

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheads ville, PA 18322

Minutes of the September 25, 2014 Board of Education Meeting

Board approved 10-9-14

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Russell Gould, President

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on September 25, 2014 and called to order by Board President, Russell Gould at 8:08 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Bob Hines 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 L. Duff

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

Administrative staff in attendance: Carole Geary, Superintendent, Chris Fisher, Assistant to the Superintendent, Ken Newman, Assistant to the Superintendent, Susan Famularo, Business Manager, Monica Kotzmann, Administrative Assistant to the Business Manager, Keri Ramsay, Reading Supervisor, and Josh Krebs, Mathematics Supervisor. Building administrators present: Bob Hines, John Gress, Erica Greer, Todd VanNortwick, Josephine Fields, Tresa Malligo, Doug Palmieri, Roger Pomposello, and Rocco Seiler.

School Solicitor present: Mr. Daniel Corveleyn

Notification of Executive Session: Mr. Gould announced that an executive session was held on September 25, 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

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on September 11, 2014.

CARRIED: 8-0

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. H. Charles Hoffman

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

Approval of #3.1 Accounts Payable – 9-12-14 through 9-25-14

ROLL CALL: 7-0-1

Voting No on Check #00208036: Len Peeters
Abstention Form attached

The Accounts Payable (#3.2) approved at the September 11, 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 – Not present; no report.

Colonial IU#20: Mr. Daniel Wunder

Mr. Wunder provided the Board with an informational report on the CIU20 Board of Director's meeting held on Wednesday, September 24, 2014. He informed everyone of the agenda items addressed including teachers completing the CIU20 Induction Program, approval of Alternative Education Agreement and Truancy Agreement with Northampton County, approval of the Textbooks for 2014-15, approval of three new classroom positions, memorandum of understanding with the Bethlehem, Palmer Township, and Bushkill Police Departments, and approval of an internship. There was routine approval of resignations,

appointments, leaves of absence, job-status changes, contracts for payment, and one addition to the substitute list. Mr. Wunder also highlighted the following action taken by the Board of Directors:

- The board approved the appointment of Aubry Kacsur as an Associate Teacher (1:1) to the Pleasant Valley Intermediate School.
- The board approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the CIU20 Educational Association. The Education Association had previously ratified the contract on Tuesday night.
- The board approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the CIU20 Educational Support Professional Association. Ratification by the ESPA is expected to follow.

In conclusion, Mr. Wunder stated that Dr. Brennan extended an invitation to all to attend *The Campaign for Fair Education Funding Videoconference Event* which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 30th from 7:00-8:45 PM at the IU20. In addition, a copy of this month's *Your IU Investment at Work!* pamphlet was provided.

PSBA Legislative Liaison Report: Ms. Susan Kresge

Ms. Kresge provided information she received from PSBA regarding Senate Bill 76, which the Senate Finance Committee recently approved. She indicated that PSBA is asking that we write or call our senators to oppose this legislation, which eliminates property taxes and will effectively cut public education funding. Ms. Kresge also stated, as contained in information received from PSBA, that while this plan seemingly provides an alternative to an overreliance on local school property taxes, the shifting of the property tax burden merely serves to continue the current disparities in education funding and significantly underfund schools.

Student Government Representative: Michelle Heckelman, President

Ms. Heckelman provided an informational report as Student Government President. She stated it was a great start to the school year and said during the first week, class meetings were held to welcome students back to school and review building procedures and expectations. Other items reported are as follows:

- Tuesday, September 23rd, student portraits were taken for the 2014-15 yearbook. Funds were raised by allowing students to dress in non-uniform clothing for their pictures.
- The Future Business Leaders of America are sponsoring The Red Cross Blood Drive on November 7th.
- High School students are looking forward to the Homecoming game scheduled for Friday, October 31st as well as the annual homecoming dance scheduled for Saturday, November 1st.
- Spirit Week begins on October 20th and the bucket game will be held on Friday, October 24th at Pocono Mountain East. Preparations are being made i.e., hallway decorating, class skits and the pep rally.
- The PSAT will be administered at the high school during the school day on October 15th.
- September 9th, the students auditioned for the fall drama production, *Cheaper by the Dozen* and all are looking forward to seeing the stars of the show shine on stage.
- The HOPE initiative continues to thrive with many activities being planned for the school year.

