

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

**Pascack Valley Regional High School District**

**Monday, May 15, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.  
In the Pascack Valley High School Auditorium**

**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**

Present: Mr. Joseph Blundo, President  
Ms. Elizabeth Calderone  
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: Olivia Ge - PHHS, Isabella Velez - PVHS

Absent: Mrs. Gini Varghese, Vice President  
Dr. Kelly Blundy  
Mr. Pat Luisi

**II. FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Blundo 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 August 15, 2022.

**IV. ROUTINE MATTERS**

Monthly Reports

Superintendent's Report: Sarah Bilotti

Ms. Bilotti commented on her first Robotics Sponsor Dinner which was held before the board meeting. She mentioned the match they won against last year's champions. It displayed teamwork in an exciting match. She indicated that the speeches given by the team leaders were professional, entertaining and engaging. All the speeches were impressive. Some of the sponsors who were present at the dinner offered a tour of their engineering facility, a leadership talk, internships, and other entrepreneurial opportunities. She mentioned that the team has served as mentors to domestic and international teams.

Mr. Blundo mentioned that he has been to previous sponsor dinners and he learned more and was inspired. He said the health of the program is strong after a two year hiatus. He said it's a testament to the upperclassmen. He indicated that some of the members recruited aggressively to get new members on the team. He commended the adult leaders for getting the program back to its high level. He commented that the Robotics Team is more than robots. He mentioned the marketing, website, photography, financial, and overall business functions. He said everyone contributes to the team and its success.

PVHS Monthly Report: Student Representative, Isabella Velez [report](#)

PHHS Monthly Report: Student Representative, Olivia Ge [report](#)

V. **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:

May 1, 2023	Regular Meeting	7:30 p.m.
April 17, 2023	Executive Meeting	7:04 p.m.

Moved by: Stephans                      Seconded by: Martin

VOTE

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

Ms Calderone and Mr. Blundo abstained to the May 1 regular minutes and Mr. Weaver abstained to the April 17 executive minutes.

Mr. Blundo mentioned that if a board member is absent at a meeting, but watches the taped meeting then the member does not need to abstain.

Mr. Weaver added the executive sessions are not recording, so a member cannot view it.

VI. **STUDENT RECOGNITION**

**Pascack Pi-oneers – FIRST Robotics Team 1676**

[Match Video](#)   [Impact Video](#)   [Animation Video](#)

**WHEREAS**, the following students from Pascack Hills and Pascack Valley High Schools

are the Pascack Pi-oneers – FIRST Robotics Team 1676 - the district’s robotics team. FIRST stands for “For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.” The team won the following awards:

Mt. Olive FIRST Mid Atlantic District Event

- Excellence in Engineering Award
- Event Finalist Warren Hills FIRST Mid Atlantic District Event

- Engineering Inspiration Award
- Semi-Finalist

## FIRST Mid Atlantic District Championship

- Engineering Inspiration Award
- Semi-Finalist
- Dean's List Finalist - Eliza Krigsman

## FIRST World Championship

- Engineering Inspiration Award - Johnson Division
- Finalist - Johnson Division

Art Allajbegu PV	Kenneth Ang PH	Adinadhan Athreya PH
Grant Bancroft PH	Dylan Barrett PH	Joshua Baskin PH
Leisha Bhosle PH	William Bramley PV	Yushin Cho PV
Jake DePaolo PV	Giulia DiSalvo PH	Sonny Drozd PV
Max Dryerman PH	Hugh Gorman PV	Julian Guggino PV
Benjamin Gulleyan PV	Colin Hill PH	William Hill PV
Karyn Hill PV	Suzanna Kalishman PH	Roderick Kennedy PV
Minche Kim PV	Eliza Krigsman PH	Ciara Leen PV
Grant Linardic PH	Alex Liptak PV	Estrella Luna PV
Suhani Mahale PH	Benjamin Miller PH	Evan Minneker PV
Tyler Minneker PV	Dylan Minneker PV	John Murno PV
Treshan Nilaweera PV	Triyana Nilaweera PV	Olivia Nixon PH

Ciaran O'Brien PV	Sean O'Neil PV	Aditya Pokala PH
Nathan Prins PV	Ming-Lang Qin PV	Thomas Rottinger PH
Emily Rottinger PH	Jessica Ruderman PV	Christina Samouhos PH
Thomas Samouhos PH	Gowri Santhosh Kumar Rekha PH	Jason Schwartz PH
Ryan Schwartz PH	Tyler Seferian PV	Kareena Shah PV
Matthew Sheehan PH	Aastha Shukla PH	Aryan Shukla PV
Gavin Sibley PH	Benjamin Smith PH	Danielle Stanchak PV
Ayan Swain PH	Adrian Testino PV	Aleksey Trust PV
Victor Urumov PH	Nathaniel Veit PV	Vincent Wang PV
Christine Yang PH	Justin Yoo PH	Raymond Yoo PV
Joohee Yoon PV	Derek Zheng PH	Kirill Zhukau PH
Coach Kevin Killian	Coach <a href="#">Lisa Ruggieri</a>	Coach Jack Teadore
Coach James Whitfield	Mentor Stephan Bacica	Mentor David Banovic
Mentor Barbara Bressler	Mentor Brian Buckley	Mentor Ellen Drennan
Mentor Ryan Hall	Mentor Michael Herman	Mentor Eric Kasper
Mentor Matthew Lantry	Mentor Steve Mertz	Mentor Kaushal Pandya
Mentor D. J. Solleder	Mentor Alex Wolosiuk	

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, recognize these students, their coaches, and their mentors for their outstanding achievement.

Mr. Stankus thanked the parents as he was a Robotics parent three times. He said it's quite an accomplishment for the parents as well.

Mr. