

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

**Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7:00 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 [YouTube](#) 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>*

The Vision of the Pascack Valley Regional High School District:

To create a culture of innovation, inquiry, and individuality that promotes achievement and choice by cultivating the skills needed to complete and collaborate as ethical and responsible global citizens.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mrs. Gini Varghese, President

Present: Mrs. Gini Varghese, President
Mrs. Stephanie Huang
Mrs. Kristin Martin
Mr. James Stankus
Ms. Debra Stephans
Mr. Michael Weaver
Ms. Sarah Bilotti, Superintendent
Mr. Yas Usami, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Student Representatives: Madeline Gibbs- PVHS

Absent: Mr. Joseph Blundo, Vice President
Ms. Elizabeth Calderone
Mr. Pat Luisi
Student Representatives: Olivia Ge- PHHS

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. MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION ON April 8, 2024 at 7:04 p.m.

The Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at Pascack Hills High School, 225 W. Grand Avenue, Montvale NJ, for the purpose of recessing to a closed Executive Session.

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:

wonderful things that are occurring in the district. She was impressed with how innovative the district is, such as incorporating AI in the classrooms.

Student Reports:

Olivia Ge– Pascack Hills High School - absent, no 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:

March 18, 2024	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
March 18, 2024	Executive Meeting	7:04 p.m.

Moved by:

Stankus

Seconded by:

Martin

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stankus	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Calderone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stephans	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Huang	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
Luisi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Mr. Weaver asked about the time of the Regular Meeting taking place at 7:00.

Mr. Usami explained that technically the meeting opens in regular session 7:00 and then enters into executive session.

Mr. Weaver abstained to the March 18, 2024 Executive Minutes since he was not present.

VII. 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.

None

VIII. POLICY

Consent Agenda for Items 1- 4

1. 2024-2025 Park Academy Calendar

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the 2024-2025 Park Academy school calendar (attached).

2. **Cooperative Sports Program Agreement**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Cooperative Sports Program agreements for the following sports for the 2024-2025 school year:

Team	Host School	Cooperating School(s)
Gymnastics	Pascack Hills High School	Pascack Valley High School
Ice Hockey	Pascack Valley High School	Park Ridge High School Pascack Hills High School
Swimming	Pascack Valley High School	Pascack Hills High School

3. **Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Reports**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education approve action taken pursuant to HIB Reports:

- a. HIB # 261071 (attached)
- b. HIB # 261549 (attached)
- c. HIB # 259744 (attached)

4. **BOE Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations – Second Reading and Adoption**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, adopt the following bylaws, policies and regulations:

Name of Policy or Regulation	Policy/ Regulation Number
Educational Equity Policies/Affirmative Action (M) (Revised)	P 1140
Comprehensive Equity Plan (M) (Revised)	P 1523
Equal Employment Opportunities (M) (Revised)	P 1530
Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure (M) (Revised)	R 1530
Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices (M) (Revised)	P 1550
Curriculum Content (M) (Revised)	R 2200
Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M) (Revised)	P 2260
Equity in School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure (M) (Revised)	R 2260
Guidance Counseling (M) (Revised)	P 2411
Code of Ethics (Revised)	P 3211
Electronic Communications Between Teaching Staff Members and Students (M) (Revised)	P 3283
Honoring Student Achievement (Revised)	R 5440

Sportsmanship (Revised)	P 5570
Equitable Educational Opportunity (M) (Revised)	P 5750
Secret Societies (Revised)	P 5841
Equal Access of Student Organizations (Revised)	P 5842
Vandalism (Revised)	P 7610
Vandalism (Revised)	R 7610
Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition (Revised)	P 9323
Bilingual Education (M) (Revised)	P 2423
Bilingual Education (M) (Revised)	R 2423
Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries (M) (Revised)	P 2431.4
Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries (M) (Revised)	R 2431.4
Equity in Educational Programs and Services (Abolish - Policy guides 1523 and 2260 address all of the requirements outlined in Policy 5755)	P 5755

Moved by: Martin ▾

Seconded by: Stephans ▾

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stankus	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Calderone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stephans	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Huang	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
Luisi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Mr. Weaver abstained to item 3 and 4 - P2431.4 and R2431.4

IX. **EDUCATION**

Consent Agenda for Items 1 - 3

1. **Overnight Trip**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Pascack Valley High School DECA members, and chaperones Jonathan Rose and Matthew Schulien, to compete at the International DECA Competition (attached) in Anaheim, California, from April 26 - May 1, 2024.

2. **Tuition Student Attending Park Academy**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following tuition paying student to attend the Park Academy middle school program for the 2023-2024 school year:

Student ID	Sending District	Grade
814108	Northvale Public School District	6

3. **ABA Parent Training**

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# 811516, per student’s IEP, effective March 27, 2024 to June 13, 2024, for an additional 15 hours at a rate of \$75 per hour totaling \$1,125. Provider is Wings ABA Therapy.

Moved by:

Stephans ▾

Seconded by:

Stankus ▾

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stankus	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Calderone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stephans	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Huang	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Luisi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Mr. Weaver acknowledged the chaperones who go on the overnight trips. He said it’s a huge undertaking and he appreciates the chaperones taking on the responsibilities..

X. **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 accordance with the 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 1-10

1. **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 of Paul Zeller, Director of Technology and Communication, 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 of Lisa Tracy, Region II Behaviorist, effective May 10, 2024.

2. **Leave of Absence - Revision**

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

Employee ID#	Position	Request
1451	PHHS Special Education Teacher	<p>From:</p> <p>Total Leave Period: March 8, 2024 - June 13, 2024 Using 19 sick days FMLA: April 18, 2024 - June 13, 2024 Leave of Absence: None</p> <p>To:</p> <p>Total Leave Period: February 22, 2024 - June 13, 2024 Using 40 sick days FMLA: April 29, 2024 - June 13, 2024 Leave of Absence: None</p>

3. **Intern Placement**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve intern placement for Hannah Whitfield from the University of Albany at Pascack Valley High School. Ms. Whitfield will work with Joanna Katz, School Psychologist, for the 2024-2025 school year.

4. **Additional Periods**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following extension of additional assignments to maintain continuity in the classroom for the remainder of the school year.

Name	Subject	Timeframe	Total Pay
Lauren Bucco	Spanish 1	April 8, 2024 - June 13, 2024 (8 weeks and 4 days)	\$2,460
Dave Frangiosa	Biological Science	April 8, 2024 - June 13, 2024 (8 weeks and 4 days)	\$2,460

Paul Henry	Spanish 1	April 8, 2024 - June 13, 2024 (8 weeks and 4 days)	\$2,460
------------	-----------	---	---------

5. **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# 812020 for 10 hours per week (approximately 2 hours per subject).

Instructor	Subject	Dates
Lindsay Runge	Pre-Calculus	March 12, 2024, with an end date TBD (not to exceed April 27, 2024)
Jane Yeam	Honors US History II	March 12, 2024, with an end date TBD (not to exceed April 27, 2024)
Alexandra Pflieger	AP English Language and Composition	March 12, 2024 - March 26, 2024
Julia Abahazy	AP Physics I	March 12, 2024 - March 26, 2024
Jane Conboy	Honors French IV	March 12, 2024 - March 26, 2024

6. **Athletic Resignation - Omitted from Consent Agenda**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept with regret, the resignation of Al Coleman, PVHS Varsity Boys Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year.

7. **Co-curricular**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, rescind the 2023-2024 board approved co-curricular appointment of Maria Hinrichsen as PVHS Math League Advisor.

8. **Co-Curricular Appointment**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Erica Franceski as a voluntary advisor for the probationary Muslim Student Union Club for the 2023-2024 school year.

9. **Chaperone**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following chaperone to attend an event at the rate of \$80 for two hours, and additional time will be prorated.

Name	Event	School	Date	Timeframe
Craig Yaremko	All State Jazz Auditions	PVHS	April 29, 2024	4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

10. Region II - Correction

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the previous board approved, January 4, 2024, ABA Instructional Assistant name change from Elda Medina Alvarez to Elda Alvarez.