SUPERINTENDENT-REPORT/REQUESTS: Ms. Carole Geary

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

Approval of #6.1 – Superintendent's Performance Standards for 2014-2015.

Approval of #6.2 – Appointment of the following Trustees to the Western Pocono Community Library Board of Trustees for a three-year term to expire in October 2017: Karen Catina and Debby York.

Approval of #6.3 – The following policies were brought before the Board for approval:

Policy No. 006 Meetings and Policy No. 011 Board Governance Standards/Code of Conduct

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

Voting No on Policy 011: Linda Micklos

Agenda item #6.4 – The following policies were noted on the Board agenda for a second reading:

- A. Policy No. 100 Comprehensive Planning
- B. Policy No. 101 Mission Statement/Vision Statement/Shared Values
- C. Policy No. 102 Academic Standards
- D. Policy No. 103 Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices
- E. Policy No. 104 Nondiscrimination in Employment and Contract Practices
- F. Policy No. 628 Procurement Cards

Approval of these policies will be sought at the October 9, 2014 Board meeting.

Agenda item #6.5 – The following policies were provided for a first reading:

- A. Policy No. 103.1 Chapter 15/Section 504
- B. Policy No. 105 Curriculum
- C. Policy No. 105.1 Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/Guardians and Students
- D. Policy No. 106 Guides for Planned Instruction
- E. Policy No. 107 Adoption of Planned Instruction

Approval of these policies will be sought at the October 23, 2014 Board meeting:

OTHER:

Ms. Geary recognized and thanked the PVI PTO and the West End Soccer League for their donation of kickballs for the Pleasant Valley Intermediate School.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Dr. John T. Burrus – In Dr. Burrus’ absence, Mr. Fisher reported asking for approval of both the Human Resources report and the Professional, Support & Pupil Personnel Services report.

Mr. Hoffman motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve agenda item #8 and agenda item #9 as follows:

Approval of #8.1 – Hiring of Personnel (pending receipt of all required paperwork):

	NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP/CREDITS	OPENING
1.	Drita Beskovic	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time/Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	\$20,331 prorated	PVMS, effective September 26, 2014
2.	Dominique DiCola	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time/Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	\$20,331 prorated	PVMS, effective September 26, 2014
3.	India Johnson	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time/Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	\$20,331 prorated	PVMS, effective September 26, 2014
4.	Fannie Boeman	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time	\$20,331 prorated	PVE, effective September 29, 2014
5.	Deena Boyne	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time	\$20,331 prorated	PVE, effective September 29, 2014
6.	Leticia DiPipi	Long-term substitute 4th grade teacher	\$40,900, prorated. BS, Step 1 credit level	PVI, effective October 8, 2014
7.	Katie Monahan	Long-term substitute 2nd grade teacher	\$40,900, prorated. BS, Step 1 credit level	PVE, effective September 26, 2014
8.	Kelley Smith	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional Associate	As per Board policy	
9.	Diana Graziano	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time/Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	\$20,331 prorated	PVE effective September 29, 2014
10.	Jeremy Goff	Homebound Instructor	As per Board policy	
11.	Jennifer Keller	Homebound Instructor	As per Board policy	
12.	Katherine Britton	Homebound Instructor	As per Board policy	
13.	Christina Novak	Homebound Instructor	As per Board policy	
14.	Jen Boyle	Homebound Instructor	As per Board policy	
15.	Christopher O'Connor	Security Officer-Casual	As per the current School Police/Security Department Compensation Plan	
16.	Ashley Smith	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time/Substitute Paraprofessional	\$20,331 prorated	PVE, effective October 6, 2014

		Associate		
17.	Kasi Reborchick	Substitute Teacher	As Per Board Approved Rate	TBD
18.	Cassandra Moyer	Substitute Teacher	As Per Board Approved Rate	TBD
19.	Troy Kunz	Substitute Teacher	As Per Board Approved Rate	TBD
20.	Kelly Simpson	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time/Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	\$20,331 prorated	PVE, effective date TBD
21.	Jennifer Adamski	Paraprofessional Associate-part-time/Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	\$20,331 prorated	PVE, effective date TBD

Approval of #8.2 – Leaves of Absence – (Leave without Pay - Employees will be responsible for the payment of any benefits the District provides during this period of leave.)

