

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheads ville, PA 18322

Minutes of the April 28, 2016 Board of Education Meeting

Board Approved 5-12-16

CALL TO ORDER:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on April 28, 2016 and called to order by Russell Gould, President, at 8:05 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Len Peeters. 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, Len Peeters, Vice President, Bob Serfass, Delbert Zacharias, Sue Kresge, Doug Wisser, Daniel Wunder. Absent: Steve Borger, Linda Micklos.

Administrative staff in attendance: 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, Keri Ramsay, Reading Supervisor, Shavonne Liddic, Mathematics Supervisor, Travis Serfass, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

Building Administrative staff in attendance: John Gress, Rocco Seiler, Bob Hines, Tresa Malligo, Erica Greer, Cassandra Herr, Roger Pomposello, Dave Pacchioni, Josephine Fields.

School Solicitor in attendance: Robert Kidwell, Esq.

Notification of Executive Session: Mr. Gould announced that an executive session was held on April 28, 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. Mr. Gould further stated that there will be an executive session following this meeting for the purposes of personnel matters.

Good News: Pleasant Valley Intermediate School: Ms. Cassandra Herr, Principal

Ms. Herr extended an invitation to the Board for the upcoming play *Lion King Jr.* on April 29th, April 30th, and May 1st. She also informed all of the Authors and Artists “Red Carpet” evening to be held on May 4th. A video was prepared by Ms. Herr and Ms. Bradley with the help of Mr. Crosby, which highlighted how technology integration is utilized at PVI. Ms. Herr thanked everyone involved including the PTO for their support.

Pleasant Valley Citizens: None.

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

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on April 14, 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 – 4-15-16 to 4-28-16.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED
Abstained: Mr. Serfass – Check No. 00213999; Mr. Wunder – Check No. 00214029
(Abstention Forms attached)

The Accounts Payable (#3.b.) approved at the April 14, 2016 Board meeting was provided and attached to the agenda for informational purposes.

OLD BUSINESS

Solicitor: Robert Kidwell, Esq. – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Monroe Career & Technical Institute – No report.

Colonial IU20: Mr. Daniel Wunder: No report.

PSBA Legislative Liaison Report: Ms. Susan Kresge:

Ms. Kresge reported that she received a Legislative Report which provided information on the new Fiscal Code provisions. She read from the report that House Bill 1589, the Fiscal Code bill, became Act 25 of 2016, without the governor’s signature. The new law implements the Basic Education Funding Commission’s recommended funding formula for 2015-2016 and provides reimbursement to districts for school construction projects under the PlanCon process. Ms. Kresge questioned Ms. Famularo if, under that funding formula, will we be getting any additional funds. Ms. Famularo stated that we are getting what we budgeted but nothing has been released by PDE yet. We should be getting about \$325,000 additional basic education subsidy over what we got for 2014-2015. She stated that the PlanCon reimbursement authorized the borrowing but we will not be getting the \$600,000 that we budgeted for this year but will get it sometime in the future when the borrowing is complete. Ms. Kresge also stated that the Mid East Region 8 will be holding a meeting on Friday, May 13th at Berks County IU 14, which she will not be able to attend. She has information if anyone would like to attend.

SUPERINTENDENT-REPORT/REQUESTS: Mr. Kenneth Newman

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mr. Wisser 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#108070-H	Medical, Retroactive 4/15/16
HB#102188-H	Medical, Retroactive 4/14/16
HB#104381-I	Medical, Retroactive 4/22/16

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

- A. Policy 626 - Federal Fiscal Compliance with Attachments (Replacement)
- B. Policy 626.1 Travel Reimbursement - Federal Programs (New)
- C. Policy 808 - Food Services (Replacement)
- D. Policy 827 - Conflict of Interest (New)

Ms. Famularo stated that these policies must be approved by June 30th. Ms. Kresge clarified that Mr. Newman is our Federal Programs Coordinator.

Agenda Item #6.c. – Other: Mr. Newman stated that he attended the MCTI Partners in Education Banquet held on Tuesday and nine PV students and employers were recognized for their workplace experiences. In addition, Mr. Newman stated that the Academic Fair held on April 25th was a great success and he thanked all involved.

Student Government Representative: Ms. Michelle Heckelman, President

Ms. Heckelman provided an informational report:

- Congratulations were extended to the cast and crew of Shakey’s Players for their outstanding performance of the Shakespeare classic *MacBeth*. Students in 10th grade viewed the production during the day.
- Senior class officers and advisor Mrs. Hunsicker are working diligently to ensure the Prom will be a success. The Prom is scheduled for April 30th.
- The High School Band Concert was held on April 27th which was outstanding and well attended. The High School Chorus is scheduled for May 24th.
- Congratulations to FBLA students for their outstanding performance at the State Leadership Conference. The following students qualified for nationals in Atlanta scheduled for June: Joseph O’Connor – 1st Place in Desktop Publishing Application; Melanie Reyes – 2nd Place for FBLA Principles and Procedures; Team of Ben Estrella, Vince Spina, and Alex Steigerwalt – 3rd place for Management Decision Making; and Jake Sarwar and Abby Ertle – 4th Place in American Enterprise Project. In addition, PV FBLA was recognized for being 1st in the State Project Collection for the Ronald McDonald House raising \$7399.
- The Key Club is hosting PV IDOL You Got Talent on April 29th.

- Important dates:
 - May 11th 6:00 PM – PVHS Performing and Visual Arts Awards Ceremony
 - May 18th 6:00 PM –PVHS Academic Awards Ceremony
 - May 25th 6:00 PM – PVHS Athletic Awards Ceremony
 - June 10th 7:00 PM – Graduation

HUMAN RESOURCES: Dr. John T. Burrus

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

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

	Name	Position	Salary	Location	Start Date
1.	Liza LoMonaco	Substitute Health Room Technician	Per Board Policy		TBD
2.	Joanne Russo	Substitute Custodian	Per Board Policy		TBD
3.	Ashley Burney	Substitute Secretary/Monitor	Per Board Policy		TBD
4.	Kasey Galasso	Substitute Teacher - Elementary PK-4	Per Board Policy		TBD
4.	Talitha Graham	Spring Remediation Teacher (full credit - 30 hrs.) Biology/Chemistry	Per Supplemental Contract	PVHS	April 25-May 13, 2016
5.	Izabela Moscicki	Part-time Food Service Employee, 10:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.	\$10.27/hr.	PVHS	May 2, 2016
6.	Debra Munoz	Custodian, second shift, Monday-Thursday and Saturday	Step 3, \$16.75/hr.	PVMS	May 2, 2016
7.	Carolina Nunes-Rosa	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate	\$10,521.50/prorated	PVHS	TBD
8.	Deb Stewart	Spring Remediation Teacher (full credit - 30 hrs.) Biology/Chemistry	Per Supplemental Contract	PVHS	April 25-May 13, 2016
9.	Danielle Unger	Spring Remediation Teacher (full credit - 30 hrs.) Biology/Chemistry	Per Supplemental Contract	PVHS	April 25-May 13, 2016

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

	Name	Position	Start Date
1.	Michele Cannarella	Food Service Employee, PVHS, from 10:00 a.m.-1:45 p.m. to 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	May 13, 2016
2.	Zdenka Hic	Food Service Employee, PVHS, from 10:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m. to 10:00 a.m.-1:45 p.m.	May 13, 2016

Approval of #7.c. –The following resignation: Sabrina Roman, Part-time Paraprofessional Associate, PVHS, effective May 13, 2016.

Approval of #7.d. – The following retirement: Sharan Wernett, Food Service Employee, effective the last day of the 2015-2016 school year.

Approval of #7.e. - The following individual has 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: Joyce Bereznak

Approval of #7.f. – Agreement between Pleasant Valley School District and Previous Employee 042832322016.

Approval of #7.g. - Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Pleasant Valley School District and the Pleasant Valley Educational Support Professionals' Association per the attached.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Kenneth Newman

Mr. Newman stated that he will be seeking approval of the Professional Development Proposal submitted by Dr. Riccomini. He said that this item has been discussed at the last couple of meetings and that he as well as Ms. Liddic has been in contact with Dr. Riccomini. Dr. Riccomini has agreed to decrease his fees and will provide the same level of training in the proposal; offer the webinars at no charge, and the face to face trainings at \$4,000, the total not to exceed \$48,000.

Ms. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Gould to approve agenda item #8a: Request for Professional Development provided by Dr. Paul Riccomini to train teachers in research based strategies that will assist struggling learners in Mathematics. The training will be provided to teachers as described in the attached proposal (**updated quote 4-27-16 not to exceed \$48,000). The professional development meets state grant funding requirements. Updates on the professional development will be provided to the Board at least quarterly.

Prior to the roll call vote, Mr. Wunder expressed that he would like to table this issue due to his concerns about the cost of this training. He compared it with what other institutions such as the IU are paying and, in addition, he would like to know what amount other school districts are paying. Mr. Newman pointed out that the contract with the IU has not changed for ten years. Ms. Liddic stated that Tunkhannock School District pays \$5,000 and out of state Dr. Riccomini charges at least \$6,500. Ms. Liddic expressed the positive effects of this training and that further delay might result in losing the scheduled time frame.

