunder

**Swearing in of New Board Member:**

Viola Murphy was present to conduct the swearing in of Mr. Wisser. Mr. Wisser was sworn in and signed the Oath of Office. Ms. Geary thanked Ms. Murphy and President Gould welcomed Mr. Wisser as a new member of the Board of Education.

**Pleasant Valley Citizens:** None.

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

Ms. Micklos motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on March 10, 2016.

CARRIED

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Bob Serfass**

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Ms. Kresge to approve agenda item #3 per attached, as follows: Approval of #3.a. Accounts Payable – 3-11-16 to 3-24-16.

ROLL CALL: 8-0-1 CARRIED

Abstained: Mr. Wisser (Abstention Form attached)

The Accounts Payable (#3.b.) approved at the March 10, 2016 Board meeting was provided and attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Solicitor:** Daniel Corveleyn, Esq.: No report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Monroe Career & Technical Institute: Ms. Linda Micklos:** No report.

**Colonial IU20: Mr. Daniel Wunder:** No report.

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

Ms. Kresge read portions of a legislative special report stating that yesterday Governor Wolf announced that he would allow the budget provisions under House Bill 1801 to become law without his signature in order for schools to stay open through the end of the current school year. The General Assembly passed House Bill 1801 on March 16<sup>th</sup>, giving the governor ten days to take action or let the bill become effective without his signature. Therefore, the bill will officially become effective on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Kresge read on and stated that however, the governor also indicated his intention to veto House Bill 1327, companion legislation which amends the Fiscal Code to provide for implementation of the 2015-16 budget and distribution of funds. The bill also addresses PlanCon reimbursement for school construction projects through the establishment of a program to issue up to \$2.5 billion in appropriation-backed bonds for the purpose of providing reimbursements to school districts for approved projects. Governor Wolf said that there are constitutional concerns with the language under House Bill 1327 and that he will veto it in its entirety. Ms. Kresge stated that the deadline to adopt a 2016-17 state budget is June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Gould questioned if we will get funds owed to us. Ms. Famularo stated that the exact amount is uncertain because of the way that the basic education funding was distributed at the beginning of the year versus what is going to happen at the end of the year and that it is the piece that the Governor is vetoing. Ms. Famularo stated that we will be getting less than what the Governor had proposed. She stated that one piece we will not get for this year is the debt service subsidy – the PlanCon reimbursement – because that line item has been zeroed out. Ms. Famularo stated that we budgeted \$700,000 which we will not be seeing this year. Mr. Gould asked if we would get it in the future and Ms. Famularo said we are hopeful but not sure.

### **Student Government Representative: Ms. Michelle Heckelman, President**

Ms. Heckelman provided an informational report:

- Congratulations to the cast, crew, and staff for an outstanding performance of “Camelot.” Ms. Heckelman stated that the performances were well attended and professionally performed.
- The senior class thanked all for supporting their Basket Bingo recently held and that it was a huge success. A special thank you was extended to advisor Mrs. Hunsicker, the Class of 2016 officers, and members of the senior class.
- A College Fair was held last Friday sponsored by The National Honor Society where students had the opportunity to visit with many college representatives. In addition, the public is welcome to attend an additional College and Career Fair on April 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 PM at the high school and sponsored by our local representative. Sessions will include scholarships and PHEAA presentations.
- Advanced Placement test registration is ongoing and exams will be administered on May 2-13. The Keystone Exams will be administered in Algebra, Literature, and Biology beginning May 16-27.
- Congratulations to sophomore, Meghan Danny for placing 3<sup>rd</sup> and receiving \$100 in the Times News “It Can Wait” contest.
- Congratulations to Jack Ardizzone who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Animation Competition at the IU20 Computer Fair.
- A College Recruiting Seminar took place on Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup> and was well attended. Thank you to the Athletic Department for arranging the event.
- Congratulations to Katrina Stenger and Devin Kagel for being awarded Best in Show for their pieces by the Pocono Arts Council.

