MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

Monday, April 29, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. In the Pascack Hills High School Media Center

Meeting Regulations

The Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education members, district administration, and staff will treat parents/guardians and other members of the public with respect and expect the same consideration in return. The district is committed to maintaining orderly processes for keeping school and district events free from disruption. The Board reserves the right to establish rules for the conduct of its meetings, including such matters as the time at which the public will be heard, if at all, who may speak, and for how long. All such rules shall be monitored by the President unless the majority of the Board present and voting, rule otherwise.

During this regular meeting, two opportunities are provided for citizens to make comments. In order for a citizen to make a comment, they must be physically present at the meeting. During the first opportunity, early on the agenda, comments regarding agenda items are invited. The second opportunity will occur just prior to adjournment, when residents may address general comments to the Board

Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise and state their name and town of residence. Comments shall be limited to issues. If personal remarks or discourteous statements are made, the presiding officer shall require the speaker to sit down.

All regular meetings will be live streamed for viewing purposes only to the Pascack Valley Regional High School District <u>YouTube</u> channel.

To inspect or obtain a copy of any public record required to be made available under N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1, Examination and Copies of Public Records, please contact Mr. Yas Usami, 28 West Grand Avenue, Suite 2, Montvale, NJ 07645.

Notice: With advance notice, we can provide personal assistance for those with disabilities. Please contact 201-358-7005 x21005.

Copies of all public meeting agendas are online on the district website: http://www.pascack.org

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. Gini Varghese, President

Present: Mrs. Gini Varghese, President

Mr. Joseph Blundo, Vice President Resigned

Ms. Elizabeth Calderone Mrs. Stephanie Huang Mr. Pat Luisi Left at 9:11

Mrs. Kristin Martin Mr. James Stankus Ms. Debra Stephans

Ms. Sarah Bilotti, Superintendent

Mr. Yas Usami, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Student Representatives: Olivia Ge-PHHS, Madeline Gibbs-PVHS

Absent: Mr. Michael Weaver

II. FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Varghese led all those present in a salute to the flag

III. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY PRESIDING OFFICER

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing copies of said notice to The Record, filing copies of said notice with the municipal clerks of Hillsdale, Montvale, River Vale, and Woodcliff Lake, and publishing said notice in The Record on July 21, 2023.

IV. MOMENT OF SILENCE

In remembrance of Lamont Alston, Pascack Valley High School Class of '24.

V. ROUTINE MATTERS

Monthly Reports

Finance Committee Yas Usami - Report

Student Reports: Olivia Ge– Pascack Hills High School - Report

Madeline Gibbs-Pascack Valley High School -

Report

VI. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education minutes:

April 8, 2024	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
April 8, 2024	Executive Meeting	7:04 p.m.

Moved by:	Martin •				Seconded by:	Steph	nans 🕶		
					OTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo					Stankus	X			
Calderone			X		Stephans	X			
Huang	X				Weaver				x
Luisi			X		Varghese	X			
Martin	X								j

VII. PRESENTATIONS

1. 2024-2025 Budget Presentation

Yas Usami

Mr. Usami commented that the budget process is long and arduous. He said this was an extremely difficult budget this year and it has become more difficult to balance the budget each year.

Mrs. Varghese asked what made the budget very difficult.

Mr. Usami commented that it was based on the increases such as the over \$1 million increase in employee benefits. He added that they reduced allocations within the budget, purchased items this year that were requested for next year, increased the fund balance (excess surplus), maintenance and emergency reserve, and extraordinary aid. He mentioned that there was an increase in state aid, however it was less than anticipated due to declining enrollment. He explained that "S2" is a 7-year period of increased state aid to districts that were under funded based on the school funding formula. This is the last year.

Mrs. Varghese asked if this was the first time Mr. Usami has used emergency reserve.

He answered affirmatively. He explained when emergency reserve can be utilized. He indicated that it may be used for increased healthcare costs and eligible security purposes which must be approved by the state. Ms. Bilotti clarified that the staffing slide does refer to cutting a music position. It is about re-sectioning courses and absorbing 6th period assignments and breakage. She explained.

2. Cell Coverage PV Analysis

Matthew Smelcer, SAI Group

Ms. Stephans asked about the AT&T T-Mobile solution and Verizon. Mr. Smelcer said the AT&T T-Mobile solution is more expensive than Verizon because they do not have a similar low cost solution that Verizon can offer.

Mr. Luisi asked if having an internal network would reduce the risk of cyber threats.

Mr. Smelcer said a cell tower would not increase any threats. He said connecting to a cell tower is far safer than connecting to Wi-Fi.

Ms. Stephans referred to the coverage chart and asked if there is any guarantee that it will work.

Mr. Smelcer said the design is only as good as the engineer who designs. He indicated that they did their due diligence in the assessment of the area. He mentioned that once it is installed they do another assessment.

Mr. Stankus asked how many NJ schools they have serviced.

Mr. Smelcer was not aware of that number. He commented that the new schools being built have this type of system included in RFPs. He did indicate that they have been involved with retrofitting older schools, but the majority are new schools.

Mrs. Martin asked about the \$20,000 annual fee for constant monitoring and asked if it is waived does the warranty stand. She asked if cell towers are built in the area would this solution be necessary.

Mr. Smelcer said it depends on the location. He added that towers take a very long time to build. The annual fee is separate from the system for monitoring. He mentioned that even if the monitoring is declined. They still receive notifications and can dispatch someone to correct the problem. Ms. Stephans asked where the system would be located and are there any health risks.

Mr. Smelcer commented that the system will emit EME (Electromagnetic Energy) similar to a Wi-Fi broadcast. There is a report that will be produced to ensure that it is within FCC regulations. The only health risk is if a radio is put in a single antenna and it is mounted where someone can touch it.

Mrs. Huang asked why the center of the red (strong coverage) there is a blue dot.

Mr. Smelcer said that is a pictogram of an antenna.

Mrs. Varghes asked how long it would take to install the system.

Mr. Smelcer said the equipment takes about 4-6 weeks lead time, the antennas and cables is about 1-2 weeks and the installation can be done over a summer break. It would not be recommended to do the work during school hours. If the work is done during nights and weekends then the cost would increase.

3. <u>Departmental Highlights</u> - Math and Science Barry Bachenheimer, Mark Russo, Megan Graziano

Mrs. Martin thanked Dr. Bachenheimer for doing a deep dive and exploring changes. She commented that the periodic assessment throughout the year is extremely helpful.

Mrs. Varghese asked if the math center still operates and if so how many students utilize it.

Dr. Russo said each school runs a math center three days a week during lunch. He said at certain times it is over utilized. However, throughout the year there are students in the math center consistently. He indicated

that there is help outside of the school day and they have double math centers leading up to midterms and finals.

Mrs. Varghese indicated that students also have clubs and other activities during lunch. She asked if there are any plans for before or after school math centers.

Dr. Russo said they love to expand the math centers. There are some periods when they have offered it outside of lunch period. He indicated that there were more funds available last year from the grant. They will have funds available later in the year and they will have a better idea of how many students come before and after school.

Mrs. Varghese asked about science.

Ms. Graziano said they do not have a center like math and writing. She indicated that they grant funds to allow for additional help in the different science disciplines as teaching science is dependent upon the teacher's certification in a subject. She commented that if this shows there is interest then she would welcome a science center.

Mrs. Varghese asked how does the district know the needs of the students. Dr. Bachenheimer said if a student is doing great in a class the feedback is positive. If the student is struggling then the opinion may be different. He said it's very difficult to tease it out, but Dr. Russo and Ms. Graziano have done a good job whether it's talking to a student, focus group or going into classrooms. Also, feedback from the student representatives. He mentioned the School Climate survey which is an overall survey.

Mrs. Varghes said she would like to get more feedback on what works and what doesn't from students. She thanked Dr. Bachheimer and his team for their efforts.

Dr. Bachenheimer indicated that there is a feedback day. Students will create an action plan for next year which will be shared with the teachers. Ms. Stephans asked if they considered course and instructor evaluations from students.

Dr. Bachenheimer said they would need to be careful that it's instructional and not personal.

4. Assessment Analysis Update (MidTerms/Finals/Assessments)

Barry Bachenheimer

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Citizens are invited to make comments regarding agenda items and are limited to three minutes, according to the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education policy number 0167. Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise, sign in and state their name, town of residence, and which agenda item(s) they are referencing.

Antoinette McKay of Woodcliff Lake has two sons at Pascack Hills. She said it's not about staffing, it's about the music curriculum, specifically the classes that will not be offered. She wanted to know if the Board understood music theory, AP music theory and music tech. She believes that Pascack Hills is falling short on music and the arts. She

explained that the three classes are mandatory to go to music school for teaching, composition and performing. She commented that students need to apply to the college for admissions and to the music school with a portfolio of performances and accolades received. Must audition via video and then if invited, perform in front of a panel of. professors at the school. They were told by professors that her son would need to play three separate instruments and take multiple years of music theory for the basic needs for college. Ms. McKay was advised by Ms. Bilotti to take a virtual AP music theory class. She commented that the virtual class would be impossible based on the syllabus. She pondered if the administration had spoken to the music teachers why enrollment was low. Is it possible that middle schoolers have decided to go to another high school for music. She mentioned that five seniors will be attending colleges for music. She mentioned NYU, University of Maryland, Stevens Institute for Technology, and JMU. Michael Fox of Hillsdale indicated that he has been in touch with the PV administration in regard to midterms and final exams. He asked for data on these exams and to date has not received any. He mentioned that It was shared that he and the administration agreed 50-60% of students have their averages decrease. He said this negatively impacts students who are competing for college acceptances and the administration believes this is "best practice" for high schools. He was informed that the top tier school in North Jersey does not administer these exams because of the negative impact.. He commented that his perspective is that these exams should be eliminated and alternative assessments should be considered. He appreciated the Board's time and he hopes the administration takes this matter seriously. He heard the term cutting edge in the budget presentation and I see this as an outdated practice. He added that, no one here should believe impacting students is a positive and this practice is just not necessary here at PV Mrs. Martin Indicated that Mr. Fox is an administrator and has children in the district. She mentioned that they've had deep conversations about student wellness and the

negative impact it has, so she thanked Mr. Fox for bringing it up.

Rhonda Swiderski of Woodcliff Lake is the president of the music parents association. She was disappointed when she heard that two music programs were going to be cut. She described the grueling process of applying to the school and having to audition at all the colleges. She mentioned that her son is taking the intro to music theory in the same section as the AP students, thus class moves quickly. She believes he would be better if there were two sections. He has learned from a book. Ms. Elkin helps, but she needs to meet the needs of the AP students since they need to take the exam. She mentioned that Ms. Elkin and Mr. Dore laid a good foundation for her son, but he had tutoring help which she thought was unnecessary if the school provided more. She indicated that many schools offer a music prep or audition prep program during the school year or over the summer. She believes it's a disservice not to offer music theory every year. She said the marching band saved her son. She hopes the Board supports the arts.

Derek Geier of Montvale is a senior at Pascack Hills. He came to speak about AP music theory becoming a bi-annual course. He mentioned that he took AP music theory with two other students and that enabled Ms. Elkin to teach the students individually. He said he was able to understand the content better than any of his classes. He took music technology the following year with Mr. Dore. He indicated that this gave him insight to what is required in the modern music world to be successful. He commented that if the courses are offered only bi-yearly then it will not raise awareness to the incoming

students. This may also discourage students from taking the course as they may perceive it as not important. These classes are necessary for those who pursue music in college and for those who may be interested in learning about music. He said all subjects have the basic courses and then graduate to more specialized courses. He said that these music classes are specialized. He commented that it's unfair for the marching band to find field time to practice or for the music parent association to fund raise constantly due to sparse funding the music program receives.

Michael McKay of Woodcliff Lake, a sophomore and a proud member of the music program at Pascack Hills. He said he will need music theory to audition for college admissions and in classes. He commented that to audition for college he will need to play three instruments and know the scales. He spoke to four colleges and all said he needed to take music theory now, so he will be prepared for classes. He indicated that music theory will expand his musical knowledge for performances. He mentioned that he needs in-person help which an online class will be lacking. He said if music theory is taken away from him it would only hurt him in the future and in college.

Phil Langer of Woodcliff Lake commented that music and arts people are very passionate about this. He indicated that the budget presentation showed that the district places importance on producing great athletes. He said that is great as it has a lot of value and support in the community. He asked how program expenditures are prioritized. He mentioned that it seemed like most of the funds are towards athletics and he applauds great athletes. He said there are benefits in the arts. He spoke about creating better arts programs by having more offerings to be more diversified. He commented about proactively developing programs and funding them to rival the neighboring districts. He said don't expect the students or a handful of teachers to start this. It needs proactive financial sources.

James Guyer of Montvale was surprised to hear that enrollment had been declining in the last five years at both schools and another expected decline next year. He commented if more kids are going to private schools for the arts and other curriculum. He does have concerns of what will happen with the four teachers with low enrollment in music. He mentioned creating engagement and how to get students involved in music. He understands that Ms. Elkin and Mr. Dore are reaching out to the middle school students. He mentioned that he and his son traveled to colleges and the colleges all said the same thing the others who spoke mentioned. He asked that when the music curriculum is reviewed to take into consideration what can be done for students who want to get into music and engagement with students. He indicated that there needs to be something for everyone. His son mentioned that there are kids interested in music, but why are they not taking the courses?

Lily Plechner of Woodcliff Lake, a senior at Pascack Hills who is not a music major. She commented that her involvement in the music department was a great asset in her acceptance to colleges and receipt of scholarships. She cited one admissions officer at a selective college who mentioned that her involvement in the music department shined in her acceptance letter. She indicated that social emotional well being is valued and the music department provides that for many students. She commented that band has been a stress reliever for her and it has given her a family. She added that many others feel the same way. She wondered what would happen to music and other arts related classes if

music tech and music theory are cut. She emphasized how important it is to provide the music department with the proper resources like many of the other departments.

IX. POLICY

Consent Agenda for Items 1-5

1. National Teacher Appreciation Week

WHEREAS, the week of May 5, 2024 has been designated as National Teacher Appreciation Week; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education recognizes all faculty members from Pascack Hills High School, Pascack Valley High School, the Park Academy program, and the Milestones program for their outstanding efforts and for their dedication to the students of our district.

2. Schedule of 2024-2025 Board Meetings

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, adopt the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education meeting schedule (attached) for the 2024-2025 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator / Board Secretary distribute the meeting schedule to all locations as listed below:

The Record, Community Life, and Pascack Press

Board Members

Office of the Superintendent

Pascack Valley and Pascack Hills High Schools

Building & Grounds Coordinators & Director of Facilities and Capital Improvement Cafeteria Managers

Hillsdale Board of Education and Municipal Clerk

Montvale Board of Education and Municipal Clerk

River Vale Board of Education and Municipal Clerk

Woodcliff Lake Board of Education and Municipal Clerk

3. Performance Report 2022-2023

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, publicly acknowledges receipt of the reports and the posting of the 2022-2023 Performance Reports to the district website.

4. Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying Executive Report

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, affirm the findings of the following Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying incident: # HIB 263119 (attached).

5. Summer Help Rates

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following hourly rates for the summer of 2024:

Position	Rate
Custodial/Technology Summer Help - First Year	\$15.13
Custodial/Technology Summer Help - Returning	\$16.00

Moved by:	Martin •				Seconded by:	Steph	nans 🕶		
				<u>_</u> ,	OTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye 1	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo					Stankus	X			
Calderone	X				Stephans	X			
Huang	X				Weaver				x
Luisi				X	Varghese	X			
Martin	X								

X. EDUCATION

Consent Agenda for Items 1 - 5

1. New Tuition Paying Student

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve and welcomes staff member ID #2595's child, to attend Pascack Valley High School as a ninth grader starting the 2024-2025 school year at the established tuition rate per PVREA contract.

2. Out-of-district Placement

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the out-of district placement for student ID# 810929, per student's IEP, at Mary A. Dobbins School, beginning April 4 - June 18, 2024. The prorated tuition rate for 2023-2024 is \$380.71 per day for a total of \$19,796.92.

3. Out-of-district Placements - Revised

a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the revision of the previously board approved (March 18, 2024) out-of district placement for student ID# 814098 as per student's IEP, to Cranford Achievement Program starting 2/1/2024 through 6/19/2024. The revised

prorated tuition cost for 2023-2024 school year is \$30,477.78. Additionally, there is a revised prorated 1:1 aide cost of \$25,414.54.

b. RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of

Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the revision of the previously board approved (March 18, 2024) out-of district placement for student ID# 812475 as per student's IEP, to Cranford Public Schools starting 2/27/2024 through 6/19/2024. The revised prorated tuition cost for 2023-2024 school year is \$24,453.15.

4. ABA Parent Training

a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve ABA parent training for student ID# 813023, per student's IEP, beginning October 18, 2023 - June 13, 2024. The provider is Wings ABA Therapy.

Total Hours	Service/Rate Per Hour	Total
10	BCBA/\$102	\$1,020
10	ABA Therapist/\$75	\$750

b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve ABA behaviorist/parent training for student ID# 809770, per student's IEP, beginning March 13 - June 13, 2024. The provider is Wings ABA.

Total Hours	Service/Rate Per Hour	Total
50	BCBA/\$102	\$5,100

5. Home Instruction

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve hospital tutoring by LearnWell for student ID# 812092, per student's IEP, for the following dates: March 26-28, 2024, and April 3, 2024. The tutorial service is \$59.00 per hour for 13.30 hours in total.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve tutoring by LearnWell for student ID# 813629, per student's IEP, while student receive treatment at High Focus from March 25 May 20, 2024. The tutorial service is \$59 per hour for 10 hours per week.

Moved by:	Stephans	S •			Seconded by:	Calde	erone	•	
				7	/OTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo					Stankus	X			
Calderone	X				Stephans	X			
Huang	X				Weaver				x
Luisi				X	Varghese	X			
Martin	X								

XI. HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the superintendent, after considering the recommendation of her administrative staff which included consideration of experience, credentials, and references for the following candidates for employment in the school district, has determined that the appointment of these individuals is appropriate and in the best interest of the school district,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated, as provided by the budget, in accord with terms of the employment specified:

Note: Appointment of new personnel to the district is provisional subject to:

- 1. Authorization from the State Department regarding a criminal background check and/or authorization from the Bergen County Superintendent's Office for emergent hiring; and
- 2. A medical examination including satisfactory results of the Mantoux tuberculin skin test; and
- 3. Valid certification appropriate for his/her employment or assignment in New Jersey; and
- 4. Disclosure and review of applicants' employment history within the statutory time period.

