

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the February 12, 2015 Board of Education Meeting

Board Approved 2-26-2015

CALL TO ORDER:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on February 12, 2015 and called to order by Board President Russell Gould at 8:01 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Linda Micklos 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, Len Peeters, Charles Hoffman, Treasurer, Dominick Sacci, Linda Micklos, Bob Serfass, Daniel Wunder. Absent: 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, Keri Ramsay, Reading Supervisor, Josh Krebs, Mathematics Supervisor.

School Solicitor present: Daniel Corveleyn, Esq.

Notification of Executive Session: Mr. Gould announced that an executive session was held on January 22, 2015 immediately following the regularly scheduled meeting for the purpose of personnel matters. In addition, an executive session was held on February 12, 2015 immediately 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. Mr. Gould further announced that an executive session would be held immediately following this meeting for the purposes of personnel matters.

Other: State Funding – Ms. Sandra Miller, Circuit Rider IU 18 and IU 20.

Mr. Wunder introduced Ms. Miller, the Circuit Rider who will provide information on The Basic Education Funding initiative. Ms. Miller provided handouts and showed a video regarding the BEF formula which she said has been an issue for a number of years. Ms. Miller stated that The Basic Education Funding Commission is a legislative commission authorized by Act 51 of 2014 and made up of 12 legislators and 3 administration officials. The task of the Commission is to create a new basic education funding formula with a report and recommendations issued by June 10, 2015. She said that the Campaign for Fair Education Funding is made up of a group of 50+ diverse organizations from across the Commonwealth. The common goal is to ensure that PA adopts a sustainable, predictable, adequate and equitable funding formula by 2016. Mr. Wunder questioned what has prevented this legislation so far and Ms. Miller stated that PA is one of three states that does not have a funding formula and said many states have mandated formulas as a result of legal challenges. She said education is a broad-based concern and it is recognized that we have to stabilize the funding.

Pleasant Valley Citizens: None.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Ms. Susan Famularo

Mr. Wunder motioned, seconded by Mr. Sacci to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on January 22, 2015.

CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. H. Charles Hoffman

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

Approval of #3.1 Accounts Payable 1-1-15 to 1-31-15 (Manual Checks)

Approval of #3.2 Accounts Payable 2-1-15 to 2-12-15

Approval of #3.3 Trial Balance/Financial Statement 1-31-15

Approval of #3.4 Asset Cost Summary 1-31-15

Approval of #3.5 Condensed Board Summary/Expenditures-Revenues 1-31-15

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

Abstained on #3.2 Check No. 00209366:

Linda Micklos (Abstention form attached)

The Accounts Payable (#3.6) approved at the January 22, 2015 Board meeting was provided for informational purposes.

OLD BUSINESS

Solicitor: Daniel Corveleyn, Esq. – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Monroe Career & Technical Institute: Ms. Linda Micklos

Ms. Micklos stated that the meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for February 17th. She also reported that she received an email regarding the SkillsUSA event held on February 4th in Allentown and stated that over thirty PV students placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd.

Colonial IU#20: Mr. Daniel Wunder

Mr. Wunder provided a report from the January 26th Board of Director’s meeting. He noted general items addressed at the meeting and the following items were of particular note:

- Approval was granted in providing a Mental Health Worker for the Emotional Support Class in the Pleasant Valley Middle School.
- The IU Board accepted a grant in the amount of \$3250.00 from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for “The Governor’s 1st PA STEM Competition”. The money will be distributed to four schools, one of which is Monroe Career & Technical School.
- Teams of students from across the Commonwealth will be challenged to conduct research, design, build, and present a device/project that is capable of making the quality of life better for citizens of Pennsylvania. Teams will be provided a \$500 stipend to design and build a prototype of their device/project that can accomplish a series of practical tasks that can be translated into real-life needs.
- Students will engage with their local community to learn about STEM related careers and the skills necessary to be successful. To culminate the experience students will be asked to present their findings and explain the practical applications of their device to a panel of judges. The challenge will test teams’ communication, problem solving, and critical thinking skills while providing a unique opportunity to share their creativity with other students from across the state.
- The IU Board also approved acceptance of a CareerLinking Academy Grant in the amount of \$6886.00.
- Pennsylvania CareerLink provides tools enabling employers and employees to connect with each other

Mr. Wunder also provided a copy of the current *Your Investment at Work* pamphlet.