	NAME	POSITION	LEAVE	DAYS	DATES
1.	Michele Cannarella	Food Service Employee	Leave without pay	Three (3)	November 24, 25 and 26, 2014
2.	Scott Castone	Teacher	Leave without pay	Two (2)	November 12 and 13, 2014
3.	Marie Hample	Custodian	Family & Medical Leave	Eleven and one-quarter (11.25)	August 7, 2014 through August 24, 2014
4.	Alison Sizemore	Monitor	Leave without pay	Three (3)	November 12, 13, and 14, 2014
5.	Elizabeth Drinkwater	Monitor	Leave without pay	Amend to reflect Four (4)	September 30 through October 3, 2014
6.	Misty Falcone-Smith	Teacher	Leave without pay	One (1)	December 5, 2014
7.	Marie Sottile	Secretary	Family & Medical Leave-Intermittent	One (1)	September 16, 2014

Approval of #8.3 – The following resignations were accepted:

- A. Ms. Sally Schwartz, PVE part-time Paraprofessional Associate, effective June 18, 2014.
- B. Ms. Christine Lorch, substitute teacher, effective August 1, 2014.
- C. Mr. Mark Meinhart, Director of Buildings & Grounds (separation date to be determined).

Approval of #8.4 - Affiliation Agreement between Kutztown University and Pleasant Valley School District for a period of five (5) years from the effective date of September 25, 2014. The purpose of the Affiliation Agreement is to define the roles and responsibilities in the planning and implementation of the clinical experience for students in the field of education. This is a renewal agreement.

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

Approval of #9.1 – Facility Use Requests as follows:

- A. Organization: PVYA
 Facility Requested: High School, Middle School, PVI, and PVE Gyms
 Purpose: Practices and games for basketball, lacrosse, baseball, and to host CBL U15 Tournament
 Dates/Times: Monday-Friday, November 8, 2014 to March 28, 2015, 6:00-9:00 pm
 Saturdays and Sundays, 8:00 am-8:00 pm
 Requester: Hope Smith
 Attendance: 20-100
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 3, all appropriate fees apply
- B. Organization: PVYA
 Facility Requested: High School new (large) gym and lobby
 Purpose: Registration and clinic
 Dates/Times: Saturday, October 11, 2014, 8:00 am-2:00 pm
 Saturday, October 18, 2014, 8:00 am-2:00 pm
 Requester: Hope Smith

- Attendance: 20-100
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 3, all appropriate fees apply
- C. Organization: PVYA
 Facility Requested: Middle School field hockey field
 Purpose: Field hockey clinic and practice
 Dates/Times: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, September 25, 2014-October 30, 2014
 Requester: Hope Smith
 Attendance: 20
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 3, all appropriate fees apply
- D. Organization: American Cancer Society
 Facility Requested: Middle School cafeteria
 Purpose: Monthly meetings
 Dates/Times: 2nd Wednesday each month, Oct. 15, 2014-May 13, 2015, 5:30-7:30 pm
 Requester: Mike Hurley
 Attendance: 10-30
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 3, all appropriate fees apply
- E. Organization: American Cancer Society
 Facility Requested: High School stadium, concession, restrooms, parking lot, new gym
 Purpose: ACS Relay for Life
 Dates/Times: Thursday-Friday, May 28-29, 2015, 8:00 am-5:00 pm
 Saturday-Sunday, May 30-31, 2015, 10:00 am-5:00 pm
 Requester: Mike Hurley
 Attendance: 500
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 3, all appropriate fees apply
- F. Organization: PV ESPA
 Facility Requested: PVI cafeteria, stage
 Purpose: Santa Luncheon
 Dates/Times: Friday, December 5, 2014, 4:00-9:00 pm
 Saturday, December 6, 2014, 8:00 am-6:00 pm
 Sunday, December 7, 2014, 8:00 am-6:00 pm (snow date)
 Requester: Desiree Murray/Kathleen Maltez
 Attendance: 300
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 3, all appropriate fees apply
- G. Organization: First Student
 Facility Requested: High School cafeteria
 Purpose: Kick off meeting
 Dates/Times: Wednesday, August 19, 2015, 9:00 am-12:00 pm
 Requester: Karen DeNardo
 Attendance: 130
 Tuition: N/A
 Fee by District: Class 4, all appropriate fees apply