Consent Agenda for Items 1-26

1. Tenured Administrator Appointments *

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Administrators for the 2024-2025 school year.

2. Non-Tenured Administrator Appointments *

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Non-Tenured Administrators for the 2024-2025 school year.

3. Tenured Supervisor Appointments *

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Supervisors for the 2024-2025 school year.

4. Non-Tenured Supervisor Appointments *

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Non-Tenured Supervisors for the 2024-2025 school year.

* Salaries may be revised once contract negotiations are settled.

5. Tenured Teacher Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Teachers for the 2024-2025 school year.

6. Non-Tenured Teacher Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Non-Tenured Teachers for the 2024-2025 school year.

7. Tenured Support Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Support Staff for the 2024-2025 school year.

8. Non-Tenured Support Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of non-tenured support staff Non-tenured Support Staff.pdf for the 2024-2025 school year.

9. Tenured Non-Bargaining Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Non-Bargaining Staff for the 2024-2025 school year.

10. Non-Tenured Non-Bargaining Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Non-Tenured Non-Bargaining staff for the 2024-2025 school year.

11. Region II Applied Behavior Analysts and Independent Staff

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Region II Independent Applied Behavior Analysts and Independent Staff for the 2024-2025 school year

12. New Hires

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following individuals to the position indicated:

Name	Position	Account Number	Salary	Effective Date
Axelle Sandt	PHHS French Teacher	11-140-10 0-101-07- 110	\$80,564, BA Step 10 with benefits, tenure track per PVREA contract	On or about August 26, 2024
Margaret Montenare	PVHS Student Assistance Counselor	11-000-21 8-104-06- 000	\$118,549, MA+30 Step 15 with benefits, tenure track per PVREA contract	On or about August 26, 2024

13. Resignations

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation (attached) of Martin Edelberg, Science Teacher at Pascack Hills High School, for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2024.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation (attached) of Linda Haggerty, Region II Paraprofessional, effective May 17, 2024.

14. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following Federal/NJ family leave request:

Employee ID#	Position	Request
2638	PHHS Guidance Counselor	Total Leave Period: August 26, 2024-June 17, 2025 FMLA: August 26, 2024-November 15, 2024 Leave of Absence: November 18, 2024 - June 17, 2025

15. Leave of Absences - Modified

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following modifications to Federal/NJ family leave requests:

Employee ID#	Position	Request
2349	PVHS Main Office Executive Secretary	From: Total Leave Period: September 9, 2024 - February 5, 2025 Using 25 sick days FMLA: November 1, 2024 - February 5, 2025 Leave of Absence: None
		To: Total Leave Period: September 9, 2024 - February 4, 2025 Using: 9 vacation days, 3 personal days, and 25 sick days FMLA: November 1, 2024 - February 4, 2025 Leave of Absence: None
1561	PVHS English Teacher	From: Total Leave Period: March 16, 2024 - June 13, 2024 Using 33 sick days FMLA: May 13, 2024 - June 13, 2024 Leave of Absence: None
		To: Total Leave Period: March 16, 2024 - June 13, 2024 Using 24 sick days FMLA: April 29, 2024 - June 13, 2024 Leave of Absence: None

16. Substitutes

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following new substitutes for the district for the 2023-2024 school year:

Name	Position	Туре
Dave Dasgupta	Classroom Substitute	New
Katherine Sandt	Substitute Nurse	New

17. Athletic Appointment

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following athletic appointment for the 2023-2024 school year:

Name	Team	Position	Stipend/Step
Julia Abahazy	PHHS Spring Track and Field	Assistant Coach	\$7,110 / 3

18. Chaperones

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following chaperones.

Name	Event	Date	
Meghan Magnus	PV Band Concert	May 9, 2024	
Craig Yaremko	PV Choir Concert	May 16, 2024	

19. Co-curricular Appointment

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the probationary PH Book Club at Pascack Hills High School for the 2023-2024 school year. The advisors will be unpaid during the probationary period.

Advisor	Club
Megan Pettigano	PH Book Club
Karoline Scheck	PH Book Club

20. Student Teacher

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Amanda Clark, a current student at Fairleigh Dickinson University, to student teach with Virena Rossi at PHHS for the Fall semester during the 2024-2025 school year.

21. Testing Support

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following staff members to provide technical support for the newly computerized SAT test on May 4, 2024 at PVHS:

Name	Assignment	Payment
Ross Koehler	Technician	\$500
Scott Jones	Technician	\$500*

^{*\$150} will be paid directly from the College Board. The remaining \$350 will be paid by the district.

22. Home Instruction

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve home instruction for student ID# 812476, per student's IEP, from April 9 - June 13, 2024, for 2 hours

per week, per subject.

Name	Subject
Cassandra Leibfried	Algebra II w Trig.
Angela Rossi	Ceramics and Sculptures 1
Nicole Olshalsky	Health 11
Deborah Ragone	US History 2
Vani Apanosian	English 3

23. Region II - BCBA

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Olga Volosatova, Board Certified Behavior Analyst, for Region II for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Volosatova's rate is \$90 per hour.

24. New Hires

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated:

Name	Position	Salary	Effective Dat e
Tracy Leigh	Director of Technology	\$151,000 with health benefits	July 1, 2024

Jonathan Hesney Director of Special Services	\$177.00 with health benefits, per PVRAA contract	July 1, 2024
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25. Resignation

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Joseph Spafford, Director of Athletics, Supervisor of Health and Physical Education for Pascack Valley High School (attached), effective June 30, 2024.

26. Region II - ABA

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Cassidy Rodenberg as a Region II Social Skills Group Leader at an hourly rate of \$52 for the 2023-2024 school year.

Moved by:	Stephans	3 -			Seconded by:	Marti	in •		
				7	/OTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo					Stankus	X			
Calderone	X				Stephans	X			
Huang	X				Weaver				x
Luisi				X	Varghese	X			
Martin	X								

Ms. Bilotti introduced Dr. Hesney, the new Director of Special Services.

XII. FINANCE

Consent Agenda for Items 1 - 23

1. Approval of Bills

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve bills as follows:

Budget Expenditures as of April 29, 2024	\$1,250,758.66
Payroll as of April 15, 2024	\$1,724,815.65
Total	\$2,975,574.31

2. Approval of 2024-2025 Budget

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of School approves the 2024-2025 school year budget as follows:

General Fund	\$ 65,125,128
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 744,054
Debt Service	\$ 2,062,400
Total	\$ 67,931,582

The amount to be raised by taxation is:

General Fund	\$ 55,676,473
Debt Service	\$ 2,062,400
Total	\$ 57,738,873

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2024-2025 school year budget includes a Capital Reserve Withdrawal in the amount of \$1,593,252 for capital projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2024-2025 school year budget includes a Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal in the amount of \$380,000 for required maintenance activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2024-2025 school year budget includes an Emergency Reserve Withdrawal in the amount of \$250,000 to offset some of healthcare increase; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2024-2025 school year budget includes an allowable healthcare adjustment in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7f-39(e) in the amount of \$256,253 to offset healthcare costs.

3. Travel Pre-Authorizations

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the pre-authorization travel expenses for professional development or school trips:

Name	Professional Development or School Trip
Craig Yaremko	Jazz at Lincoln Center Band Director Academy

4. **Donations**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the following donations:

Date	Donor	Donation	Club or Group
4/2/24	Chernow Fund	\$5,000	PH Baseball
4/10/24	PHHS PFA	Trailer value \$13,050	PHHS Band

5. Approve Gianforcaro Proposal - PV Auditorium Renovations

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the proposal submitted by Gianforcaro, 111 Howard Boulevard, Suite 203, Mount Arlington, NJ for architectural/engineering services for the auditorium renovations at Pascack Valley High School on a fee schedule based on construction cost as follows: 6% over \$1,500,000; 7% under \$1,500,000 and 8% under \$500,000.

6. EI US, LLC, dba LearnWell

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement to provide academic services with EI US, LLC, dba LearnWell for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$62.00 per hour for up to 10 hours per week plus a 33% administrative and preparation fee.

7. Architectural Services Provided by Robert Donahue

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve architectural services provided by Robert Donahue for roof replacement projects (PH C-wing and PV Lecture Hall Area) including ROD Grant projects (PH D-wing) in the amount of \$1,000.00 per project as per his Alternate Architect of Record contract.

8. Rescind AHERA Consultants April 17, 2023 Resolution for Asbestos Safety Control Monitoring Services

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education at the recommendation of the superintendent, rescind the resolution on April 17, 2023 approving AHERA Consultants proposal for asbestos safety control monitoring services in the amount of \$45,025.00 related to the auditorium project at Pascack Hills High School.

9. **Approve AHERA Consultants Proposal - Asbestos Safety Control Monitoring Services RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the proposal from AHERA Consultants, Oceanville, New Jersey for asbestos safety control monitoring services in the amount of \$65,442.00 related to the auditorium project at Pascack

Hills High School.

10. Reject Lab Pack Services Bids

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2024, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education ("Board") received and publicly opened three bids for Lab Pack Services ("Project");

WHEREAS, all three bidders submitted bids, which was defective insofar as the bidders did not provide costs for all items which is non-waivable material defect; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, at the recommendation of the superintendent hereby rejects the three bids received for the Project because all bidders did not provide a non-waivable material defect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is hereby authorized to re-advertise the Projects, in the best interests of the School District.

11. Award Contract to Karl & Associates, Inc. - Right to Know Inventory Services WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education ("Board") advertised for bids for Right to Know Inventory Services ("Services");

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2024 the Board received two bids for the Services;

WHEREAS, Karl & Associates, Inc. ("Karl"), Mohnton, Pennsylvania submitted the lowest bid in the amount \$2,735.00 in 2024-2025 with a renewal option for an increase of 5% in 2025-2026 and 2026-2027;

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Karl is responsive in all material respects; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to award the contract for the Services to Karl.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board at the recommendation of the Superintendent hereby awards the contract for the Services to Karl for a total contract sum of \$2,735.00 in 2024-2025 and renewal options of \$2,872.00 in 2025-2026 and \$3,016.00 in 2026-2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

12. Award Contract to Z & Z Supply Merger Sub, Inc. DBA Johnstone Supply, Inc. - HVAC Materials, Equipment and Tools

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education ("the Board") advertised for bids for HVAC Materials, Equipment and Tools ("HVAC Materials");

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2024, the Board received bids for the HVAC Materials;

WHEREAS, Z & Z Supply Merger Sub, Inc. DBA Johnstone Supply, Inc. ("Johnstone"), submitted the sole bid of fifty-two percent (52%) discount off MSRP/list prices for the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, with renewal options at the same discounted rate for the period from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 and the period from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027;

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Johnstone was responsive in all material respects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED at the recommendation of the superintendent that a certified copy of this Resolution shall serve as the agreement between the parties, which shall become effective upon receipt of this certified Resolution by Johnstone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute any additional documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

13. Approve Tuition Rates

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following tuition rates for the 2024-2025 school year:

Programs	2024-2025
Regular High School	\$26,703
LLD	\$42,246
LLD ESY	\$3,859
RISE	\$44,744
Park @ PVR	\$44,744
Milestones	\$45,449
Milestones ESY	\$3,787

14. Authorize Payment of Region II Bills

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, authorize the Business Administrator to pay Region II bills for Occupational and Physical Therapists services and evaluations from March 15, 2024 to April 14, 2024, Independent evaluations for speech, LDT-C, school psychologists, and social workers from April 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024, and Transportation from April 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024 upon presentation of properly approved vouchers.

15. Re-Advertise for Bids - Builder's Hardware & Miscellaneous Building Maintenance Supplies

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education ("the Board") advertised for bids for Builder's Hardware and Miscellaneous Building Maintenance Supplies All Schools ("Supplies");

WHEREAS, on the bid return date of April 12, 2024, the Board did not receive any bids for the Supplies; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Board re-advertise for bids for the Supplies and revise the Specifications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to re-advertise for the Supplies and to revise the Specifications for the Supplies.

16. Approve Submission of Project Application to NJDOE - PV Cafeteria Area Window Replacement

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the submission of the Project Application to the New Jersey Department of Education for the Pascack Valley High School Cafeteria Area Window Replacement Project for the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, per application and drawings as prepared by FKA Architects. This project is an "Other Capital" Project, and the Board is not seeking State funding.

17. Approve Submission of Project Application to NJDOE - Renovations to 63 Patterson Street

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the submission of the Project Application to the New Jersey Department of Education for the Renovations to 63 Patterson Street, Hillsdale, New Jersey for the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Milestones Program for the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, per application and drawings as prepared by FKA Architects. This project is an "Other Capital" Project, and the Board is not seeking State funding.

18. Amend Long Range Facilities Plan

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, authorize the amendment of the current Long Range Facilities Plan to include the Pascack Valley High School Football Field Drainage Repairs Project.

19. Pascack Valley High School – 2^{ND} Annual Report for School Bus Emergency Evacuation Instruction Drill for School Bus Riders for the 2023-2024 School Year

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education, pursuant to the Administrative Code (NJAC 6A:27-11.2), and at the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following completed school bus emergency evacuation drill:

For Pascack Valley High School, 200 Piermont Ave Hillsdale, NJ 07642

The second of two annual drills for bus riders for the 2023-2024 school year was conducted on Monday April 15, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Evacuation Drill was held in front of Pascack Valley High School.