PSBA Legislative Liaison Report: Ms. Susan Kresge (not present) – No report.

SUPERINTENDENT-REPORT/REQUESTS: Ms. Carole Geary

The enrollment report (agenda item #6.1) as of February 4, 2015 was provided. Ms. Geary stated that this is three or four months in a row that we are stable only being down by one student.

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

Approval of #6.2 – The 2015-2016 school calendar.

Approval of #6.3 – Homebound Instruction (Per Board policy, re-evaluation will be done in ninety (90) days):

Student No.	Reason
HB012915GN-I	Medical, retroactive to January 29, 2015
HB020915BS-H	Medical, retroactive to February 9, 2015

Approval of #6.4 – Waiver of Tuition:

- A. To waive the tuition, per Board Policy #202, to allow a twelfth grade student (student #012515FB-W) to finish her senior year in the Pleasant Valley School District.
- B. To waive the tuition, per Board Policy #202, to allow a twelfth grade student (student #020915PJ-W) to finish her senior year in the Pleasant Valley School District.

Approval of #6.5 – The following policies:

- A. Policy No. 137. Home Education Programs
- B. Policy No. 137.1. Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
- C. Policy No. 140. Charter Schools
- D. Policy No. 140.1. Extracurricular Participation by Charter/Cyber Charter Students
- E. Policy No. 146. Student Services

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

Ms. Geary noted that with regard to the approval of the 2015-2016 calendar (#6.2), the start date for students is August 31st which is in line with the agreement with the West End Fair Committee.

Agenda Item #6.6 – The following policies were provided for a first reading.

- A. Policy No.137. Home Education Programs
- B. Policy No. 137.1. Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
- C. Policy No. 140. Charter Schools
- D. Policy No. 140.1. Extracurricular Participation by Charter/Cyber Charter Students
- E. Policy No. 146. Student Services

These policies will be brought before the Board for approval at the March 12th Board meeting.

OTHER:

Ms. Geary stated that there were questions raised due to an article regarding the closing of two schools – Pius X and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. She said that there are 47 students from PV that attend those schools.

Ms. Geary commented on the SkillsUSA event that she attended and said that it was fascinating to watch and a great opportunity.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Dr. John T. Burrus

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve agenda item #8 as follows: #8.1 through #8.5:

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

	NAME	POSITION	SALARY	LOCA-TION	DESCRIPTION	START DATE
1.	Jessica Geisel	Substitute Teacher/ Paraprofessional Associate	As per Board policy			
2.	Antonella Haines	Paraprofessional Associate, part-time/ Substitute Paraprofessional Associate/ Secretary/Monitor/Cus- todian/Food Service Employee	\$10,165.50	PVHS		February 3, 2015
3.	Diane Metzgar	Substitute Food Service Employee/Secretary/ Monitor	As per Board policy			
4.	Deborah Walkowiak	Substitute Teacher/Art	As per Board policy			
5.	Melissa Dennis	Homebound Instructor	As per 2014-2017 Supplement al Contract			
6.	Rosemarie Aiello	Paraprofessional Associate/Substitute Paraprofessional Associate	\$10,165.50 prorated	PVI		

Approval of #8.2– Leaves of Absence (employees are responsible for benefit payments):