Mr. Wunder motioned to table agenda item #8.a – Professional Development provided by Dr. Riccomini, pending further discussion concerning fees. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zacharias.

Prior to the roll call vote, further discussion was held. Ms. Kresge expressed her concerns that tabling at this time would affect the assurance of Dr. Riccomini’s services. Mr. Newman stated that Dr. Riccomini would possibly not hold his dates for us. Mr. Peeters expressed that he is not in favor of the proposal and Mr. Wisser also expressed his disapproval. Mr. Serfass expressed his concerns about the fluctuation in the costs and that more research should be done expressing concerns that we have not seen results of this training. Ms. Kresge suggested approving the proposal with a caveat of not to exceed a certain amount. Ms. Kresge stated that we only have had this proposal for one year and it has been recommended by administrators as leaders in education and although she understands all the concerns expressed, feels we should support this staff development proposal. Mr. Wisser stated that he understands that it has been recommended by our leaders in education, but wants to see the results before going forward. Ms. Liddic explained the process of obtaining data and further discussion was held.

Ms. Malligo stated that she was a math teacher for ten years and expressed her opinion on how Dr. Riccomini’s training has provided the teachers the ability to change the way they teach and change the way they learn from an elementary to a secondary perspective. Ms. Malligo encouraged the Board to support this proposal. Ms. Liddic again expressed the possibility of Dr. Riccomini not holding our spot for this training if we delay.

ROLL CALL 6-1 CARRIED

Voting No: Ms. Kresge

Mr. Newman asked the Board for direction on proceeding and the amount that they are willing to pay. Mr. Gould expressed the need for more information about the fees and lengthy discussion was held. Ms. Kresge stated that we need to make sure we are comparing “apples to apples” when looking at what other institutions are paying. Mr. Gould stated that this will be discussed further at the next meeting and Mr. Newman was directed to contact Dr. Riccomini.

Agenda item #8.b. - Informational – Ms. Keri Ramsay, Reading Supervisor, provided a written ELA update which was attached to the agenda.

SUPPORT SERVICES: Mr. Joshua Krebs

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

Approval of #9.a. – Long Term Substantial Volunteers:

1. Juliet Salzman - PVE
2. Janellea Macbeth - PVE

Approval of #9.b. - Facility Use Request

A.	Organization	PVYA
	Facility Requested	Middle School Gymnasiums, Café, Lobby Area
	Purpose	Summer Recreation Camp
	Dates/Times	June 13, 2016 – July 21, 2016 Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 3:30 pm
	Requestor	Hope Smith
	Attendance	50-80
	Tuition	N/A
	Fee by District	As Per Lease Agreement

Approval of #9.c. – 2016-2017 Supplemental/Co-Curricular Positions:

Marching Band

Assistant Director: Aaron Boligitz

Assistant: Courtney Munier

Approval of #9.d. – The following field trip request:

Grade/Organization: 10-12 FBLA

Teacher(s) Involved: Melissa Ruschak

Destination: Atlanta, GA

Purpose: To compete in the National FBLA Leadership Conference

Date(s): June 27, 2016 - July 3, 2016

District Buses Needed (#): None

Cost for District: \$8,306.00 (\$1,200 will be reimbursed to the district if students fulfill all sessions)

All travelers have paid \$300 deposit

Approval of #9.e. - Hiring of Varsity Cheerleading Coach (pending receipt of all required paperwork):
Erin Hnat.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #9.f. – Informational: District Events from April 29, 2016 through May 12, 2016 was provided.

BUILDING REPORTS (Agenda item #10):

Pleasant Valley Elementary School: Ms. Erica Greer

A written informational report was provided. Ms. Greer provided the Board with the Playbill of the Pleasant Valley Elementary School Talent Showcase held on April 16th which was brought by the PVE PTO. In addition, Ms. Greer shared a letter received from a state senator in response to a letter written by Ms. Hardy, second grade teacher, regarding their habitat projects. She also shared that through our strong partnership with ESU, PVE had 60 student teachers in the building this year working towards their teaching certifications. Ms. Greer stated that three of our student teachers submitted their proposals for the University of Wide Research Symposium held at ESU and all three were accepted.

Pleasant Valley Middle School: Mr. Rocco Seiler

A written informational report was provided. Mr. Seiler also congratulated the students who competed in the Reading Olympics at Easton Area School District and placed 11 out of 29 schools competing. Mr. Seiler extended an invitation to attend the drama play of *Cinderella and the Candy Kingdom* which will be held on May 6th and May 7th.

