

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting
September 9, 2010

Board Approved September 23, 2010 Excellence in Education: A Community Commitment

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was called to order by President Susan Kresge on Thursday, September 9, 2010 at 8:02 p.m. President Susan Kresge welcomed those present, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley School District Administration Offices, Brodheads ville, PA.

ROLL CALL:

Board Attendees:	President Susan Kresge	Russ Gould	John Sabia
	Vice-President MiChelle Palmer	Linda Micklos	Jim Spinola
	Treasurer H. Charles Hoffman	Tom Murphy	
Board Absentees:	Harvey Frable		
Administrative Attendees:	Dr. Arnold, Ms. Geary, Ms. Famularo, Ms. Zeliznik, Mr. C. Fisher, Ms. Kotzmann,		
Solicitor:	Mr. Daniel Corveleyn		

President Susan Kresge announced the Notification of Executive Sessions as follows:

- ❖ September 9, 2010: Personnel – Employee issues including, but not limited to, performance and/or discipline; and Legal Issues.

MEETING PROCEDURES:

President Kresge referred to the agenda that was available to everyone present and to the meeting procedures that were attached.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS:

- ➔ Nora Almadovar, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her concerns regarding this year's property tax increase. She stated that she is on a fixed income and asked the Board to be accountable for their spending.
- ➔ George Schreiber, Chestnuthill Township, also expressed his concerns regarding this year's property tax increase, which he claimed raised his taxes the most over the last five years. He asked for an explanation of where the tax money is going and the reasons for the large increase. President Kresge asked Mr. Schreiber to call Dr. Arnold or see him after the meeting to schedule a personal a meeting at which his questions can be answered.
- ➔ Gary Kiefer, Polk Township, expressed his consternation regarding this year's property tax increase.
- ➔ Hector Almadovar, Chestnuthill Township, also expressed his concern regarding the property tax increase and asked for some answers from the Board. He was also offered an opportunity to schedule a meeting.

President Kresge stated that the budget process begins as early as January and continues through May's public presentation. The budget is then approved in June. She noted that the budget presentation and agenda are posted on our website at www.pvbears.org. She also stated that the nine board members all live in the Pleasant Valley School District and, when taxes are raised, their taxes are also raised. She emphasized that the Board watches very closely over the spending and tries extremely hard not to raise taxes, but many circumstances contribute to the necessity to increase the taxes.

- ➔ Luis Igartua, Chestnuthill Township, also expressed his opinion regarding this year's property tax increase.

OTHER:

None

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Ms. Linda Zeliznik, Board Recorder

Tom Murphy motioned; seconded by John Sabia, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, August 26, 2010 as per the attached copy.

Roll Call: Voice Vote – 8-0 Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. H. Charles Hoffman

Tom Murphy motioned; seconded by Russ Gould, to approve the Accounts Payable 8/1/10-8/31/10 (Manual Checks) on page 10; Accounts Payable 9/1/10-9/9/10 on pages 11-16; Trial Balance/Financial Statement on pages 17-23; Asset Cost Summary on page 24 and the Revenues/Expenditures on pages 25-28 as per the attached copies.

Roll Call: 8-0* Carried *Abstaining from the vote on check #00192851 – S. Kresge Reason: Relative Abstention Memorandum is attached.

OLD BUSINESS:

Solicitor: M Daniel Corveleyn, Esq. / Gerard Geiger, Esq.

No report

OTHER

No reports

NEW BUSINESS:

Monroe Career and Technical Institute: Ms. Linda Micklos

Ms. Micklos stated that she had no report and the next scheduled JOC meeting will be held on Monday, September 13th.

Colonial Intermediate Unit 20: Mr. Thomas Murphy

Mr. Murphy stated that he had no report and the next CIU #20 Board meeting is scheduled for the end of the month.

PSBA Liaison Report: Ms. Susan Kresge

No report

Student Representative: Lauren Heckelman

No report

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Dr. Douglas Arnold

Dr. Arnold asked Mr. Fisher to explain a Google Docs document that was prepared to keep accurate account of student enrollment. Mr. Fisher explained that the process allows each principal to sign onto the document and record their daily attendance totals. This process will continue over at least the next two weeks so the school district can keep a close watch on the attendance numbers and project enrollment for the coming school years. At this point, a rough estimate is that the school district may have lost a net 150 to 200 students since last year.