	NAME	POSITION	LEAVE	DAYS	DATES
1.	Deena Boyne	Secretary	Leave without pay	One (1)	February 2, 2015
2.	Jane Cadotte	Monitor	Leave without pay	One-half (.5)	January 21, 2015
3.	Beverly Cascioli	Custodian	Family & Medical Leave- Intermittent	Eighty-eight and .75	December 15, 2014 through the conclusion of the 2014-2015 school year
4.	Lorraine Danny	Monitor	Leave without pay	One (1)	January 21, 2015
5.	Diane DiBella	Paraprofessional Associate, part-time	Leave without pay	Six months	January 30, 2015 through June 4, 2015
6.	Barbara Lackey	Custodian	Family & Medical Leave	Additional Fifteen (15)	Anticipated return to service date of February 23, 2015
7.	Jenny Laubscher	Teacher	Family & Medical Leave	Six (6)	January 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, and 29, 2015
8.	Angenette Marbury	Paraprofessional Associate	PVMS	Nineteen (19)	January 23, 2015 and February 4 through March 2, 2015
9.	Gayle Markowski	Assistant Supervisor of Special Education	Family & Medical Leave- Intermittent	Nineteen (19)	December 8, 2014 (.5), December 9 with a return to work December 22, 2014 for (9) days; January 5, 2015 with a return to work January 19, 2015 for (10) days
10.	Christina Novak	Teacher	Family & Medical Leave- Intermittent	Three (3)	January 30, February 3 and 4, 2015
11.	Maria Sarwar	Paraprofessional Associate, part-time	Leave without pay	Four (4)	January 20 through January 23, 2015
12.	Rickie Serfass	School Police Officer	Leave without pay	One (1)	January 20, 2015
13.	Kelly Simpson	Paraprofessional Associate, part-time	Leave without pay	One (1)	January 9, 2015
14.	Joan Toolan	Paraprofessional Associate, part-time	Leave without pay	Two (2)	January 28 and 29, 2015
15.	Mark Tramontina	Teacher	Family & Medical Leave	Nine (9)	December 10 through 15 and December 17 through 23, 2014
16.	Danielle Unger	Teacher	Family & Medical Leave- Intermittent	One (1)	November 3, 2014
17.	Diane DeBarry	Paraprofessional Associate/Library- full-time	Leave without pay	Two (2)	February 19 and 20, 2015
18.	Marie Sottile	Secretary	Family & Medical Leave- Intermittent	One (1)	February 23, 2015

Approval of #8.3 – Sabbatical Leave of Absence: Kimberly Smith, 2nd grade reading specialist, effective for the 2nd semester of the 2014-2015 school year.

Approval of #8.4 – Extensions/additions/changes to current employee assignments:

	NAME	POSITION	START DATE
1.	Michelle Cannarella	Food Service Employee	New hours-10:00-1:45, PVHS
2.	Beth Archangel	Food Service Employee	New hours-8:30-1:45, PVE
3.	Kathy Ann McHugh	Food Service Employee	New hours-8:30-1:45, PVE
4.	Lisa Costenbader	Food Service Employee	New hours-8:55-1:45, PVE
5.	Lucy Lopez	Long-term substitute teacher for Melanie Bankus, PVMS (BS, Step 1)	Effective January 13, 2015 through on or about April 20, 2015
6.	Kelley Smith	Long-term substitute teacher for Rachel Frable, PVMS (BS, Step 1)	Effective January 13, 2015 through on or about March 30, 2015

Approval of #8.5 – The resignations of the following individuals:

- A. Debra George, substitute custodian, effective February 4, 2015.
- B. Tyler Hutta, substitute teacher, effective February 3, 2015.
- C. Dolores George, paraprofessional associate, part-time, effective February 6, 2015.

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

Ms. Micklos motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve agenda item #8.6 – Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Pleasant Valley School District and the Pleasant Valley Education Association for three (3) years, effective the 2015-16 school year through and including the 2017-2018 school year as per the Board of Education approved calendar.

ROLL CALL 8-0 CARRIED

CURRICULUM/STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Kenneth Newman

Agenda item #9.1 – Josh Krebs, Mathematics Supervisor, provided an informational report.

Mr. Newman handed out invitations to the Board for the Night of Unity event to be held on February 24th from 6:00-8:00 PM in the High School gym. He said there will be a table set up for PV School Board members. Mr. Wunder, Ms. Micklos, and Mr. Gould all expressed an interest in attending. Mr. Newman said that the snow date is the next day, February 25th.

OTHER: Mr. Kenneth Newman

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

Approval of #10.1 – The following resignation: Mr. Todd Urand as the Junior High Assistant Softball Coach.