Approval of #9.2 – Winter Intramural Advisors as follows:

Middle School Ski Club: Mr. Robert Petit-Clair
 Ms. Cindy Siekonic
 Ms. Tara Bunchalk-Orefice
 Mr. Tim Ernest
 Ms. Vanessa Fego

Approval of #9.3 – Winter Assistant Coaching Positions as follows:

- A. 7th Grade Girls' Basketball: Ms. Rollene Gougher
- B. JV Wrestling: Mr. William Gougher
- C. Winter Cheerleading: Ms. Jessica Holmes

Approval of #9.4 – 2014-2015 Co-curricular Advisor Positions as follows:

- A. Art Club - MS: Ms. Robin Feerrar
- B. Chess Club - HS: Mr. Paul Nale
- C. Drama Set Design - MS: Ms. Robin Feerrar
- D. Fly Tying - MS: Ms. Roxanne Altemose
- E. Key Club - HS: Ms. Stacey McKee
- F. Musical Set Design - MS: Ms. Robin Feerrar
- G. National Junior Honor Society - MS: Ms. Lorrie Snyder

- H. National Senior Honor Society - HS: Mr. Paul Nale
- I. PVI Drama Director: Ms. Nadine Snyder
- J. PVI Asst. Drama Director: Ms. Sandra Stone
- K. Sophomore Class Advisor: Mr. Mark Tramontina

Approval of #9.5 – Volunteer Coach – Freshman Football: Mr. Paul Audett

Approval of #9.6 – Field Trip Request as follows:

Grade/Organization: Ecology Club, grades 7-8
Teacher(s) Involved: Ms. Claudia Hill, Ms. Susan Pekala
Destination: Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
Purpose: Biology and ecology of Pennsylvania raptors
Date(s): Thursday, October 23, 2014 (rain date Friday, October 24, 2014)
District Buses Needed: 1
Cost per Student: \$4.00

ROLL CALL 8-0 CARRIED

Informational items (agenda item #9.7) included district events from September 25, 2014 through October 9, 2014.

CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Kenneth Newman

Agenda Item #10.1 – Reading/Language Arts – An informational report was provided to the Board. Mr. Newman stated that Ms. Ramsay and Mr. Krebs will be alternating Board meetings providing their respective reports in reading and mathematics.

Agenda Item #10.2 – Mr. Newman provided an informational report on the 2013-2014 State Assessment Data. His PowerPoint presentation included data in reading, grades 3-8; math, grades 3-8; writing, grades 5 & 8; and science, grades 4 & 8. In addition, data regarding the Keystone Assessments at the high school in literature, algebra 1 and biology were provided. Mr. Newman stated that this data is overall district data comparing last year with this year results and state results. He stated that tomorrow, a staff development day, data analysis will take place wherein student data will be looked at individually. Discussion was held regarding the change from PA Academic Standards to PA Core Standards and how the switch has affected Pleasant Valley. Several Board members asked questions and expressed their opinion relative to the data. Comments were positive, neutral and negative. Mr. Newman stated that the PA Core Standards are more rigorous than the Academic Standards in reading and writing.