Items 1-5 and 7-10

Moved by: Stephans

Seconded by: Martin

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stankus	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Calderone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stephans	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Huang	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Luisi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

XI. FINANCE

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 22

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 8, 2024	\$3,343,008.75
Payroll as of March 31, 2024	\$1,769,117.88
Total	\$5,112,126.63

2. Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Financial Reports

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s unaudited 2023-2024 financial reports, which are in agreement reflecting the district’s financial activities for the period February 2024.

3. Ratification of Board Secretary’s Monthly Certification – Budgetary Line Item Status

RESOLVED pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)3, the Board Secretary certifies that as of February 2024 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

BE IT RESOLVED pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2-11(c)4 that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education certifies that as of February 2024 after review of the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s monthly financial report, in the minutes of the Board each month that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(b).4.

4. **Approval of the Following Reports**

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

a. Cafeteria Account	February
b. e-Learning Account	February
c. Capital Project Account	February
d. Student Government Account – PH	February
e. Student Government Account – PV	February
f. Athletic Account – PH	February
g. Athletic Account – PV	February

5. **Transfers**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve transfers for the month of February 2024.

6. **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 (attached):

Name	Professional Development or School Trip
Corin Gamgort	International DECA Conference/Competition
Paul Henry	International DECA Conference/Competition
Melissa Incandela	Payroll Administrators
Alyssa Merrit (date change)	North Jersey Math Institute
Steven Papa	International DECA Conference/Competition
Jonathan Rose	International DECA Conference/Competition
Matthew Schulien	International DECA Conference/Competition
William Weigel	2024 Rutgers Football Spring Coaches Clinic

7. **Home to School and Athletic/Extra-Curricular Awarded Student Transportation Contracts**

RESOLVED, Pascack Valley Regional High School District transportation companies renewed the Student Transportation Contracts for the 2024-2025 school year:

Bus Company	Route #	Destination (To/From)	Cost Per Diem	Adjustment
Scholastic Bus Co 18-02 River Road PO Box 1130 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	PH-1 PH-1A PH-2 PH-3 PH-4	(Home to School) Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	457.94	3%
		Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	474.30	3%
		Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	489.56	3%
		Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	489.56	3%
		Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	474.36	3%
Scholastic Bus Co 18-02 River Road PO Box 1130 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	PV-9 PV-10 PV-11 PV-12	(Home to School) Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	457.94	3%
		Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	474.30	3%
		Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	457.94	3%
		Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	457.94	3%
Scholastic Bus Co 18-02 River Road PO Box 1130 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	BA-18 BA-19 BA-20	(Home to School) Bergen Academies, Hackensack	214.79	3%
		Bergen Academies, Hackensack	214.79	3%
		Bergen Academies, Hackensack	214.79	3%
Scholastic Bus Co 18-02 River Road PO Box 1130 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	V-45	(Athletic/Extra-Curricular) Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	1st 4 hrs. 652.03	Add'1 ¼ hr. 43.61
Valley Transportation 28 Jay Street Norwood, NJ 07648	H-54	(Athletic/Extra-Curricular) Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	1st 4 hrs. 439.46	Add'1 ¼ hr. 50.45

8. **Shared Services Agreement – Montvale SLEO IIIs**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Shared Services Agreement between the Borough of Montvale and the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education concerning the hiring and placement of special police officer SLEO IIIs at Pascack Hills High School for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$58,968 per year per officer.

9. **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
3/25/24	Langan Engineering & Environmental Services	\$1,500	Robotics Team
3/26/24	Crestron Electronics	\$5,000	Robotics Team
3/27/24	Wegmans	\$500	PH Marching Broncos

10. **Approve Phoenix Advisors**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Phoenix Advisors as the Continuing Disclosure Agent in the amount of \$1,350 base fee for the 2024-2025 school year and Independent Registered Municipal Advisor Services for general guidance at no charge.

11. **Award of Demand Response Services**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the award of Demand Response Services through Educational Services Commission of New Jersey contract # ESCNJ 23/24-17 to NRG Curtailment Solutions, Inc Buffalo, NY for the period starting June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2027.

12. **Approve AHERA Consultants Proposal - Asbestos Inspections - 201 W Grand Ave**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the proposal submitted by AHERA Consultants, Oceanville, NJ for asbestos inspections and management plan at 201 West Grand Avenue, Montvale, NJ in the amount of \$8,285.00.

13. **Approve AHERA Consultants Proposal - Asbestos Inspections - 63 Patterson Street**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the proposal submitted by AHERA Consultants, Oceanville, NJ for asbestos inspections and management plan at 63 Patterson Street, Hillsdale, NJ in the amount of \$5,570.00 pending final sale.

14. **MILESTONES HOUSE – 1st 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 Milestones 63 Patterson St Hillsdale, NJ

The first of two annual drills for bus riders for the 2023-2024 school year was conducted on Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.

Evacuation Drill was held in front of the Milestones house

Route Numbers: No Specific routes, all routes and all students participated in the school bus emergency evacuation drill.

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

15. Award D-Wing Roof Replacement Project at Pascack Hills High School - Arco Construction, Inc.

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education advertised for bids for the D Wing Roof Replacement Project at Pascack Hills High School (“Project”) which is eligible for a ROD Grant under DOE Project No. 3960-040-23-R501 and SDA Project No. 3960-040-23-G5PQ;

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2024 the Board received six bids for the Project;

WHEREAS, Arco Construction, Inc. (“Arco”) submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$499,000;

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Arco is materially responsive; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to award the contract for the Project to Arco.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby awards the contract for the Project to Arco for a total contract sum of \$499,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this award is expressly conditioned upon Arco furnishing the requisite insurance certificate and labor and materials/performance bond as required in the Project specifications, together with an AA201-Project Manning Report, and an executed AIA Agreement, as prepared by the Board Attorney, within ten (10) days of the date hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Attorney is hereby directed to draft the agreement with the successful bidder consistent with this Resolution and the terms contained in the bid documents and specifications for the Project. 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.

16. Reject Bids for Cafeteria HVAC Project at Pascack Valley High School

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education advertised for bids for the Cafeteria HVAC Project at Pascack Valley High School (“Project”);

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2024 the Board received three bids for the Project which exceeded the cost estimate and budget for the Project;

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Board reject the bids for the Project for exceeding the cost estimate and budget for the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board at the recommendation of the Superintendent hereby rejects the bids received for the Project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary is hereby authorized to re-advertise the Project and have the architect make appropriate revisions to the specifications to obtain a bid within the cost estimate and budget for the Project.

17. Capital Reserve Withdrawal

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the withdrawal of Capital Reserve for:

PH Auditorium Upgrades	\$646,204.55
PH Grandstand Erosion Repair and Drainage	\$344,000.00
PH C-wing Roof Replacement	\$490,000.00
PV Lecture Hall Area Roof Replacement	\$556,000.00
PV Cafeteria and Hallway Window Replacement	\$5,400.00

18. Correction - Speech and Language Specialist - Region II

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Ingrid Gsellmeier, SLP (previously approved on March 18, 2024 as Ingrid Gsellmeier) a Speech and Language Specialist, for Region II during the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Gsellmeier’s hourly rates are \$77 per hour for individual sessions, \$87 per hour for group sessions and \$450 per evaluation.

19. Driver Seminar Training

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Driver Seminar Training to be held on April 20, 2024, at Northern Valley Regional High School District. The training will be from 7:30 am – 12:00 pm at a cost of \$25.00 per driver. The following drivers will be attending the training:

Carlos Salazar	Asani Dzevit	Carlos Morales
----------------	--------------	----------------

20. Special Education Transportation - Region II - 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.

Transporter	Contract	Rte #	Route	Per Diem Increase/ Decrease	Adjusted Per Diem Cost
Alpha Generation	2364	2364	Brownstone	-20	331.18
Galaxia	082	2106	Sage Day, R.P.	90.00	377.47
Scholastic	097	2345	PHHS	125.00	537.85
Spring	Q232424	Q232424	Cranford Achievement Prg	25.00	300.00

21. Special Education Transportation - Region II - 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 Q232429 to Tiny Tours Transport, LLC during the 2023-2024 school year.

Route #	Route	Base	Aide	Per Diem	Annual Cost
Q232429	Roberge Elem	44	30	74.00*	4,144.00*

***includes cost of Aide**

22. Region II - Speech Agency & Therapists

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following speech agency & therapists to provide services to the member districts of Region II in the 2023-24 school year.

Corp. or Agency	Therapist	Title	Individual Hourly Rate	Group Hourly Rate
The Therapy Gym LLC	Dana Siletski SLP	Speech Therapist	\$180	\$180
The Therapy Gym LLC	Caryn Goodman	Speech Therapist	\$180	\$180

Moved by: Stankus

Seconded by: Stephans

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Blundo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stankus	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Calderone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Stephans	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Huang	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Luisi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Mr. Weaver thanked the Borough of Montvale for the Shared Services Agreement for the SLEO IIIs. He indicated that it's a significant resource that provides safety to both schools. He thanked both Montvale and Hillsdale.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

Monthly Suspension Report (attached)

Ms. Bilotti commented on the following:

ADV Bergen County Workshop

The Alternatives to Domestic Violence workshop that Elizabeth Calderone has mentioned at prior meetings is being hosted by the Hills Valley Coalition on May 8th and is called building healthy relationships, a parent's guide to recognizing and addressing teen dating violence. You can find information in Parent Square or on the Hills Valley Coalition social media.

Referendum

As I mentioned, we have asked our senior admin team to begin to identify priorities for us to consider for a possible budget-neutral referendum in 2028. Yas has asked them to consider priorities outside of cost at this juncture so that we may get a clear picture of needs and assess from there. To that end at our May meeting we will have our architect discuss with the Board the first step of a referendum process which is a full facility use evaluation, he will also discuss potential timelines and expectations for referendum planning. At that same meeting he will respond to the request for a room utilization study with regard to the locker rooms, specifically.

Cell Tower

We have been in contact with the townships around Valley and understand that cell towers are being constructed that may impact our service at Valley. We engaged in a study which will also

be presented at the April 29th Board meeting with some alternatives for us to consider should cell towers not yield additional cell signals.

Budget

We are working to schedule a Finance Committee meeting between now and the budget adoption to go over the budget and also to hear from the athletic directors regarding not just boosters but also the overall changes to the athletic budget, which are outlined in the memo that Yas will pass out right now. This memo includes additional information about the budget process and we ask that you let us know prior to the budget hearing any specific questions that you may have. We will have a full presentation at the April 29th meeting as well.

Mr. Weaver said it's difficult for a board member who is not on the Finance Committee to understand everything going into the budgeting process since the budget increase is voted on at one meeting and then adoption takes place at a later meeting. It makes it difficult to ask questions. He mentioned that other districts give a presentation of the budget which allows for questions and the budget is voted on at another meeting. He indicated that at the last meeting it was mentioned that three positions are not going to be filled due to declining enrollment. He would like to know the positions, why are the positions not needed and what do the enrollment decreases look like. He said it could have been discussed prior to the vote of the tentative budget. Ms. Bilotti indicated that information will be provided to the Finance Committee as well as the full board. Ms. Bilotti characterized the three positions as being absorbed. She commented that there are sections that are not full and as sectioning proceeds there could be the possibility of having one teacher rather than two. She mentioned that out of the 11 retirements and resignations, they will need backfill about nine of them. She said it does not mean that something will be cut or not running things. It's due to fewer students signing up for courses. She gave an example of Chinese language where there are fewer students signing up for it, so it appears that two teachers with a full load will not be needed and one teacher could teach other classes. She said this approach would provide flexibility in scheduling and staffing without a direct impact to student services.

Mr. Weaver asked what are the other two positions.

Ms. Bilotti indicated that Guidance is working on finalizing the sectioning report. She mentioned that other areas with fewer students signed up are French, Italian, performing music courses, and electives. She commented that those courses are still being run, but it may be with fewer staff.

Mr. Weaver said the new schedule was to provide consistency of the days and to offer electives. He asked if there has been an increase in electives taken, a survey for students on what electives they would like to take, has there been an increase in elective offerings.

Mr. Stankus asked if there is enough flexibility to accommodate what students want. He indicated that from year to year students' preferences change as well as demographics. He wants to make sure that those factors are considered when making decisions.

Mr. Weaver asked to accommodate these needs. Are there other areas besides teaching staff to cut from?

Ms. Stephans, Mrs. Varghese commented that the positions are not being filled. They are not being fired.

Mr. Weaver said it's semantics - absorbed/eliminated. He gave an example of 100 teachers and now there are 97 then there are three fewer teachers. He wants to make sure that the new schedule is being met by expanding offerings/providing more opportunities. He would like to know if that goal has been met. He asked if the district is doing enough to provide trade offerings. He would like to see if there is data on what student elective offerings they want. He would like to know how many students are taking electives versus a study hall for their Pascack Period. He mentioned that the three positions would equal about \$300,000, so where would that savings

come from if not the teaching positions. He commented that in the future it would be helpful to have the budget information at the earlier meeting in advance of the final vote. He would like more information on the budget especially when the master schedule is to provide more offerings for students.

Ms. Stephans commented that if Mr. Weaver heard from the directors, his questions will be answered. She said the business courses have been expanded and there are plenty of electives. She indicated that they are listening to the students.

Ms. Bilotti indicated that they are not eliminating programs or reducing electives by absorbing positions. She said they are looking at students' needs and desires. She mentioned that it is not beneficial for students to be in a small class size. She indicated that there are 180 fewer students since 2020 and that is why fewer teachers are needed. She commented that since 2021 the elective offerings have increased as students were allowed to take two electives.

Mrs. Martin commented that a big change is the growth of the internship program. She mentioned that speaks to the trades. She also mentioned that those students leave in the afternoon to go to their internships.

Ms. Bilotti mentioned that there appears to be 50 fewer students based on outgoing seniors and incoming freshmen. She said the decline is not perpetual since the sending districts are experiencing an increase especially in pre-k to grades 2. She indicated that scheduling is an ongoing process and it takes time because the administration tries to accommodate students' wants. She mentioned that she has been in other districts where students rank their courses and they are given courses based on efficiency of scheduling. If they cannot be accommodated then other options such as online, virtual high school, and dual enrollment with colleges. She commented that another option is to utilize 6th period assignment to provide a course if the other options are not possible. She said when enrollment increases the restructuring that has been done will afford them to keep the programs and expand if needed. She anticipates an upswing in vocal and performing arts since the middle school band numbers are substantially larger than two years ago due to Covid.

Mrs. Huang said certain electives have varying weighting of grades. She commented that it could hurt a student's GPA. She asked why they are weighted differently and it could have an impact on which elective is chosen.

Ms. Bilotti indicated that Dr. Bachenheimer and his team are evaluating it.

Mr. Stankus said he likes this discussion. He mentioned the college and career readiness skills which is required by the state and the district is doing a superb job. He commented that the district is a member of the League of Innovative Schools, so the district is always looking to bring in innovative and cutting edge ideas. He indicated that everything is moving at an exponential speed. He commented that high school graduates today will have different jobs available to them when they graduate college. He tells students to go into something they are passionate about. He said flexibility is important, so when something is in high demand then a teacher can be moved if qualified and if something is low demand then move the teacher to something in high demand. He said the environment is ever changing.

Mrs. Varghese appreciated Mr. Weaver's perspective and bringing this up. She indicated that the Board has a financial fiscal responsibility, so if a class can be combined utilizing one teacher instead of two then that is fiscally responsible.

Mr. Weaver asked, with budgeting becoming increasingly more difficult, will the district be able to build positions back in time.

Mr. Usami acknowledged that budgets are more difficult. He said that with increased enrollment then the state provides an enrollment adjustment that other districts have experienced and received. This does mean that the increase will go above 2%, but there is a reason for that (enrollment increase). He added that state aid should increase as well, however that is not always a given. He referenced S2 which has provided under funded districts like our district with