Approval of #10.2 – The following long term substantial contact volunteer: Jill Skinner - PVE

Approval of #10.3 – Facility Use Request:

Organization: Girls on the Run
 Facility Requested: PVI outdoor running areas and indoor area if inclement weather
 Purpose: Running Education
 Dates/Times: Mondays and Wednesdays
 3/2/15 - 5/10/15
 Requestor: Dolores Everett
 Attendance: 20
 Tuition: \$10.00 - \$25.00
 Fee by District: Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply

Approval of #10.5 – PIAA Indoor Track and Field for 2015 only. Students that qualify will be permitted to represent PVSD at PIAA Indoor Track and Field Championships during the March 2015 events. All transportation and costs associated with the championships will be the responsibility of the participating athletes.

ROLL CALL 8-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #10.4 – Informational items included district events from February 13th through February 26th.

BUILDING REPORTS – No reports.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Ms. Susan Famularo

Approval of #12.1 – 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget – Ms. Famularo read the following statement:

This budget is presented to you in compliance with the requirements of Act 1 that a preliminary budget is adopted by February 18, 2015. This budget was presented at the January 8th Finance Committee meeting, distributed to the Board on January 19, 2015 and put up on public display. Notice of budget approval was advertised on January 26, 2015.

Appropriations for the 2015-2016 preliminary budget total \$100,124,036 and propose a real estate tax millage of 158.147 mills. This represents a 12.131 mill increase of 8.31% over the current year budget. This millage represents the Act 1 Index of 2.7% plus estimated exceptions for special education costs and employer retirement contributions.

This budget and its associated millage rate is the starting point in our budget process, and is consistent with the past practice of the school district to adopt a millage rate at the maximum allowable rate and refine cost projections, and millage, as estimates of costs and revenue estimates become more concrete towards the end of the budget process. State revenues are a large unknown item at this time. The new governor will be releasing his budget in March of this year.

This approach as in the past, gives the school district maximum flexibility moving through the budget process. Millage rates may be reduced, but not increased.

Mr. Peeters motioned, seconded by Mr. Wunder to approve agenda item #12.1. – 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget with appropriations in the amount of \$100,124,036 with a millage rate of 158.1470 mills.

ROLL CALL 8-0 CARRIED

Mr. Hoffman motioned, seconded by Mr. Serfass to approve agenda items #12.2-#12.9:

Approval of #12.2 – Advertisement of the intent to file for referendum exceptions under Act 1 for the 2015-2016 Budget. The school district will be filing for all exceptions for which we qualify.

Approval of #12.3 – The following contracts:

- A. Trane Building Services. Cost: Three (3) year maintenance contract for chillers at Polk Elementary School. Year 1 - \$1,659.00, effective April 1, 2015, Year 2 - \$1,725.00 effective April 1, 2016, Year 3 - \$1,794.00 effective April 1, 2017.
- B. Development Education Services of Monroe County, Inc. Cost: \$52.78/day, two (2) days per week. Beginning February 2015 and ending June 2015.

Approval of #12.4 – Agreement with Robert Palazzo, NCSP, to conduct an Independent Education Evaluation: \$2500 for evaluation/report plus \$200/hour for testimony.

Approval of #12.5 – General Fund transfer – \$10,000 to Capital Reserve as per 2014-2015 approved budget.

Approval of #12.6 – The following student placement:

Student #012715SH - Prospect Grove High School/Manos House - Effective 1/27/15.

Approval of #12.7 – Appointment of Judi Warner as Deputy Tax Collector to act on behalf of Sharon Steen, Tax Collector for Ross Township.

Approval of #12.8 – Letter of commitment for PVSD to participate in the CIU20 R-WAN Project to continue the regional education network for the period beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30,

2020. The Internet portion of this commitment is for the period beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2017. Total Monthly Cost is \$2,885.79.

Approval of #12.9 – Letter of Agency – E-rate Funding Years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

ROLL CALL: 8-0 CARRIED

SOLICITOR: Daniel Corveleyn, Esq. – No report.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Mr. Gould stated he received notice that PVE and PVI PTOs are holding a basket auction on February 21st and he would like the Board to participate. Ms. Geary said we would put a basket together.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS: None.

Mr. Gould reminded all that the Board would be going into executive session immediately following this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Hoffman motioned, seconded by Mr. Borger to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

Next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting: February 26, 2015 @ 8:00 PM