Policy Revisions:

Russ Gould motioned; seconded by Linda Micklos, to approve the following policy revision in item #6.2.1.1:

❖ No. 451. Drug and Substance Abuse

Roll Call: 8-0 Carried

Other:

Opening of School

Dr. Arnold stated that the opening week of school was hot; but, overall, opening day went very smoothly. There were a few of the typical transportation issues and some dress code compliance issues, particularly with regard to sneakers.

Noteworthy Information, Accomplishments and Events/Gifts/Donations

- ➔ Dr. Arnold stated that Mr. Fadule received an email from Mr. John DeVivo, Music Department Chairperson, stating that the four-week summer music program had 169 participants this year and is growing.
- ➔ Dr. Arnold stated that Ms. Walters, Grant Writer, was notified that we received a \$4,830 grant for the OTDA (Organ Tissue Donor Awareness) project.
- ➔ Dr. Arnold reported that Ms. Kotzmann notified him that a total of \$14,773.93 in grant money was received for the PVE Active School’s program.
- ➔ Dr. Arnold stated that he was copied on an e-mail from Ms. Larthey to Board Vice President MiChelle Palmer. The e-mail thanked Ms. Palmer for her efforts in obtaining \$600 for the purchase of books for the PVMS Bear Bucks program.

Personnel and General Administration: Mr. Christopher Fisher

John Sabia motioned; seconded by H. Charles Hoffman, to approve items #6.4.1-#6.4.4 on the Personnel Report and items #6.4.5 - #6.4.6 on Addendum #1 as follows:

6.4	<u>Personnel and General Administration</u>		<u>September 9, 2010</u>
6.4.1	Hiring of Personnel (The hiring of all personnel is pending receipt of all required paperwork)		
	6.4.1.1	Security	
		6.4.1.1.1	The following individuals were approved for a change of employment status from casual to part-time security officer, effective August 30, 2010:
		6.4.1.1.1.1	Anthony Candela
		6.4.1.1.1.2	Mercedes Samson
	6.4.1.2	Support Staff	
		6.4.1.2.1	Talitha Graham was approved for the position of temporary paraprofessional associate, assigned to Pleasant Valley High School, effective August 30, 2010, at an annual salary of \$20,030, prorated. (PSSA Enhancement)
		6.4.1.2.2	Transfers
			The following individual was approved for transfer effective August 24, 2010:
		6.4.1.2.2.1	Debra Connors, monitor, from Pleasant Valley Elementary School to the middle school.
		6.4.1.2.3	Substitutes
		6.4.1.2.3.1	Jay Ohland - Paraprofessional Associate retroactive to 8/30/2010

6.4.1.3 Professional Staff
 6.4.1.3.1 Tenure
 The following teachers have served Pleasant Valley School District for three (3) years and have been rated as satisfactory. By the provisions of the School Code, they were approved for tenure:

- a. Arroyo, Barbara
- b. Boligitz, Amy
- c. Boyle, Jenne
- d. Confer, Michele
- e. Haberman, Jennifer
- f. Hoffman, Ashley
- g. Hoffman, Lauren
- h. Hunter, Elise
- i. Kleinle, Heather
- j. Michaels, Jillian
- k. Leupold, Bron
- l. Ramsay, Keri
- m. Rogers, Bradley
- n. Semmel, Janel
- o. Shoopack, James
- p. Strish, Amanda
- q. Unger, Danielle
- r. Ward, James
- s. Wernett, Jenna
- t. Wojtkowski, Diana

6.4.2 Leaves of Absence

6.4.2.1 Family and Medical Leave

6.4.2.1.1 Michael Birnbaum, PVI teacher, was approved for Family & Medical Leave, as per Board policy, for eight (8) days, effective August 30, 2010 through September 10, 2010.

6.4.2.1.2 Sharan Wernet, middle school cafeteria worker, was approved for Family & Medical Leave, as per Board policy, for the following days: May 21, 2010 through May 28, 2010 and June 4, 2010 through June 8, 2010.

6.4.2.2 Leaves Without Pay (Employees are responsible for the payment of any benefits the district provides during the period of leave.):

6.4.2.2.1 Meghan Feliciani, middle school teacher, was approved for unpaid leave for one and one-half (1.5) days, effective one-half (.5) day, October 7, 2010 and one (1) day, October 8, 2010.

6.4.3 Resignation

Approval was granted to accept the letters of resignation from the following employees:

6.4.3.1 Samantha Clay, Polk part-time paraprofessional associate, effective August 23, 2010.

6.4.3.2 Tammie Pomposello, PVE part-time paraprofessional associate, effective August 20, 2010.

6.4.4 Retirement

Approval was granted to accept the letter of retirement from the following employee:

6.4.4.1 Catherine Giannakis, PVE paraprofessional associate, effective August 26, 2010.

6.4 Personnel and General Administration – Addendum #1 September 9, 2010

6.4.5 Hiring of Personnel (The hiring of all personnel is pending receipt of all required paperwork)

6.4.5.1 Support Staff

6.4.5.1.1 Substitutes

6.4.5.1.1.1 Lorraine Danny - Cafeteria

6.4.5.1.1.2 Kelly Lynch - Monitor

6.4.5.1.2 Transfers

The following individuals were approved for transfer effective August 30, 2010:

6.4.5.1.2.1 Kathleen Wolff, part-time paraprofessional associate, from middle school to Pleasant Valley Intermediate School. (Replacement position)

6.4.5.1.2.2 Zaida Polanco, part-time paraprofessional associate, from middle school to Pleasant Valley Intermediate School. (Replacement position)

6.4.5.2 Professional Staff

6.4.5.2.1 Tenure

The following teachers have served Pleasant Valley School District for three (3) years and have been rated as satisfactory. By the provisions of the School Code, she was approved for tenure:

- a. Phillips, Dawn

- 6.4.6 Leaves of Absence
 - 6.4.6.1 Family and Medical Leave
 - 6.4.6.1.1 Pamela Downie-Rachwalski, PVE teacher, was approved for Family & Medical Leave, as per Board policy, for four (4) days, effective August 24, 2010 through August 30, 2010.
 - 6.4.6.2 Leaves Without Pay (Employees is responsible for the payment of any benefits the district provides during the period of leave.):
 - 6.4.6.2.1 Tina Martin, high school paraprofessional associate, was approved for unpaid leave for two and one-half (2.5) days, effective November 3, 2010 through November 5, 2010.
 - 6.4.6.2.2 Cindy Walters, high school monitor, was approved for unpaid leave, effective for the 2010-2011 school year.

Roll Call: 8-0 Carried

Asst. To The Superintendent For Professional/Support Personnel: Mr. Christopher Fisher

Russ Gould motioned; seconded by Tom Murphy, to approve items #6.5.1 and #6.5.7 on the Professional & Support Services report; item #6.5.9 on Addendum #1 and the addition of item #6.5.9.1.2: Request to approve the contract with the Pennsylvania State Police for our SRO officer at a rate of \$60.52/hr. Reports are as follows:

6.5 Professional & Support Services September 9, 2010

- 6.5.1 For Approval
 - 6.5.1.1 2010 – 2011 Winter Sports Assistant Coaching position
 - 6.5.1.1.1 Jr. High Girls’ Basketball - Ms. Meghan Sobieski
 - 6.5.1.2 2010 – 2011 Supplemental/Co-curricular Advisor Positions
 - 6.5.1.2.1 Diversity Club (H. S.) - Ms. Michele Witowski
 - 6.5.1.2.2 Mock Trial (H. S.) - Ms. Christine Castone
 - 6.5.1.2.3 Science Olympiad (H. S.) - Ms. Shannon Mackes
 - 6.5.1.2.4 World Language Club (H. S.) - Ms. Justine Curcio
 - 6.5.1.3 Field Trip Requests – Pleasant Valley High School
 - 6.5.1.3.1 Grade/Organization – Marching Band, grades 9-12
 Teacher(s) Involved – Mr. James DeVivo
 Destination of Trip – Bangor High School (competition)
 Date of Trip – September 29, 2010
 District Buses Needed – Three (3) plus band equipment truck
 Cost per Student – none
 - 6.5.1.3.2 Grade/Organization – Marching Band, grades 9-12
 Teacher(s) Involved – Mr. James DeVivo
 Destination of Trip – Nazareth High School (competition)
 Date of Trip – October 9, 2010
 Cost per Student - none
 District Buses Needed – Three (3) plus band equipment truck
 - 6.5.1.3.3 Grade/Organization – Marching Band, grades 9-12
 Teacher(s) Involved – Mr. James DeVivo
 Destination of Trip – North Warren Regional High School (competition)
 Date of Trip – October 16, 2010
 District Buses Needed – Three (3) plus band equipment truck
 Cost per Student – none
 - 6.5.1.3.4 Grade/Organization – Marching Band, grades 9-12
 Teacher(s) Involved – Mr. James DeVivo
 Destination of Trip – Hershey Park Stadium (competition)
 Date of Trip – October 23, 2010
 District Buses Needed – Three (3) plus band equipment truck
 Cost per Student – none
 - 6.5.1.3.5 Grade/Organization – Marching Band, grades 9-12
 Teacher(s) Involved – Mr. James DeVivo
 Destination Trip – J. Birney Crum Stadium, Allentown, PA (competition)
 Date of Trip – October 31, 2010
 District Buses Needed – Three (3) plus band equipment truck
 Cost per Student - none

