

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the July 17, 2014 Board of Education Meeting

Board approved 8-14-14

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Russell Gould, President

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on July 17, 2014 and called to order by Board President, Russell Gould at 8:02 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Bob Serfass 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, Brodheadsville, PA 18322.

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

School Board members in attendance: Russell Gould, President, Steve Borger, Vice President, H. Charles Hoffman, Treasurer, Susan Kresge, Linda Micklos, Bob Serfass and Dan Wunder. Absent: Dominick Sacci and Len Peeters.

Administrative staff in attendance: Chris Fisher, Assistant to the Superintendent, Ken Newman, Assistant to the Superintendent, John Burrus, Director of Human Resources, Monica Kotzmann, Administrative Assistant to the Business Manager. Building administrators in attendance: Rocco Seiler, Tresa Malligo, John Gress, Erica Greer, and Joshua Krebs.

School Solicitor present: Mr. Daniel Corveleyn.

Notification of Executive Session: Mr. Gould announced that an executive session was held on June 26, 2014 immediately following the regularly scheduled meeting for purposes of personnel matters. In addition, Mr. Gould announced that an executive session was held on June 30, 2014 for the purposes of personnel matters and on July 17, 2014 prior to this 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: None.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Ms. Susan Famularo

Ms. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on June 26, 2014.

CARRIED: 7-0

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. H. Charles Hoffman

Ms. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve agenda item #3 per attached, as follows:

- #3.1 Accounts Payable - 6-27-14 to 6-30-14
- #3.2 Accounts Payable – 6-1-14 to 6-30-14 (Manual Checks)
- #3.3 Accounts Payable – 7-1-14 to 7-17-14
- #3.4 Trial Balance-Financial Statement 6-30-14
- #3.5 Asset Cost Summary 6-30-14
- #3.6 Condensed Board Summary-Expenditures/Revenues 6-30-14

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

The Accounts Payable (#3.7) approved at the June 26, 2014 Board meeting was provided for informational purposes.

OLD BUSINESS

Solicitor: Mr. Daniel Corveleyn – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Monroe Career & Technical Institute: - Mr. Dominick Sacci

No report. It was stated that there was no meeting held this month.

Colonial IU#20: Mr. Daniel Wunder

No report. Mr. Wunder stated that there was no meeting held this month.

PSBA Legislative Liaison Report: Ms. Susan Kresge

Ms. Kresge reported that on July 10th Governor Corbett signed HB 2328, which is now Act 1A of 2014 – the 2014-15 state budget with line item cuts of about 72 million dollars in funds for general assembly and other designated spending. Ms. Kresge stated that none of those cuts will affect education spending. Ms. Kresge also stated that she read an article appearing in the Morning Call that reported Parkland School District's subsidy has been reduced. As of yet, we do not know where we stand and Ms. Kresge asked Ms. Kotzmann if she had any information. Ms. Kotzmann said that as of today, no information was on the PDE website. Mr. Gould questioned the fact that all school districts do not get the information at the same time.

SUPERINTENDENT-REPORT/REQUESTS: Ms. Carole Geary (Mr. Fisher reported in Ms. Geary's absence)

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

Approval of #6.1 – Policies as follows:

- Policy No. 000. Board Policy Procedures/Administrative Regulations
- Policy No. 001. Name and Classification
- Policy No. 002. Authority and Powers

Approval of #6.2 – Appointment of Ms. Sue Kresge and Mr. Len Peeters as PSBA Delegates.

Solicitor, Daniel Corveleyn, addressed the purchase of Eldred Elementary School. He read a statement outlining the conditions of the sale as follows:

The Board hereby approves the transfer and conveyance of the Eldred Elementary School property including both contiguous parcels with the school building subject to the following:

1. The township solicitor shall be given the opportunity to review the appraisal for the property dated October 11, 2013 and receive a redacted copy of the document;
2. The school district and township solicitors shall define the action of the township that will invoke the required reverter provision in the deed of conveyance which will be set forth in the formal agreement of sale that will survive the tender of the deed. This language must be approved by the school board at a meeting to be held on August 28, 2014; and
3. The school district shall allow the township a period until the close of business on August 28, 2014 to conduct the inspection of the building, which may allow the township to terminate the agreement if the inspection reveals any defects that are deemed to be material by the township.

Chris Fisher clarified #2 above that the particulars of the sale must be satisfactorily defined to the Board for ultimate request for approval at the second Board meeting in August. At that time, the Board will then make a final decision. Mr. Corveleyn also stated that if after the inspection referred to in #3 above, the township finds material defects and wishes to terminate the agreement, then #2 would become moot.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #6.3 – First reading policies (003, 004, and 005) were attached for review.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Dr. John T. Burrus

Ms. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve agenda item #8 as follows:

Approval of #8.1 – Hiring of Personnel:

	NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP/CREDITS	OPENING
1.	Kenneth Lursen	Security Officer, Casual to Security Officer, Part-time	As per the current School Police/Security Department Compensation Plan	
2.	Michael Menzoff	Security Officer, Casual to Security Officer, Part-time	As per the current School Police/Security Department Compensation Plan	
3.	Zachary Nagy	Summer Computer Technician/Substitute Computer Technician	\$10.47 per hour	
4.	Paul Nieves	Security Officer Part-time to Security Officer, Full-time	As per the current School Police/Security Department Compensation Plan	
5.	Deborah Sandt	Bookkeeper	Annual salary of \$28,199	Effective July 14, 2014
6.	Marcia Taylor	Bookkeeper	Annual salary of 28,199, prorated	Effective July 21, 2014
7.	Kris Meckes	Middle School Athletic Director/Dean of Students	Per Supplemental Contract	

Approval of #8.2 – Leaves of Absence:

	NAME	POSITION	LEAVE	DAYS	DATES
1.	Walter Farrington	Maintenance Technician	Family and Medical Leave	Seventeen and one-half (17.5)	June 4 through June 27, 2014
2.	Michael Gold	Part-time Paraprofessional Associate	Leave without pay	One-half (.5)	June 16, 2014
3.	Connie Saba	Full-time Paraprofessional Associate-Library	Leave without pay	Two (2)	May 5 and June 5, 2014
4.	Kristine Delmas	Full-time Paraprofessional Associate	Family and Medical Leave	Six (6)	April 14, 2014 through April 24, 2014

Approval of #8.3 – Letters of resignation from the following individuals:

- A. Anthony Candela, full-time security officer, effective August 8, 2014.
- B. Deanna DeFluri, part-time paraprofessional associate, effective June 18, 2014.

Approval of #8.4 - Letter of retirement from the following individual:

Mercedes Samson, part-time security officer, effective August 30, 2014.

Approval of #8.5

- As per the Confidential Secretaries Agreement, the salaries of the confidential secretaries including appropriate longevity awards for the 2014-2015 school year.
- As per the Superintendent's Agreement, based on a rating of satisfactory for the 2013-2014 school year, the salary of the Superintendent for the 2014-2015 school year.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

PROFESSIONAL, SUPPORT & PUPIL PERSONNEL: Mr. Christopher J. Fisher

Ms. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve agenda item #9 as follows:

Approval of #9.1 - Memorandum of Understanding by and between Lehigh Valley Physician Group and Pleasant Valley School District was granted to provide sports physicals for the 2014-2015 school year.

Approval of #9.2 - The use of school district facilities by local, state, and/or federal emergency service organizations and/or agencies for 2014-2015 as arranged through the Office of the Assistant to the Superintendent.

Approval of #9.3 - SAOs (Student Affiliated Organizations) for 2014-2015 as follows:

- Boys' Basketball Parents' Club
- Girls' Lacrosse Booster Club
- Girls' Soccer
- Lady Bears Basketball Parents
- PV All Sports Club
- PV Band Parents
- PV Baseball Booster Club
- PV Boys' Soccer Booster Club
- PV Cheerleading
- PV Elementary PTO
- PV Football Parents
- PV Intermediate PTO
- PV Middle School PTO
- PV Softball Booster Club
- PV Takedown Club (Wrestling)
- PV Volleyball Parents' Club
- URSA Parents (Field Hockey)

Approval of #9.4 – Purchase of 110 Cyber School in a Box Bundles for 2014-2015. The total cost will be \$467,500.00.

Approval of #9.5 – 2014-2015 Assistant Coaches:

- Varsity Football Assistant: Matthew Hagelgans
- Jr. High Football Assistant: Dan Beck
- Jr. High Football Assistant: Andre Myers

Approval of #9.6 – Facility use requests:

- A. Organization: Hoop Group Basketball Camp
 Facility Requested: High School Gymnasium
 Purpose: Basketball camp in the event of rain
 Dates/Times: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, August 18, 19, 20, 2014
 Requester: Christopher Zupko
 Attendance:
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 3, all appropriate fees apply
- B. Organization: "Forward Motion" (Ready Set Run/First Strides)
 Facility Requested: Outdoor school district grounds
 Purpose: Run/walk program
 Dates/Times: Tuesdays, July 23 to October 5, 2014, 6:00-7:30 pm
 Requester: Trish D'Imperio / Alicia Shelkin
 Attendance: 80
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 3, all appropriate fees apply

Approval of #9.7 – District event/entrance ticket prices for the 2014-2015 school year.

Approval of #9.8 – Volunteer Coach - Field Hockey: Angela Pachuta

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

Informational items (agenda item #9.9) included District Events from July 18, 2014 through August 14, 2014.

CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Kenneth Newman

Ms. Micklos motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve agenda item #10.1 to discard science textbooks from PVI.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

Mr. Newman addressed agenda item #12.6.C. – Step by Step Learning Contract for professional development, which was included in the Business Management portion of the agenda requesting Board approval in the amount of \$273,410. Mr. Newman provided an overview of some of the services covered by the contract including professional development training in Data Analysis Training of Trainers, Classroom Instructional Modeling focused on the Comprehensive Core Reading Program, Classroom Instructional Coaching, Connecting to the Classroom: Vocabulary, and Leadership Process and Content Coaching. He stated that the cost of the services have decreased from last year by \$26,590. He said four years ago, the cost of the training was \$600,000 all of which was obtained from grants. Mr. Newman said that the purpose of the PVIP initiative is to improve instruction in using the RtII model in the district. He shared data previously given by Ms. Geary and stated that in 2003-04 less than half of our kindergarten students were coming out benchmarked at grade level. This year 92% of kindergarten students were benchmarked at grade level at the end of the year. Mr. Newman stated that as we progressively receive this professional development, our student achievement has improved and said that at the end of the year,

we were at 80% - 92% at every grade level. In addition, Mr. Newman stated that all data analysis and instructional planning days are now on our Act 80 days which cover two days out of the classroom.

At the request of Mr. Fisher, Mr. Newman clarified that the use of the funds through the Accountability Block Grant are targeted for professional development. In addition Mr. Fisher asked Mr. Newman to define benchmarking and to explain RtII. Mr. Newman said that RtII (Response to Instruction and Intervention) is a model for students who are struggling and are given more assistance to bring them up to grade level. He stated that a benchmark is research that shows where a student is at a certain grade level at a certain period of time.

Ms. Kresge asked what grade levels were initiated in vocabulary this year. Mr. Newman said K-6 and it is not new to any grade level.

Mr. Gould stated that he would be voting no on this item because he needs to learn more about the program. He suggested bringing the participating teachers to a Board meeting and also asked that a comparative document be put together showing savings since the inception of the program. Mr. Newman stated that a presentation will be prepared. Mr. Gould asked how the decision of what teachers participate is made and Mr. Newman said that the data leaders would most likely be the teachers attending.

Ms. Kresge asked when the program was started. Mr. Newman said that it began in 2003-04.

Mr. Serfass asked if the data could be provided before the Step by Step Learning program began. Mr. Fisher stated that such data will be provided.

Ms. Micklos expressed her concern that even though the cost is through the Accountability Block Grant, we should be careful that we are spending it correctly. She asked if there are other programs available at a lesser cost. She expressed that she must be sure, as a Board member, that she makes the right decision for the good of the children and their future. She also stated that she does not feel the program that we have now is the best program. Mr. Newman stated that this program is the most comprehensive professional development group that he is aware of. Mr. Fisher again stated that a presentation will be put together for the next Board meeting.

BUILDING REPORTS:

Pleasant Valley Intermediate School: An informational report was included with the agenda (#11.2).

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Ms. Susan Famularo (Ms. Kotzmann reported in Ms. Famularo's absence)

Ms. Kresge motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve agenda item #12:

Approval of #12.1 – Cafeteria accounts payable for June 2014 - Total amount: \$225,040.11; Bills payable for June 2014 - Total amount: \$2,423.72

Approval of #12.2 - Invoice for payment from the Pleasant Valley High School Courtyard Garden Account: Check #190 Robert Young - Waterfall and Fountain Pump - \$201.98.

Approval of #12.3 - Invoice for payment from the 2006 Bond Fund in the amount of \$5,101.57.

Approval of #12.4 - New Vehicle for School Police Security was granted: 2014 Ford Utility AWD/with trade not to exceed \$21,000.

Approval of #12.5 - New Vehicle for Courier Van was granted: 2014 GMS Van not to exceed \$22,000.

Approval of #12.6 – The following contracts were granted:

A. Memorandum of Understanding between the Monroe County Conservation District/Monroe County Environmental Education Center and PVSD for the 2014-2015 school year.

- Kindergarten - Winter Bird Feeding - \$3.00/student.
- First Grade - Plants & Weather - \$110/class.

B. Benmore Enterprises, Michael P. Straka. Cost: \$450. Third grade assembly on rocks and minerals. Program to be held at Pleasant Valley Elementary School.

C. Step by Step Learning Contract. Cost: \$273,410. For training and services throughout the 2014-2015 school year, to be paid out of the Accountability Block Grant.

ROLL CALL: 7-0 CARRIED

Item #12.6.C 5-2 CARRIED

Voting No on Item #12.6.C: Mr. Gould

Voting No on Item #12.6.C: Ms. Micklos

Informational items provided in the report (#12.7) were attached and included Student Activity Accounts and the District Investment Report.

SOLICITOR: Mr. Daniel Corveleyn – No report.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS: None.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS

Ms. Gretchen Gannon Pettit, Eldred Township, expressed her concern regarding the discussion on the Step by Step Learning Program. She stated that she is concerned about trying to find another program and in her opinion, it sounds like a good program.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Hoffman motioned, seconded by Mr. Gould to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Kotzmann, Assistant Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting: August 14, 2014 @ 8:00 PM