Pleasant Valley Intermediate School: Ms. Cassandra Herr

A written informational report was provided. Ms. Herr congratulated 4th grade teacher, Lauren Cieslak for being honored at a banquet as teacher of the year for Kappa Delta Pi. She also expressed her pride for students competing in the Sixth Sense Competition.

Pleasant Valley High School – Mr. John Gress

Mr. Gress provided a written informational report. Mr. Gress reported on an assembly held where Pocono Medical Center with their EMS Support Team, as well as the West End Ambulance Association, were present to speak to seniors to reinforce safety especially at this time of year with upcoming prom and graduation.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Ms. Susan Famularo

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

Approval of #11.a. – Cafeteria Accounts Payable for March 2016 – Total amount: \$180,854.93
Bills Payable for March 2016 – Total amount: \$81,985.39

Approval of #11.b. – Contracts:

- A. Moes. Fundraiser for Pleasant Valley High School Class 2019 to be held May 4, 2016.
- B. American Tennis Courts, Inc. Cost: Not to exceed \$165,760.50 paid from Emmaus Bond Fund. Six Tennis Courts to be refurbished.
- C. Tyco Simplex Grinnell. Cost: \$39,127.00. Pleasant Valley Elementary Fire Panel.
- D. Tyco Simplex Grinnell. Cost: \$1,792.17. Supply and replace Horn/Strobes.
- E. Trane. Cost: \$4,950.88. One (1) Year Service Agreement for Chillers at Pleasant Valley Middle School.
- F. Otis Elevator Company. Cost: \$3,288.00. Repair of elevator at Pleasant Valley Middle School, furnish and install a Solid-State Starter.
- G. Tremco. Cost: Not to exceed \$900.00. Patch and repair roof at Pleasant Valley High School Gymnasium.

Approval of #11.c. - Workman's Compensation Insurance with School District Insurance Consortium for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$431,812 for the Central Fund Contribution and \$77,339 for the school districts' Self Insured Retention. Total cost \$509,151 (subject to 5% Certified Safety Committee discount \$25,458.)

Approval of #11.d. - Taxpayer request - recommendation that the Board deny the taxpayer request for a refund of penalties and interest on 2015 taxes on parcel 15/4/2/23.

Approval of #11.e. - Payment from Courtyard Garden Account: The following invoice was recommended for payment: Check #196 Kim Economy – Spring Flowers and Mulch - \$95.99.

Approval of #11.f. – The following Student Placements:

Student #031416NW - Northampton County Juvenile Detention & Treatment Center - Effective 3/14/16

Approval of #11.g. - BHA- Behavioral Health Associates - Cost Savings Program in the cost savings program for 2016-2017 school year. The program requests a 20% down payment in advance allowing BHA to offer reduced daily tuition rates. The down payment is due on July 15, 2016 and returned to Pleasant Valley School District in five equal installments from October 2016 through February 2017.

Approval of #11.h. - Loan Agreement - request that the newly appointed Tax Collector of Eldred Township, Laura H. Hoffman receive the sum of Three Thousand (\$3,000.00) Dollars as a loan from the Pleasant Valley School District which shall be utilized by the Tax Collector to maintain a balance in the tax account.

Approval of #11.i. - Authorization for Services with Barry Isett & Associates, Inc. for design, bid phase, and construction phase services for Pleasant Valley Intermediate stairs and ramp repair design at a cost not to exceed \$14,600.

Approval of #11.j. - Purchase of used golf cart for Pleasant Valley Middle School Athletics at a cost not to exceed \$3,500.00.

Approval of #11.k. - Award of the RFP for Internal Connections Equipment and/or Services for Wireless Upgrade at Pleasant Valley High School to Frontier at a cost of \$153,982.20 (E-rate)

Approval of #11.l. – Upgrade the IntegraOne Phone System at a cost of \$63,170.60.

Approval of #11.m. - Purchase of a replacement projector for the Pleasant Valley High School new auditorium from Total Video Products in the amount of \$10,230.00.

Approval of #11.n. - Pleasant Valley High School RTU compressor replacement: Trane. Cost: \$8,922.00. Replacement of RTU Compressor at Pleasant Valley High School.

ROLL CALL 6-1 CARRIED
Voting No: Ms. Kresge

Ms. Kresge stated that there are many upgrades at significant costs and she would rather put that money towards staff development and therefore, voted no on the Business Management report.

Agenda item #11.o. – Informational:

A. Student Activity Accounts

Beginning Balance, March 1, 2016: \$280,458.73

Receipts: \$28,495.40

Expenditures: \$33,768.77

Ending Balance, March 31, 2016: \$275,185.36

B. District Investment Report for March 31, 2016

SOLICITOR: Robert Kidwell, Esq. – No report.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS: None.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS: None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting: May 12, 2016 @ 8:00 PM