6.5.7 Facilities – Mr. Christopher Fisher, Ms. Viola Murphy

6.5.7.1 Facility Use Requests: 6

6.5.7.1.1	Organization	Mountain Karate
	Facility Requested	Middle School Cafeteria
	Purpose	Karate Class
	Dates/Times	Mondays and Thursdays August 30, 2010 thru June 10, 2011 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
	Requestor	Joseph Travato
	Attendance	25-30
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Apply
6.5.7.1.2	Organization	Melody’s Dance Studio
	Facility Requested	High School Old Auditorium and one classroom
	Purpose	Christmas Show
	Dates/Times	Saturday, December 4, 2010, 2:30 pm – 8:00 pm
	Requestor	Melody Kline
	Attendance	300
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 4 – All Appropriate Fees Apply
6.5.7.1.3	Organization	PV Bruins Wrestling Association
	Facility Requested	HS Wrestling Room, Locker Room, Ticket Booth, Concession Stand, HS New Gym, Lobby Area
	Purpose	Duel in Den Tournament
	Dates/Times	Saturday, November 20, 2010 – 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Sunday, November 21, 2010 – 6:30 am – 7:00 pm
	Requestor	Nellie Gehr
	Attendance	300
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3 - All Appropriate Fees Apply
6.5.7.1.4	Organization	PV Bruins’ Wrestling Association
	Facility Requested	PVI Gym, Girls’ & Boys’ Locker Rooms, Lobby Area, Aux Gym
	Purpose	Wrestling Matches
	Dates/Times	Sunday, December 12, 2010 – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Sunday, January 23, 2011 – 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
	Requestor	Nellie Gehr
	Attendance	100-150
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Apply
6.5.7.1.5	Organization	PV Bruins’ Wrestling Association
	Facility Requested	PVI Aux Gym, Girls’ & Boys’ Locker Rooms
	Purpose	Wrestling and Cheerleader Practice
	Dates/Times	Monday – Friday 6:30 – 9:00 pm November 1, 2010 – May 6, 2011 Monday – Friday 6:30 – 9:00 pm (Cheerleaders) November 1, 2010 – January 21, 2011
	Requestor	Nellie Gehr
	Tuition	50-75
	Fee by District	None
		Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Apply
6.5.7.1.6	Organization	Pocono Family YMCA
	Facility Requested	PVE Gym
	Purpose	Indoor Soccer
	Dates/Times	Saturdays, January 22 – March 19, 2011 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
	Requestor	Nicole Hill
	Tuition	Approximately 100
	Fee by District	None
		Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Apply

6.5 Professional & Support Services – Addendum #1

September 9, 2010

6.5.9.1 For Approval

6.5.9.1.1 2010-2011 Fall *Volunteer* Coaching Position

6.5.9.1.1.1 Football - Mr. Michael Keefer

6.5.9.1.2 Approval was granted to contract with the Pennsylvania State Police for our SRO officer at a rate of \$60.52/hour.

Roll Call: 8-0 Carried

Informational: District Events list

- ❖ Transportation Liaison/Asst. Custodial Supervisor – Mr. Anthony Pierri - No report
- ❖ Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Mark Meinhart-No report
- ❖ Technology Systems: Mr. Rocco Seiler-No report

- ❖ Custodial and Warehouse: Mr. Howard Scott - No report
- ❖ Food Services: Ms. Bonnie Grammes - No report

CURRICULUM AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Carole Geary

Ms. Geary distributed a handout and presented the 2009-10 Adequate Yearly Progress Report (AYP). As a school district, Pleasant Valley made AYP. Eldred, Polk, Chestnuthill, PV Elementary, PV Intermediate and PV Middle School all made AYP. PV High School is currently in Correction Action 2, Year 2, missing AYP in one category by only two students.