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

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

Approval of Agenda item #6.a. - Request of Homebound Instruction (per Board policy, re-evaluation will be done in ninety (90) days)

Student No.	Reason
HB 104841-I	Medical, Retroactive 3/15/2016
HB 207354-H	Medical, Retroactive 3/16/2016
HB 104773-H	Medical, Retroactive 3/14/2016

Approval of item #6.b. – Policies:

- A. Policy 239 Foreign Exchange
- B. Policy 245 Student Identification Cards
- C. Policy 246 Student Wellness
- D. Policy 247 Hazing
- E. Policy 008 Meeting Procedures

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Mr. Gould questioned whether or not Mr. Wisser should be abstaining for which Mr. Corveleyn said he is permitted to vote.

Agenda item #6.c. – The following policies were noted for a second reading:

- A. Policy 248 Unlawful Harassment
- B. Policy 249 Bullying
- C. Policy 250 Student Recruitment
- D. Policy 251 Homeless Students
- E. Policy 252 Dating Violence (New Policy)

Discussion was held with regard to Policy #252. Mr. Peeters questioned about occurrences after school and he feels it goes above and beyond what we are responsible for. Ms. Geary explained that she has provided this policy because it has been recommended by PSBA and that it is an initiative at the state level. Ms. Micklos expressed that of course if we see or hear anything we should take action, but parents should have primary responsibilities. Mr. Borger stated that parents need to take responsibility for their children’s actions and he will not vote in favor of this policy. Ms. Kresge questioned if it could be removed from the agenda and Mr. Corveleyn said to make the recommendation.

Ms. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to remove Policy No. 252 Dating Violence from the agenda.

CARRIED

Mr. Serfass questioned whether or not we should let PSBA know we are not interested in adopting this policy. Mr. Corveleyn recommended that Ms. Geary get in touch with PSBA to provide a summary of why they are recommending this policy. He indicated that PSBA usually acts independently of the state and feels we should get justification from them.

Agenda Item #6.d. – Other:

Ms. Geary thanked Mr. Newman and members of the Board, as well as Mr. Krebs and administration for the success of the recently held dinner theater and said that the students did a great job at the play.

Ms. Geary stated that the Pocono Arts Council was a wonderful event where PV students took seven awards out of twelve. She encouraged all to see the work the students have done possibly when attending the Academic Fair. Ms. Kresge questioned if Xerox still sponsors the dinner theater event and Ms. Geary stated that Xerox paid for the dinner; therefore, there was no cost to the district. Also, two Xerox employees assisted at the dinner.

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

Ms. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve agenda item #7 as follows:

Approval of #7.a. – Hiring of Personnel Regular appointment (pending receipt of all required paperwork):

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Start Date</b>
1.	Jaison Hall	Substitute Teacher - Social Studies	Per Board Policy		TBD
2.	Sarah LaBar	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate	\$10,521.50	PVHS	March 29, 2016

Approval of #7.b. – Extensions /Additions/Changes to Current Employee Assignments:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Start Date</b>
1.	Stacy McKee	Homebound Instructor	TBD
2.	Danielle Staples	Homebound Instructor	TBD

Approval of #7.c. – The following leaves of absence, employees being responsible for benefit payments:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Leave</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1.	Shannon Almond	Monitor	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 17, 2016
2.	Theresa Balas	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS	Leave without pay	One (1)	January 28, 2016
3.	Gigi Barton	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 2, 2016
4.	Fannie Boeman	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVE	Leave without pay	Seven (7)	February 24, 2016 through March 3, 2016
5.	Diane Brouse	Teacher, PVMS	Family & Medical Leave	Nine (9)	March 11, 2016 with a return to service date of March 29, 2016
6.	Kim Bubak	Monitor, PVI	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 18, 2016
7.	Peggy Corriveau	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVI	Leave without pay	Two (2)	April 22 and 25, 2016
8.	Theresa Dinunzi	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVI	Leave without pay	Forty-one (41)	December 8, 2015 through January 29, 2016; February 1, 3, 5, 9, and 11, 2016; and February 19, 23, 25, 29, and March 11, 2016
9.	Amy Eckert	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVI	Leave without pay	Four (4)	February 29 through March 3, 2016
10.	Brigitte Endrulat	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVMS	Leave without pay	One and one-half (1.5)	March 10 (1 day) and March 14 (.5 day), 2016
11.	Georgia Fernicola	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVE	Leave without pay	Four (4)	February 10, 11, 22, and 23, 2016
12.	Diana Graziano	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVE	Leave without pay	Two (2)	March 3 and 4, 2016
13.	Ludmila Healy	Monitor, PVI	Leave without pay	Two (2)	March 9 and 17, 2016

14.	Jasmine Hnedak	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVE	Leave without pay	Two (2)	March 22 and 23, 2016
15.	Sandi Kaspszyk	Teacher, PVE	Leave without pay	Three (3)	April 28, 29, and May 2, 2016
16.	Kristen Keller	Food Service Employee, PVE	Leave without pay	One-half (.5)	February 17, 2016
17.	Tammy Klein	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVI	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 14, 2016
18.	Kimberly Kujawa	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 4, 2016
19.	Patrick Luchowski	Teacher, PVI	Family & Medical Leave	Sixty (60)	August 23, 2016 with a return to service date of November 18, 2016
20.	Sarah LaBar	Monitor, PVHS	Leave without pay	Three (3)	February 18, 25, and 26, 2016
21.	Maritza Martely-Boasci	Monitor, PVI	Leave without pay	Two (2)	March 10 and 11, 2016
22.	Maria Martins	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS	Leave without pay	Two (2)	March 3 and 4, 2016
23.	Philip Masiello	Teacher, PVE	Family & Medical Leave	Twenty-one (21)	March 1, 2016 with a return to service date of April 4, 2016
24.	Stacey McKee	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS	Leave without pay	Two (2)	March 8 and 16, 2016
25.	Linda Moyer	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS	Leave without pay	Two (1)	March 1 and 16, 2016
26.	Barbara Partyka	Part-time Food Service Employee, PVE	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 10, 2016
27.	Cristian Randeau	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVI	Leave without pay	Two (2)	February 18 and March 10, 2016
28.	Sabrina Roman	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 4, 2016
29.	Angela Pachuta	Long-term Substitute Teacher, PVI	Extension of Unpaid Child Bearing & Child Rearing Leave		May 16, 2016 through the end of the 2015-2016
30.	Jill Skinner	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVE	Leave without pay	Two (2)	February 26 and March 8, 2016
31.	Martha Smith	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVI	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 9, 2016
32.	Sherri Sprague	Monitor, PVE	Leave without pay	Six (6)	February 22-29, 2016
33.	Danielle Staples	Teacher, PVE	Leave without pay	One-half (.50)	March 10, 2016

34.	Danielle Unger	Teacher, PVHS	Intermittent Family & Medical Leave	Three and one-half (3.5)	February 1, 8, and March 8, 2016 (half days); February 5 and March 7, 2016 (full days)
35.	Martina Zaragoza	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS	Leave without pay	One (1)	March 8, 2016

Approval of #7.d. – The following resignations:

1. Kimberly Andren, security officer, effective March 7, 2016.
2. Nicole Rejment, teacher, effective the last day of the 2015-2016 school year.
3. Maryellen Ross, substitute teacher, effective March 9, 2016.

Approval of #7.e. – Memorandum of Understanding between Pleasant Valley School District and Pleasant Valley Education Association – Joyce Bereznak – per attached.

Approval of #7.f. - Memorandum of Understanding between Pleasant Valley School District and Pleasant Valley Education Association – Nancy Kozicki – per attached.

Approval of #7.g. - The following individuals have met the requirements for the 2016 retirement incentive approved on January 14, 2016. Their retirement will take effect at the conclusion of the day on the final day of the 2015-2016 academic school year.

