

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting
December 4, 2008

Board Approved December 18, 2008 Excellence in Education: A Community Commitment

The regular meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was called to order by President MiChelle Palmer on Thursday, December 4, 2008 at 8:07 p.m. President Palmer welcomed those present followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley School District Offices, Brodheadsville, PA.

MEETING PROCEDURES:

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

ROLL CALL:

Board Attendees: President MiChelle Palmer H. Charles Hoffman John Sabia
Vice-President Tom Murphy Susan Kresge Ryan Hinton arrived at 8:23 pm
Treasurer Linda Micklos Russ Gould

Board Absentees: Harvey Frable

Administrative Attendees: Dr. Arnold, Mr. Fadule, Ms. Geary, Ms. Les, Ms. Zeliznik, Mr. C. Fisher, Ms. Kotzmann, Mr. Gress, Ms. Derr, Ms. Malligo, Ms. Sinai, Mr. Krebs, Ms. Franco

Solicitor: Mr. Daniel Corveleyn

President MiChelle Palmer announced Notification of Executive Sessions as follows:

- December 4, 2008 – Personnel (Hiring of new and replacement staff and other issues); Negotiations; and Legal Issues
- November 13, 2008 – Following the meeting for purposes of Negotiations

Board Reorganization

(In compliance with 24 PS 4-401(b) and 24 PS 4-402 of the PA School Code, as amended)

President Palmer opened the nomination for the Temporary President:

Election of Temporary President:

John Sabia nominated Tom Murphy as Temporary President; seconded by Susan Kresge. John Sabia, made a motion to close the nominations; seconded by Charles Hoffman. By a unanimous vote, Tom Murphy was nominated Temporary President.

Election of a School Board President- term expiring December 3, 2009

Thomas Murphy nominated MiChelle Palmer as School Board President. John Sabia seconded the motion. Tom Murphy made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Charles Hoffman.

Roll Call: 7-0 Unanimous Vote - Carried

It is hereby recorded that MiChelle Palmer is elected as President of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education by a unanimous ballot to serve until the next reorganization meeting of the Board to be held on December 3, 2009.

The newly-elected Board President MiChelle Palmer, took her place as presiding officer and conducted the election to fill the office of Vice President (term expires December 3, 2009).

President Palmer opened the nomination for the office of Vice President of the School Board:

John Sabia nominated Thomas Murphy for School Board Vice President, seconded by Susan Kresge. John Sabia made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Charles Hoffman

Roll Call: 7-0 Unanimous Vote - Carried

It is hereby recorded that Thomas J. Murphy is elected as Vice President of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education by unanimous ballot, to serve until the next reorganization meeting of the Board to be held on December 3, 2009.

Board President Michelle Palmer appointed the following:

- **MCTI Representative(s) – (Three year term)**
Mr. Charles Hoffman (term expires December 2009)
Ms. Susan Kresge (term expires December 2010)
Linda Micklos (term expires December 2011)

MCTI Alternates – Russell Gould and John Sabia

- **Legislative Chairperson – Susan Kresge (term expires December 3, 2009)**
- **Other Committees are being reviewed**

Susan Kresge motioned; seconded by Russ Gould, to approve the School Board Meetings and Buildings & Grounds Meetings from January 2009 – December 2009 as per the attached copy.

Roll Call: 7-0 - Carried

President Palmer stated that any citizens wishing to speak at the podium the rules are as follows:

- There will be one hour before the meeting with a three (3) minute time limit for each speaker.
- There will be one hour after the meeting with a three (3) minute time limit for each speaker.
- If anyone wishes to speak again, you may return to the podium if the hour is not up.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS:

Kathy Schuma, Chestnuthill Township, expressed her opinion regarding the proposed Standardized Dress Code Policy #221.

Ryan Hinton arrived at 8:23 pm.

OTHER:

None

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

Tom Murphy motioned; seconded by H. Charles Hoffman, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, November 13, 2008 as per the attached copy.

Roll Call: Voice Vote - Carried

TREASURER’S REPORT: Ms. Linda Micklos

Russ Gould motioned; seconded by John Sabia, to approve the Accounts Payable from 12/1/08-12/4/08 on pages 16-20 as per the attached copies.

Roll Call: 7-0-1 Carried Abstaining from vote due to late arrival at 8:23 pm – R. Hinton
Abstention Memorandum is attached

OLD BUSINESS:

Solicitor: Mr. Daniel Corvelevn/Mr. Gerard Geiger

No report

OTHER

No reports

NEW BUSINESS:

Monroe Career and Technical Institute: Ms. Linda Micklos

No report

Colonial Intermediate Unit 20: Mr. Ryan Hinton

Mr. Hinton apologized for his late arrival stating he had parent/teacher conferences at his district. Mr. Hinton reported that there was no meeting in November. The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, December 10th at 7:30 pm. Mr. Hinton stated that Dr. Arnold and he would be attending the holiday dinner prior to that meeting.

PSBA Liaison Report: Ms. Susan Kresge

Ms. Kresge reported:

- At a private ceremony, Mr. Joseph Scarnati was sworn in as the new Pennsylvania state lieutenant governor replacing Elizabeth Baker Knoll, who passed away recently.
- Ms. Kresge stated that state revenues are below expectation. She stated that she has a breakdown on percentages; overall, it is 6.8% below expectations.

- Governor Rendell is calling for another \$311 million in budget cuts.

Student Representative: Matt Thompson

No report

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Dr. Douglas Arnold

Enrollment

Dr. Arnold stated that district enrollment is up a few students but is holding steady at 6,400.

Policy Revisions

Second Reading *

Policy No. 221 – Standardized Dress

Policy No. 249 - Bullying

**These policies will be recommended for approval at the December 18, 2008 Board Meeting.*

First Reading *

Policy No. 245 – Student Identification Cards

Policy No. 915 – School-Affiliated Organizations

**These policies will be recommended for approval at the January 8, 2009 Board Meeting.*

Other:

Dr. Arnold referred to addendum #2 asking for the following action:

Susan Kresge motioned; seconded by Tom Murphy, to approve the release and settlement agreement between student #111708, his/her parents and the Pleasant Valley School District.

Roll Call: 8-0 - Carried

Dr. Arnold stated that the PVI student council collected supplies for the Carbon County Friends of Animals shelter. They donated \$116.15 in addition to many supplies. Also, the PVI Diversity Task Force created a display called the Wall of Honor for Veterans, he urged everyone to visit the display. Dr. Arnold reported that Mr. Pierri organized donations to the community food pantries with the help of First Student Transportation. Further information will be reported in the future.

Personnel and General Administration: Mr. Anthony Fadule

Tom Murphy motioned; seconded by John Sabia, to approve items #6.4.1- #6.4.4 and items #6.4.1-6.4.2 on the addendum with one revision: page 1 on the addendum, item #6.4.1.3.1 is effective through June 30, 2009.

Report is as follows:

- | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| 6.4 | <u>Personnel and General Administration</u> | | <u>December 4, 2008</u> |
| 6.4.1 | Hiring of Personnel (The hiring of all personnel is pending receipt of all required paperwork) | | |
| 6.4.1.1 | Support Staff | | |
| 6.4.1.1.1 | Tonia Betz was approved for the position of casual security officer, with wages and benefits as per the Security Compensation Plan. | | |
| 6.4.1.1.2 | Laraine Gartrell was approved for the position of part-time paraprofessional associate, effective December 8, 2008, at an annual salary of \$19,250 prorated. Her 2008-2009 school year assignment is PVE. (New Position) | | |
| 6.4.1.1.3 | Substitutes | | |
| | a. | Mildred Maldonado | - Monitor |
| | b. | Feerida Nesbitt | - Cafeteria Worker/Monitor |
| 6.4.1.2 | Professional Staff | | |
| 6.4.1.2.1 | Pleasant Valley Intermediate School | | |
| | 6.4.1.2.1.1 | Alison Kutzler was approved to continue as a grade 6 long-term substitute teacher for Tonya Durkay-Witmer, effective the 2 nd semester of the 2008-2009 school year, at a salary of \$37,100, prorated. | |
| 6.4.1.2.2 | Pleasant Valley Elementary School | | |
| | 6.4.1.2.2.1 | Mark Kutteroff | BS + 69, Step 1 |
| | | BS, Elementary | Salary=\$38,300 |
| | | ESU | (Prorated) |
| | | (Replacement 4 th grade elementary teacher for Dawn Cohen's assignment, effective December 8, 2008) | |
| 6.4.1.2.3 | Substitutes | | |
| | a. | Sharon Clark | - All Areas |

