

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

Minutes of the April 4, 2024 Board of Education Meeting

Board Approved 4-18-2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was held on April 4, 2024 and called to order by President Sue Kresge at 7:04 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by PVI 5th grade students followed by a moment of silence. The meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley School District Conference Room, 2233 Route 115, Brodheadsville, PA 18322.

Roll Call – School Board Recorder: Ms. Debra Duff

School Board members in attendance: Mrs. Susan Kresge, Mr. Michael Galler, Mr. Robert Clark, Mr. Norm Burger, Mr. Matthew Walters, Mr. Ryan O’Keefe, Mr. John Gesiskie, Mrs. Melanie Zipp. Absent: Mrs. Diane Serfass.

Administrative staff in attendance: Dr. Rae Lin Howard, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Tammy Smale, Assistant Business Manager, Mrs. Kathleen Franklin, Assistant Board Secretary, Mr. Randy Smale, Director of Operations, Ms. Bernadette Fierro, Curriculum Supervisor, Mr. Chuck Tomori, Technology Coordinator, Ms. Julie Harris, Director of Special Education, Mr. James Korcienski, Director of Athletics, Mr. Robert Miller, Chief of School Police/Security.

Building Administrative staff in attendance: Mr. Brian Boylan, Ms. Sabrina Albright, Ms. Sarah Adams, Ms. Kendal Askins, Mr. Tim McCutchan.

School Solicitor in attendance: Timothy Gilsbach, Esq.

Notification of Executive Session:

President Sue Kresge announced that an executive session was held on April 4, 2024 immediately prior to the regularly scheduled meeting for the purposes of personnel matters including, but not limited to, performance and/or discipline; negotiations; and legal issues.

Student Highlights PVI: Sabrina Albright – Mrs. Albright stated that Pleasant Valley School District hosted the annual Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Song Fest where approximately 200 students participated from elementary schools from seven counties. She said that the event was a great success and thanked Mrs. Yeager for this well-organized event. PVI 5th grade students were present and performed a song for all those present.

Superintendent’s Response to Community Questions: Dr. Howard stated that two community questions were submitted by Donna Yozwiak. In response to the question about the Bear Facts, Dr. Howard stated that the current edition was published in March 2024 and can be found on the PV high school website. A second question was regarding PV student groups holding banquets or celebrations offsite. Dr. Howard indicated that beginning July 1st, per policy 915, for SAO’s organization may have a banquet onsite or offsite and typically the booster club pays due to each booster group being its own entity.

Dr. Howard indicated that as a result of the solar eclipse on April 8th, school will be in session but there will be an excused early dismissal for any parents who want to pick their children up. She said that information will be included in the principals’ Sunday message to parents.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Mrs. Tammy Smale, Board Secretary

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mr. Walters to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held on March 25, 2024; approval of the April 4, 2024 Board Meeting Agenda with the following correction: Agenda item #10.A. – the total cost is \$692.74 which includes a \$620.00 registration fee and a \$72.74 transportation fee.

VOICE VOTE: 6-1-1 CARRIED

Voting No: Mr. Gesiskie; Abstained: Mr. Galler

President Sue Kresge announced the meeting procedures and an opportunity was given for Pleasant Valley citizens to address the Board on agenda items:

Pleasant Valley Citizens – (Agenda items): There were no community members wishing to comment.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Mr. Michael Galler

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mr. O’Keefe to approve Agenda item #4.A. – Accounts Payable, as attached:

Approval of Agenda item #4.B. – Accounts Payable April 4, 2024.

Approval of Agenda item #4.C. – Manual Checks March 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024.

Approval of Agenda item #4.D. – Manual Checks March 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024 – PSDLAF.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Solicitor: Timothy Gilsbach, Esq. – No report.

Mr. Gesiskie expressed concern about certain language contained in Policy 226 Searches and proposed the following motion:

Mr. Gesiskie motioned, seconded by Mr. Walters to have Policy 226 Searches brought back to the administration for review.

Prior to the call for a vote, Mrs. Kresge expressed that she would like to see the language remain in the policy and be reflected in the AR attached to the policy.

ROLL CALL: 3-5 NOT CARRIED

Voting No: Mr. Burger, Mr. Clark, Ms. Kresge, Mr. O’Keefe, Mrs. Zipp

NEW BUSINESS:

Monroe Career & Technical Institute – No report.

Colonial IU20 – Mr. Michael Galler: An informational report was provided.

PSBA Legislative Liaison Report – Mrs. Melanie Zipp: No report.

Education Committee – Mrs. Susan Kresge: No report.