1.	Karen Fuls	9.	Pam Downie-Rachwalski
2.	Carole Ring	10.	Kathleen Kilker
3.	Audrey DeCeaser	11.	Donna Kelchner
4.	Mark Tramontina	12.	Chandra Peeters
5.	Conceta Sabia	13.	Connie Smith
6.	Kim Liscinski	14.	Nancy Kozicki (pending MOU approval 7.f.)
7.	Mary Keller	15.	Charles Inserra
8.	Ann Crimaldi	16.	Evelyn Baxeveane
		17.	Megan Feliciani

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

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

Agenda item #8.b. – Informational – Mr. Newman stated that a written ELA update was attached to the agenda.

Mr. Newman provided information to the Board regarding the proposed costs associated with the Math Consult 2016-17 as requested. Lengthy discussion was held and several Board members questioned, expressed opinions and concerns regarding the GoMath Program. Mr. Newman and Ms. Geary addressed all concerns expressed. Ms. Kresge stated that she met with Shavonne Liddic, Mathematics Supervisor, and talked about many issues including staff development. Ms. Kresge stated that we are in our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of GoMath and our teachers need to be provided staff development especially in the primary grades. She expressed concern about the cost and Mr. Newman said that it is covered by the Ready to Learn grant. He said that further details will be provided if needed. Mr. Peeters stated that he would like to see the results from the CDT tests. Mr. Serfass asked what the Ready to Learn funds would have been used for if not for the increase in the staff development for GoMath. Mr. Gould and Ms. Micklos expressed concern that the funds would be taking away from other areas. Ms. Geary said that the funds have not been allocated yet and that we are in the planning stage. Ms. Kresge stated that she respects Mr. Peeters’ desire to wait for the results, but pointed out that we only had Dr. Riccomini one year and training was centered at PVI. She would like to see training at PVE. Mr. Wunder expressed that we should give teachers what they need now although he respects the desire to see results. Mr. Newman stated that he would like to bring this to the Board for approval in April. Ms.

Geary said that feedback from teachers who have been through the training might be helpful. In addition, a presentation by teachers and Ms. Liddic would give the Board a better understanding in order to make an informed decision.

**SUPPORT SERVICES: Mr. Joshua Krebs**

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve Agenda Item #9 as follows:

Approval of #9.a. – Facility Use Request

<b>A.</b>	Organization	West End Park & Open Spaces
	Facility Requested	Middle School Tennis Courts
	Purpose	Tennis Lessons
	Dates/Times	5/10/16-7/28/16, Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
	Requestor	Bernie Cozen
	Attendance	25
	Tuition	N/A
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
<b>B</b>	Organization	PVYA
	Facility Requested	PVMS JV Baseball Field
	Purpose	Baseball practice / games
	Dates/Times	3/20/16 – 7/31/16 Monday – Friday 6:00-8:00pm Saturday & Sunday 9:00am-6:00pm
	Requestor	Hope Smith
	Attendance	30
	Tuition	N/A
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply

Approval of #9.b. – Long Term Substantial Volunteer: Michael Harris – PVE

Approval of #9.c. – Field Trip Requests: None

Approval of #9.d. – 2015-2016 Intramural Advisor: PVHS Football Weightlifting Monday - Friday, January 4, 2016 through March 6, 2016 3:00 pm - 5:00pm – Advisor: James Ward

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #9.e. – Informational: District Events from March 25, 2016 through April 14, 2016 was provided.

Ms. Kresge asked about the softball coach posting. Mr. Krebs said that the posting was reduced from 10 days to 5 days and that a request for an appointment will be on the next meeting agenda. Mr. Borger questioned if this is pertaining to the assistant coaching position.

**BUILDING REPORTS:**

**Pleasant Valley High School – Mr. John Gress**

Mr. Gress provided a written informational report. He highlighted the awards won by the art students and stated that Mr. Boudman will provide a presentation in April.

**Pleasant Valley Middle School**

A written informational report was provided.