Route Numbers: All students participated in the school bus emergency evacuation drill. Drills were conducted during Physical Education Classes.

Tom Gallione, Assistant Principal of Pascack Valley High School and Alison Petaccia Assistant Principal conducted the Emergency Evacuation Drill.

20. Pascack Hills High School – 2^{ND} Annual Report for School Bus Emergency Evacuation Instruction Drill for School Bus Riders for the 2023-2024 School Year

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education, pursuant to the Administrative Code (NJAC 6A:27-11.2), and at the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following completed school bus emergency evacuation drill:

For Pascack Hills High School, 225 West Grand Ave Montvale, NJ 07645.

The second of two annual drills for bus riders for the 2023-2024 school year was conducted on Tuesday April 16, 2024 at 2:55 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Evacuation Drill was held in front of Pascack Hills High School.

Route Numbers: Routes 1,2,3 & 4 participated in the school bus emergency evacuation drill.

Mr. Derek Piccini, Assistant Principal of Pascack Hills High School, conducted the Emergency Evacuation Drill.

21. **Approve Addendum to Agreement of Sale - 63 Patterson St, Hillsdale RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Addendum to the Agreement of Sale for the sale and purchase of property located at 63 Patterson Street, Hillsdale, New Jersey.

22. Special Education Transportation - Quotes

RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q232430 to Stellar School Transportation during the 2023-2024 school year.

Route #	Route	Base	Aide	Per Diem	Annual Cost
Q232430	CTC, Fair Lawn	198	50	248.00*	12,896.00*

^{*}includes cost of Aide

23. Special Education Transportation - Addenda

RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education accept the following special education transportation contract addenda for the 2023-2024 school year

transportation contract addenda for the 2023 2021 sensor year.										
				Per Diem Increase/	Adjusted Per Diem					
Transport er	Contract	Rte#	Route	Decrease	Cost					
Sunny	2417	2417	AB Smith	109.00	243.00					

Moved by:	Stephans	5			Seconded by:	Huan	ig •		
					OTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo					Stankus	X			
Calderone	X				Stephans	X			
Huang	X				Weaver				X
Luisi				X	Varghese	X			
Martin	X								

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Martin thanked Ms. Bilotti for having the cellular information presented by the representative. Great that there are options.

XIV. **NEW BUSINESS**

None

XV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Citizens are invited to make comments, but they are limited to three minutes, according to Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education policy number 0167. Upon being recognized, persons wishing to speak must rise, sign in, and state their name and town of residence.

None

XVI. MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education will meet in the Media Center at Pascack Hills High School, for the purpose of recessing to a closed Executive Meeting.

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education has been formed pursuant to applicable New Jersey Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Board is charged with the responsibility of performing all acts and doing all things, consistent with law and the rules of the State Board of Education, necessary for the lawful and proper conduct, equipment and maintenance of the public schools and public school property of the Pascack Valley Regional High School District; and

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Opening Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10-4-12) permits the exclusion of the public ("Executive Session") from a meeting of the Board in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that circumstances exist for such an Executive Session; and

WHEREAS, the Board has found the action described below to be necessary and proper;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board on the date indicated above that:

- 1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action on the Executive Session herein set forth.
- 2. The subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - a. Legal issue
 - b. Contract negotiations
 - c. Potential Grievance

If needed, the subject of executive session will be stated in the verbal motion

3. The Board will not return to the Regular Board Meeting, will take no action, and will adjourn from executive session.

OR

4. Official action may or may not be taken when the board reconvenes to Public Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Varghese to adjourn into the executive session at 9:58p.m. Mrs. Huang seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by:	Varghese	•			Seconded by:	Huan	ıg 🕶		
				<u> </u>	OTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye 1	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo					Stankus	X			
Calderone	X				Stephans	X			
Huang	X				Weaver				x
Luisi				X	Varghese	X			
Martin	X								

A motion was made by Mrs Martin to reconvene into the public meeting at 10:09 p.m. Mr. Stankus seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by:	Martin -				Seconded by:	Stank	cus •		
					OTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo					Stankus	X			
Calderone	X				Stephans	X			
Huang	X				Weaver				X
Luisi				X	Varghese	X			
Martin	X								

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Stephans to adjourn the public meeting at 10:09 p.m. Ms. Calderone seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by:	Stephans •				Seconded by:	Calderone •			
				$\overline{}_{V}$	OTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye Na	y A	bs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo					Stankus	X			
Calderone	x				Stephans	X			
Huang	x				Weaver				x
Luisi				X	Varghese	X			
Martin	x								

Respectfully,

Yas Usami

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

You Usami

Regular Meeting Page 28 April 29, 2024

Notice: With advance notice, we can provide personal assistance for the disabled. Please contact 201-358-7005.