Finance Committee – Mrs. Kresge stated that a proposed budget presentation will be held on April 18th.

Athletic Committee – Mr. Ryan O’Keefe: Mr. O’Keefe reported on the following:

- Girls’ Lacrosse 6-0 record.
- Varsity baseball team playing at Coca Cola Park on April 18th @ 3:30 PM vs. East Stroudsburg South. Tickets will be sold for the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs vs. Durham Bulls game on April 14th where complimentary tickets will be given to attend the Bears vs. Cavaliers varsity baseball game on April 18th.
- Excellent job by the PV Maintenance Team for renovations to the stadium press box.
- Upcoming sporting event dates: Softball April 30th; Baseball April 22nd; Girls Lacrosse April 25th; Boys Lacrosse April 29th; Softball April 30th; Boys Tennis April 15th; Track and Field April 15th.
- Spring Senior Mentor Night – Boys Lacrosse May 7th at 5:00 PM.

Policy Committee – Mrs. Melanie Zipp: Mrs. Zipp stated that there are four policies on this evening’s agenda for a second reading.

Capital Improvement Plan Report – Mr. Norm Burger: Mr. Burger reported on the following:

- The Design Team was on site March 28th to refine facility data. Corridor ceiling tile will be removed to get details needed for mechanical, electrical, and plumbing plans. A hazardous material survey was conducted on March 28th.
- Design meeting held today.
- A value engineering review of renovation requirements and evolving design for ideas to reduce cost is being conducted by the Capital Improvement team. A Value Engineering workshop will be held on April 29th to evaluate cost reduction ideas; the goal is to reduce projected cost by approximately \$1.4 million.
- Next design meeting scheduled for April 18th.
- An update to the Board and stakeholders is planned for May 9th.
- On track with the plan schedule.

Mrs. Kresge requested that the May 9th date for the building project presentation conducted by D’Huy Engineering and KCBA Architects be included on our website.

Technology Report – Mr. Robert Clark: No report.

Security Report – Mr. Matthew Walters: No report.

Mr. Gesiskie questioned dates for the Academic Fair and Athletic Awards event as well as the Top 10 Dinner. Mr. Boylan said that the date for the Academic and Athletic Awards event will be held on May 16th and the Top 10 Dinner is scheduled for May 28th.

SUPERINTENDENT-REPORT/REQUESTS: Dr. Rae Lin Howard

Mr. O’Keefe motioned, seconded by Mr. Burger to approve Agenda item #7. – Superintendent Items:

Approval of Agenda item #7.A. – Second reading and approval of Policies, as provided:

- Policy No. 218 Student Discipline
- Policy No. 218.1 Weapons
- Policy No. 218.2 Terroristic Threats
- Policy No. 236.1 Threat Assessment

Prior to the call for a vote, Mr. Galler commented on Policy 218.1 Weapons and clarified that the Police/Security Department is included along with the administration in the event of a threat with a weapon.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED
Voting No on Agenda item #7.A. Policy 218.1
Weapons: Mr. Gesiskie 7-1 CARRIED

HUMAN RESOURCES: Dr. Rae Lin Howard

Mr. Galler motioned, seconded by Mr. Gesiskie to approve Agenda item #8.A. – Personnel Items:

Approval of Agenda item #8.B. – Supplemental Contracts: Non-Athletic

1.	Club/Activity:	Academic Remediation – Saturday Detention
	Advisor:	Nicole Composto
	Building:	PVMS
	Salary:	\$23.00 per hour

Approval of Agenda item #8.C. – Position Volunteers:

1. Justin DeLeon
2. April Getz
3. Nicole Ruehle
4. Priscilla Rainho
5. Michael Competiello
6. Katherine Christman
7. Lindsay Dudzick
8. Kalimah Hardy

Approval of Agenda item #8.D. – Guest Volunteers:

1. Christine Erhardt
2. Megan Hagerty

Approval of Agenda item #8.E. – Leave Without Pay:

1.	Name:	Christine Abrams
	Position:	Monitor
	Building:	PVMS
	Number of Days:	Two (2)
	Dates:	March 4, 2024 – March 5, 2024
2.	Name:	Stephanie Flyte
	Position:	Food Service Employee
	Building:	PVHS
	Number of Days:	One-half (½)
	Dates:	March 7, 2024
3.	Name:	Shantel Gatton
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	March 22, 2024
4.	Name:	Jennifer Green
	Position:	Food Service Employee
	Building:	PVHS
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	February 27, 2024