**Pleasant Valley Intermediate School**

A written informational report was provided.

**Pleasant Valley Elementary School**

A written informational report was provided.

**BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Ms. Susan Famularo**

Mr. Serfass motioned, seconded by Ms. Kresge to approve agenda item #11 as follows:

Approval of #11.a. – Cafeteria Accounts Payable for February 2016: Total Amount: \$156,576.43;

Bills payable for February 2016: Total Amount: \$78,198.79.

Approval of #11.b. – The following contracts:

- A. Scholastic Book Fair. Pleasant Valley Elementary School to hold Book Fair May 9, 2016 - May 13, 2016 for all grades K-3.
- B. ThyssenKrupp Elevator Americas. Cost: \$2,250.00. To perform safety test and install test tags at Pleasant Valley Elementary.
- C. CSI. Cost: \$1,380.00. Preventative Maintenance of Fire Alarm at Polk Elementary School.

Approval of #11.c. - The following bid awards for the 2016-2017 school year as per the Northampton/Monroe/Pike County Joint Purchasing Board for Janitorial supplies and paper:

**JANITORIAL PAPER**

Jersey Paper Plus - \$1,001.30

Facial tissue - 2 ply

**OFFICE PAPER**

W B Mason- \$68,616.28

Composition paper, Index paper colored, Xerographic paper 8 1/2x11" white and colored, 8 1/2 x 14" and 11 x 17"

Lindenmeyr Munroe - \$1,891.00

Index paper white

Paper Mart - \$549.25

Envelopes #10

Total - \$72,057.83

Approval of #11.d. – The following invoice was recommended for payment from the Bond Fund: 2006 Bond Fund as per attached \$100,000.00.

Approval of #11.e. – MCTI transfer of \$416,326 of unexpended 2013-2014 funds and \$931,675 of unexpended 2014-2015 funds to their Capital Reserve Fund to allow for the completion of necessary projects and replenishment of Capital Reserve Funds for emergency contingency. In addition, \$50,000 of 2014-2015 unexpended revenues be retained by MCTI to set up a new fund balance for grant matches.

ROLL CALL: 9-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #11.f. – Informational:

**A. Student Activity Accounts**

Beginning Balance, February 1, 2016: \$245,519.43

Receipts: \$74,504.41

Expenditures: \$39,565.11

Ending Balance, February 29, 2016: \$280,458.73

**B. District Investment Report for February 29, 2016**

**SOLICITOR:** Daniel Corveleyn, Esq. – Mr. Corveleyn wished all a happy holiday.

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

Ms. Kresge thanked Ms. Geary for recognizing Mr. Kutteroff whose class did very well in math testing and their grades went up numerous points. She also thanked Mr. Kutteroff for emailing parents of the students in that class informing them of the students' success.

Mr. Serfass shared that at an event he was attending, two Pleasant Valley citizens approached him and stated how proud they were to be a part of this community stating that they attended the senior citizens dinner and play and praised the district for that event.

Mr. Gould also commended everyone involved in the senior citizens dinner and he had many people approach him as well stating how wonderful it was.



**PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS:**

Ms. Augie Kresge, Polk Township, provided an update on the spelling bee stating that Emma Barrett (7<sup>th</sup> grade) won 1<sup>st</sup> place and Audrey Kosrovich (5<sup>th</sup> grade) won 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

Ms. Laura Jecker, Chestnuthill Township, questioned the use of grant money and suggested the possibility of a survey for teachers to see what worked and what would they want in future trainings. She also spoke about the possibility of having remedial classes for which grant money can be used. Ms. Geary responded stating that a survey is sent to teachers every year questioning them what professional development they do want and she said that math is the number one response in PVE and PVI and that is our focus. Ms. Geary also stated that we have enhancement classes in math, Algebra I, and biology at the high school which does not fall under the Ready to Learn grant which focuses on K-3.

Mr. Gould wished all a nice Easter.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Monica Kotzmann, Acting Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting: April 14, 2016 @ 8:00 PM