- ❖ Mathematics – Mr. Kenneth Newman - No report
- ❖ Reading – Ms. Dora Tartar - No report
- ❖ Special Education – Ms. Ellen McMasters, Ms. Cheryl Caines - No report
- ❖ Technology Services – Dr. Lee Lesisko - No report
- ❖ Title I and Title II - No report

- ❖ Elementary Divisions – No reports
- ❖ Pleasant Valley Middle School – Mr. Howard Drake, Mr. Michael Kello, Ms. Shelley Larthey – No report.
- ❖ Pleasant Valley Cyber Academy – Mr. Robert Hines – No report.
- ❖ Pleasant Valley High School – Mr. John Gress, Ms. Tresa Malligo, Mr. Pietroski – No report.

Business Manager: Ms. Susan Famularo, Ms. Monica Kotzmann

Tom Murphy motioned; seconded by John Sabia, to approve items #6.11.1 - #6.11.5 on the Business Management report; items #6.11.6 - #6.11.9 on Addendum #1 and item # 6.11.10 on Addendum #2. Ms. Famularo noted that, for item # 6.11.6 on Addendum #1, the recommendation is to “deny” the request. Reports are as follows:

6.11	<u>Business Management</u>	<u>September 9, 2010</u>
6.11.1	Approval was granted for the following contracts:	
6.11.1.1	Approve the contract with Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 to transport a PV student attending the Western PA School for the Deaf to Camp Hill. Cost: \$36,000.00, prorated.	
6.11.1.2	Approve the contract with CSI for security systems expansion, which includes Surveillance System and Access Control System Expansion. Cost: \$246,211.00, to be paid from 2006 Bond Fund.	
6.11.1.3	Approve the contract with Maxim Healthcare Services, Inc. to provide nursing services for student retroactive to August 26, 2010. Effective for one (1) calendar year and will automatically renew at the end of the first year and each subsequent year unless terminated. Cost: \$42.00 per hour, not to exceed eight (8) hours a day.	
6.11.2	Approval was granted for a homestead adjustment in the amount of \$450.65 for Homestead Application Parcel 6/94207 for the 2010-2011 tax bill. This is being recommended by the Monroe County Assessment Office due to their error. All filings were submitted in a timely manner by the taxpayer.	
6.11.3	Approval was granted for the First Student estimated September 2010 invoice be paid in advance to afford Pleasant Valley School District the opportunity to take advantage of a 1.5% discount. The September billing is estimated to be \$562,149.55. After deducting the August and September rent, as per agreement, in the amount of \$20,369.28 and after deducting Route #26 in the amount of \$4,599.01, the net billing will be \$537,181.26. The 1.5% discount is \$8,057.72. The net payment of \$529,123.54 must be received by First Student on or before September 24, 2010.	
6.11.4	Approval was granted for the Pleasant Valley School District and Colonial Intermediate Unit #20 to enter into the ARRA IDEA Use of Funds Agreement.	
6.11.5	The following invoices/applications were approved for payment from the Bond Fund as indicated.	
	2006 BOND FUND (As per attached list): \$85,592.04	

6.11	<u>Business Management - Addendum #1</u>	<u>September 9, 2010</u>
6.11.6	Approval was granted to deny the request by the property owner of parcel 02/17b/2/33 to have all penalties and interest fees waived from 2008 taxes.	
6.11.7	The following invoice(s) was/were approved for payment from the Pleasant Valley High School Courtyard Garden Account: Check #162 Kim Economy \$900.82 Bird Seed, Frames and Mums	
6.11.8	Approval was granted by the Board to rescind the award of Musical Instruments (August 26, 2010) to the National Educational Music Co. in the amount of \$2,044.00 and award to the Washington Music Center in the amount of \$2,636.00. (An unacceptable substitute was offered)	
6.11.9	The following invoices/applications were approved for payment from the Bond Fund as indicated.	
	2006 BOND FUND (As per attached list): \$92,700.00	

6.11.10 Approval was granted for the following contract:

6.11.10.1 Simplex Grinnell – Fire Alarm Repair, Cost \$1,320.00

Roll Call: 8-0 Carried

Solicitor: Daniel Corvelevn, Esq. / Gerard Geiger, Esq.

No report

Pleasant Valley School Directors:

None

Pleasant Valley Citizens:

None

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Kresge asked for a motion to adjourn. H. Charles Hoffman motioned; seconded by John Sabia, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:16 PM. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Famularo, Board Secretary

Linda Zeliznik, Board Recorder

**Next Regularly Scheduled School Board Meeting:
September 23, 2010 at 8:00 p.m., PVSD District Administration Offices**