5.	Name:	Allen Kistler
	Position:	Courier
	Number of Days:	Three (3)
	Dates:	March 20, 2024 – March 22, 2024
6.	Name:	Corinne Morris
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	One and one-half (1½)
	Dates:	February 7, 2024 (½) and February 16, 2024 (1)
7.	Name:	Kelly Shane
	Position:	Paraprofessional Associate
	Building:	PVES
	Number of Days:	One (1)
	Dates:	February 21, 2024

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

Agenda item #8.F. – Informational: Family and Medical Leave:

1.	Employee ID:	3211
	Position:	Teacher
	Building:	PVIS
	Intermittent Dates:	April 2, 2024 – April 1, 2025
2.	Employee ID:	4271
	Position:	Accountant
	Building:	Administration
	Number of Days:	Forty (40)
	Dates:	April 16, 2024 – June 11, 2024

Agenda item #8.G. – Informational: Resignations:

	Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
1.	Elizabeth Hardy	Food Service Employee	PVES	March 18, 2024

ADDENDUM – HUMAN RESOURCES: Dr. Rae Lin Howard

Mr. Gesiskie motioned, seconded by Mr. Walters to approve Addendum item #9.A. – Personnel Addendum Items:

Approval of Addendum item #9.B. – Hiring of Professional Staff (pending receipt of required paperwork):

1.	Name:	Kaylee Wilson
	Position:	School Counselor
	Building:	PVHS
	Salary:	M, Step 1: \$56,842
	Contract Type:	TPE
	Effective Date:	August 21, 2024
	Replace:	Erin Steiner

Approval of Addendum item #9.C. – Position Volunteers:

1. Caressa Fetherman
2. Julie Holck
3. Jenna Klinge
4. Rene Nagle

Approval of Addendum item #9.D. – Guest Volunteer: Jessie Johnson.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

CURRICULUM & STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Dr. Rae Lin Howard –

Mr. Galler motioned, seconded by Mrs. Zipp to approve Agenda item #10. – Curriculum & Staff Development Items, with the change to registration cost of \$620.00 not \$900.00:

Approval of Agenda item #10.A. – 5th Grade Chorus Field Trip: Approve retroactively, PVI fifth grade students field trip to PVHS on April 3, 2024, to participate in PMEA District 10 Elementary (performance time 7:00 PM). Registration Fee of \$620.00 and Transportation cost of \$72.74 (one bus to deliver students to the high school from PVI) covered by PVI budget.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

OPERATIONS SERVICES: Mr. Randy Smale –

Mr. Gesiskie motioned, seconded by Mr. Walters to approve Agenda item #11. – Operations Items:

Approval of Agenda item #11.A. – Facility Usage, pending resolution and notification of any conflicting scheduling:

A.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Band
	Schedule ID Number	13483
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School Cafeteria
	Purpose	Serve Lunch to Students Before Leaving for Competition
	Dates/Times	September 28 th and October 26 th , 2024 10:00AM – 1:00PM
	Requestor	Bonnie Klinger
	Attendance	75
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
B.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Band
	Schedule ID Number	13493
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School New Auditorium
	Purpose	Marching Band Awards Ceremony
	Dates/Times	November 5, 2024 6:00PM – 9:00PM
	Requestor	Bonnie Klinger
	Attendance	75
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
C.	Organization	American Cancer Society Inc.
	Schedule ID Number	13498
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School Football Athletic Field
	Purpose	Relay for Life – Cow Walks on Grid, When Cow Plops Person Owning Square Wins. Pig Kissing Contest. Everything Cleaned Up Right Away.
	Dates/Times	May 17, 2024 12:00PM – 11:00PM
	Requestor	Michael Hurley
	Attendance	100
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
D.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Intermediate PTO
	Schedule ID Number	13499
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Intermediate School Cafeteria
	Purpose	5 th Grade Dance
	Dates/Times	May 3, 2024 6:00PM – 8:00PM
	Requestor	Marianne Livingston
	Attendance	250
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
E.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Intermediate PTO
	Schedule ID Number	13500
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Intermediate Multi-Purpose Room
	Purpose	April PTO Meeting
	Dates/Times	April 25, 2024 4:00PM – 5:00PM
	Requestor	Marianne Livingston
	Attendance	15
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
F.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Intermediate PTO