BUILDING REPORTS:

Pleasant Valley High School: Mr. John Gress

An informational report was provided. In addition, Mr. Gress welcomed Michelle Heckelman and thanked her for providing leadership at the high school. Mr. Gress also reported that back to school night was held last evening and was a great success. He spoke of the Student Leadership Program held by the new Eastern PA Conference where all 18 schools have four students per school take part in a leadership council. He will have more information in the future.

Pleasant Valley Middle School: Mr. Rocco Seiler

An informational report was provided. In addition, Mr. Seiler stated it was a great start to the school year and students are motivated and positive. Changes made in the school – 7th grade on the bottom floor and 8th grade on the top floor, and lunch times changed from 40 minutes to 30 minutes providing more instructional time has worked out well. Mr. Seiler said their first fire drill was held today and it went well.

Pleasant Valley Intermediate School: Mr. Todd VanNortwick

An informational report was provided. In addition, Mr. VanNortwick said it was a great start to the school year and everyone is excited. He said by the second day, all were focused and ready to go. He stated that PVI is implementing professional learning committees who will meet during faculty meetings which will ultimately improve student performance.

Pleasant Valley Elementary School: Ms. Erica Greer

An informational report was provided. In addition, Ms. Greer reported that in April, Polk PTO volunteer, Michelle Westerman, was nominated for Volunteer of the Year and won. She will be recognized in October in Pittsburgh. She is now the PVE PTO president for this year and over thirty people attended the PTO meeting this week.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Ms. Susan Famularo

Mr. Hoffman motioned, seconded by Ms. Kresge to approve agenda item #12 as follows:

Approval of #12.1 – Cafeteria Accounts payable for August 2014 - **Total amount: \$46,708.37;**
Bills payable for August 2014 - **Total amount: \$55,544.10.**

Approval of #12.2 – The following invoices for payment from the Bond Fund as indicated:
2009 Bond Fund as per attached \$37,431.00
2006 Bond Fund as per attached \$582.00

Approval of #12.3 – The following contracts:

- A. Krispy Kreme Fundraising. Fundraiser for Pleasant Valley Intermediate Student Activities. Effective January 12, 2015 through February 12, 2015.
- B. Scholastic Book Fair. Fundraiser for Pleasant Valley Elementary Student Activities. Effective September 17 and September 18, 2014.
- C. Gertrude Hawk Chocolates. Fund raiser for Pleasant Valley Elementary Student Activities. Effective February 2, 2015 through February 20, 2014.
- D. ArtsEcho. Cost: \$795.00. Performance of Arithmetickles to be held at Pleasant Valley Elementary School on Thursday, October 16, 2014.
- E. Tritt-Schell Consulting Services – E-Rate Consulting Services; Funding Year 2015; Fee: invoiced after the FY 2015 Form 471 has been submitted to USAC in April 2015.
- F. Devereux. Cost: \$4.25 per 15 minute increment at a one (1) to six (6) ratio for program services for the 2014-2015 school year.

Approval of #12.4 – The Resolution Supporting House Bill 2124 per the attached.

Approval of #12.5 – Student Placements as follows:

- A. Student #082514TG - La Sa Quick Residential Center - Effective 8/25/14.
- B. Student #070114CL - Glen Mills School - Effective 7/1/14.
- C. Student #090214GR - George Junior Republic - Effective 9/2/14.

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

Informational items (#12.5) included:

- A. Student Activity Accounts –
Beginning Balance, August 1, 2014: \$248,677.07
Receipts: \$18.00
Expenditures: \$5,705.17
Ending Balance, August 31, 2014: \$242,989.90
- B. District Investment Report for August 31, 2014.

SOLICITOR: Mr. Daniel Corveleyn – No report.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Mr. Borger questioned Senate Bill 76 as to whether or not we are opposing as a Board or individually. Ms. Kresge said PSBA is asking the Board to write or call opposing this Bill individually.

Ms. Kresge thanked Ms. Ramsay for providing her with the information she requested.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS: None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Hoffman motioned, seconded by Mr. Peeters to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting: October 9, 2014 @ 8:00 PM