b. Noreen Scudero - Elementary

6.4.1.2.4 Transfers

NAME	FROM	TO
a. Dawn Cohen	4 th grade, PVE	Reading Specialist, PVE (Replacement position for Kathleen Carr, effective December 8, 2008)

6.4.2 Leaves of Absence

6.4.2.1 Child-Rearing Leave

6.4.2.1.1 Tanya Durkay-Witmer, PVE teacher, was approved for an extension of her child-rearing leave of absence, effective for the second semester of the 2008-2009 school year.

6.4.2.2 Family and Medical Leave

6.4.2.2.1 Patricia Kutzler, bookkeeper, was approved for Family & Medical Leave, as per Board policy, effective for the following four (4) days: November 17, 2008 through November 19 and November 26, 2008.

6.4.2.2.2 Catrina Springer, PVE teacher, was approved for Family & Medical Leave, as per Board policy, for approximately fifty-six (56) days, effective on or about February 5, 2009 through on or about April 30, 2009.

6.4.2.2.3 Monica Williamson, PVE teacher, was approved for Family & Medical Leave, as per Board policy for approximately thirty-seven (37) days, effective October 6, 2008 through November 26, 2008.

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

6.4.2.3.1 Christie Fleming, PVE cafeteria worker, was approved for unpaid leave effective for the following two (2) days: November 14 and December 16, 2008.

6.4.2.3.2 Katheen Maltez, Chestnuthill PPA, was approved for unpaid leave for two (2) days, effective January 8 and 9, 2008.

6.4.3 Resignation

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

a. Nora Perez-Talubas, PVI monitor, effective November 6, 2008.

b. MaryAnn Veneziano, from the position of cafeteria worker, effective November 20, 2008.

6.4.4 Retirement

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

a. Anna Bet, PVE teacher, effective the conclusion of the 2008-2009 school year.

6.4 **Personnel and General Administration – Addendum** **December 4, 2008**

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

6.4.1.1 Support Staff

6.4.1.1.1 The following were approved for the position of part-time PPA at an annual salary of \$19,250, prorated:

NAME	BUILDING	EFFECTIVE DATE
Michelle Johnson	PVE	Effective December 15, 2008 (New Position)
Rebecca Reeser	PVE	Effective December 8, 2008 (Replacement Position for Lisa Pulizzi)

6.4.1.1.2 Karen Smith was approved for the position of temporary part-time PPA for Angenette Marbury, at Polk Elementary School, at an annual salary of \$19,250, prorated, effective December 8, 2008.

6.4.1.1.3 Substitutes

a. Joan Brong - Cafeteria

b. Dara Clark - HRT

6.4.1.2 Administration

6.4.1.2.1 Joshua Krebs was approved for the position of Assistant to the Principal, an Act 93 position, effective November 24, 2008, at an annual salary of \$48,845, prorated.

6.4.1.3 Professional Staff

6.4.1.3.1 Erica Walters was approved for the position of Administrative Assistant to the Elementary Principal with remuneration equal to her professional staff salary as per the collective bargaining agreement between the PVSD and PVEA, plus a stipend of \$4,500, prorated, effective November 24, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

- 6.4.2 Leaves of Absence
 - 6.4.2.1 Family and Medical Leave
 - 6.4.2.1.1 Jason Menghini, PVI teacher, was approved for Family & Medical Leave as per Board policy for eight and one-half (8-1/2) days, effective December 11, 2008 through December 23, 2008.
 - 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 Lynn Sherry, middle school monitor, was approved for unpaid leave for one (1) day effective November 25, 2008.

Roll Call: 8-0 Carried

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

Tom Murphy motioned; seconded by Linda Micklos, to approve item #6.5.1 and item #6.5.7 as follows:

6.5 Professional & Support Services December 4, 2008

- 6.5.1 For Approval
 - 6.5.1.1 2008 – 2009 Spring Head Coaching Position
 - 6.5.1.1.1 Varsity Girls’ Soccer - Mr. Timothy Hinton
 - 6.5.1.2 2008 – 2009 Co-curricular Advisor Position
 - 6.5.1.2.1 Key Club Co-advisor - Ms. Danielle Unger
 - 6.5.1.2.2 Key Club Co-advisor - Ms. Falona Walker
 - 6.5.1.2.2.1 Stipend will be split for this position.
 - 6.5.1.3 2008 – 2009 Winter *Volunteer* Coaching Position
 - 6.5.1.3.1 7th Grade Girls’ Basketball - Mr. Chris Jarrow

- 6.5.7 Facilities – Mr. Christopher Fisher, Ms. Viola Murphy
 - 6.5.7.1 Facility Use Requests: 5
 - 6.5.7.1.1 Organization PV Bruins Wrestling Association
 - Facility Requested PVI Auxiliary Gym
 - Purpose Practice
 - Dates/Times December 13 and 20, 2008, & January 17, 2009
 - Saturday 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
 - Requestor Nellie Gehr
 - Attendance 40
 - Tuition None
 - Fee by District Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Custodial & Security Fees Apply
 - 6.5.7.1.2 Organization West End Relay for Life
 - Facility Requested JCM Cafeteria
 - Purpose Movie Night
 - Dates/Times December 12, 2008, Friday 5:30-9:30 pm
 - Requestor Diane Gill
 - Attendance 30-35
 - Tuition None
 - Fee by District Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Custodial & Security Fees Apply
 - 6.5.7.1.3 Organization PV Cheerleading Parents Association
 - Facility Requested High School Cafeteria
 - Purpose Meeting
 - Dates/Times January 7, 2009, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
 - Requestor Susan Coppinger
 - Attendance 10
 - Tuition None
 - Fee by District Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Custodial & Security Fees Apply
 - 6.5.7.1.4 Organization Cub Scout Pack 102
 - Facility Requested PVE Cafeteria
 - Purpose Blue & Gold Banquet

	Dates/Times	February 22, 2009, Sunday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
	Requestor	Sylvia Facella
	Attendance	100-120
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Custodial & Security Fees Apply
6.5.7.1.5	Organization	Cub Scout Pack 99
	Facility Requested	PVI Cafeteria
	Purpose	Blue & Gold Banquet
	Dates/Times	February 28, 2009, Saturday 12 pm – 8:00 pm
	Requestor	Jeneen Liebegott
	Attendance	150
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3- All Appropriate Fees Custodial & Security Fees Apply

**Roll Call: 7-0-1 Carried Abstaining from vote on item # 6.5.1.1.1: R. Hinton
Abstention Memorandum is attached**

Informational Items included:

- ▶ District Events List
- ▶ Metal Detector Report

Food Services: Ms. Bonnie Grammes

No report.

CURRICULUM AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Carole Geary

No report

- **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 Franco – No report.

Pleasant Valley Cyber Academy – Mr. Robert Hines – No report.

Pleasant Valley High School – Mr. John Gress, Mr. Dave Stefani, Ms. Tresa Malligo – No report.

Business Manager: Ms. Donna Les, Ms. Monica Kotzmann

Ms. Les asked the Board to refer to the revised Business Management report.

Susan Kresge motioned; seconded by H. Charles Hoffman, is approve items #6.11.1-#6.11.4 and item #6.11.5.1 on the addendum as follows:

6.11	<u>Business Management</u>	<u>December 4, 2008</u>
6.11.1	The following student placement was granted approval:	
	Student #100108MD	VisionQuest
	Effective 10/01/2008	
	Student #082608JE	CTC of Lackawanna County
	Effective 8/26/08	(Scranton School/Deaf)
6.11.2	The following designations of fund balance were granted approval:	
	Reserved to balance 08-09 budget	\$4,972,172
	Prepaid expense reserve	\$137,563
	Medical Claim Reimbursement Fund	\$1,000,000
	Safety Improvement Fund	\$250,000.
	Repair Improvement Fund	\$200,000.
	PSERS Stabilization Fund	\$2,000,000.
	Tax Stabilization Fund	\$1,268,116

Total reserves/designations \$9,827,851.

6.11.3 The following invoices were approved for payment from the Pleasant Valley High School Courtyard Garden Account
Check #136 Kim Economy \$70.14
Winter supplies and photos
Check #137 Eric Schneider \$99.31
Winter supplies

6.11.4 The following bid awards were granted approval:
Musical Instruments
Casio Interstate Music \$467.00
1 Soprano Sax
Robert M. Sides \$2,671.86
1 Xylophone, 1 40" gong
NEMC \$939.00
1 Alto Flute
Washington Music Sales Center \$1,527.00
5 bass drum stands, 1 Bells with stand
Total \$5,604.86
The full bid tabulation is available in the business office

6.11 Business Management – Addendum #2 December 4, 2008

6.11.5 Supplement

6.11.5.1 The following student placements were approved:

Student #101608NM	Northwestern Academy
Effective 10/16/08	
Student #102308DG	Youth Services Alternatives
Effective 10/23/08	
Student #090208SD	George Junior Republic
Effective 9/2/08	
Student #090208DG	George Junior Republic
Effective 9/2/08	
Student #090208SF	George Junior Republic
Effective 9/2/08	

Roll Call: 8-0 Carried

Solicitor: Mr. Daniel Corvelevn/Mr. Gerard Geiger

No report

Pleasant Valley School Directors:

- Sue Kresge referred to the building reports item #5, stating that the transfer of \$1,351 listed account codes, she asked which accounts. Ms. Les stated that it was a transfer from Guidance account to instruction.
- Sue Kresge asked for Dr. Lesisko to give an updated report on his classroom visitations.
- Sue Kresge announced that she will not be present at the next December board meeting and wished everyone a blessed holiday.
- Ryan Hinton apologized for his late arrival and that he came in on the public comment regarding the standardized dress code policy. He stated to the public that this policy will be up for a decision and vote at the December 18th meeting and encouraged the public to voice their opinions. He also stated that he would like to see some students (especially the student government) present, since the issue directly involves them. He feels they should express their opinions before a decision and vote is made.
- Ryan Hinton commented also that he wished the school district would consider remote participation through teleconferencing in Board meetings. He feels that if there is something important on the docket, all Board members should be able to have a vote.

Pleasant Valley Citizens:

John Ginder, Polk Township and a student of PVHS, commented on the standardized dress code policy by stating that he feels that the school district is taking away students' individuality, and that orange is a nice color, and he does not see the harm in a small logo being on a shirt.

Christina Lenway, Polk Township, expressed her opinion regarding the standardized dress code policy by stating that she is not against the policy, only on the way it is being administered. She feels there should be a different dress policy for each school building, especially for elementary students.

Kathy Schuma, Chestnuthill Township, asked what would be happening at the December 18th meeting. Ms. Palmer stated that the policy will be up for approval at that meeting. Mr. Hinton stated the policy has not been approved yet, but will be up for a vote that evening. Mr. Sabia commented that the community is not aware of state regulations with which the Board needs to comply.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board, President MiChelle Palmer motioned, seconded by John Sabia, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:46 pm.

Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Les
Board Secretary

Linda Zeliznik
Board Recorder

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting - December 18, 2008 at 8:00 pm, District Offices