	Schedule ID Number	13501
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley Intermediate Multi-Purpose Room
	Purpose	PVI Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
	Date/Times	April 19, 2024 9:00AM -10:00AM
	Requestor	Marianne Livingston
	Attendance	30
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
G.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Boys Soccer
	Schedule ID Number	13505
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School Library
	Purpose	PV Boys Soccer Booster Club Meeting
	Dates/Times	April 24, 2024 6:30PM – 8:30PM
	Requestor	Anne Morton
	Attendance	20
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
H.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Boys Soccer
	Schedule ID Number	13506
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School Parking Lot
	Purpose	PV Boys Soccer Annual Car Wash
	Dates/Times	August 10 th and 11 th , 2024
	Requestor	Anne Morton
	Attendance	35
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply
I.	Organization	Pleasant Valley Field Hockey
	Schedule ID Number	13511
	Facility Requested	Pleasant Valley High School Stadium Field
	Purpose	Field Hockey Alumni Game
	Dates/Times	May 18, 2024 10:00AM – 4:00PM
	Requestor	Brittney Angelica
	Attendance	50
	Tuition	None
	Fee by District	Class 3, All Appropriate Fees Apply

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Tammy Smale

Mr. Burger motioned, seconded by Mr. Clark to approve Agenda item #12.A. – Business Management Items:

Approval of Agenda item #12.B. – Cafeteria Fund Account Check Summary – April 4, 2024, as provided.

Approval of Agenda item #12.C. – BHA – Behavioral Health Associates – Cost Savings Program, as provided: Partnering with BHA in the cost savings program for the 2024-2025 school year. The program requests a 20% down payment in advance allowing BHA to offer reduced daily tuition rates. The down payment is due on June 30, 2024 and returned to Pleasant Valley School District in five equal installments from October 2024 through February 2025.

Approval of Agenda item #12.D. – Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund: As budgeted \$2,700,000.00 transfer from General Fund to Capital Reserve Fund.

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

ADDENDUM – BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Mrs. Tammy Smale

Mr. Gesiskie motioned, seconded by Mr. Clark to approve Addendum item #13.A. – Business Management Addendum Items:

Approval of Addendum item #13.B. – 2024-2025 Fall Athletic Supplies and Equipment Bid (A breakdown by sport was provided):

Band Shoppe.....	\$3,298.21
BSN Sports.....	\$ 533.84
Longstreth Sporting Goods.....	\$ 655.85
Medco.....	\$ 3,809.67
Pyramid.....	\$ 66.84
Riddell.....	\$ 5,308.50
Scholastic Sports.....	\$ 4,519.12
Sportsman.....	\$ 7,012.75
Triple Crown Sports.....	\$ 2,920.00
Fall 2024-2025 Athletic Bid Total.....	\$28,124.78

Approval of Addendum item #13.C. – PVEF One-Time Scholarship for *The Pleasant Valley Educational Foundation Future Educator Scholarship* in the amount of \$500 as presented by the Pleasant Valley Educational Foundation, as attached.

Approval of Addendum item #13.D. – Request to Survey Students, Parents, Faculty and Staff: Whitson's Culinary Group requests to send a survey out in regards to the Pleasant Valley School Cafeteria and School Nutrition Program.

Approval of Addendum item #13.E. – Advertisement for sealed bids and request for proposal for the following items:

1. Propane Fuel
2. Anthracite Coal

VOICE VOTE: 8-0 CARRIED

SOLICITOR: Timothy Gilsbach, Esq. – No report.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS – Agenda items/Non-Agenda items: There were no community members wishing to comment.

Ms. Julie Harris announced that the annual Transition Fair will be held on April 16th in the high school gym from 6:00 PM -8:00 PM. In addition, she announced that the Special Olympics hosted by Pleasant Valley will be held on April 29th from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM with a rain date set for April 30th.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Mr. Gesiskie questioned the status of the A Night of Unity event. Dr. Howard stated that a committee of teachers are working on this.

Mr. O’Keefe stated that the Maintenance Department did a great job on the press box.

Mr. Galler congratulated PV students who attended the MCTI SkillsUSA competitions in Hershey and wished them good luck for the upcoming competition.

SUPERINTENDENT REMARKS:

Dr. Howard thanked Ms. Harris for all her work on the Transition Fair and the Special Olympics. Dr. Howard extended gratitude to PVI teacher Athena Yeager and all participants who made the PMEA 2024 District 10 Elementary Song Fest a success. She congratulated PVI 5th grade students and thanked them for performing their song this evening. Dr. Howard announced that in conjunction with Mr. Burger’s capital improvement updates, on Thursday, May 9th at the Working Session meeting, a building project presentation update will be conducted by D’Huy Engineering and KCBA Architects.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Galler motioned, seconded by Mr. Clark to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 PM.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Smale, Board Secretary

Debra L. Duff, Board Recorder

The next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting:
April 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM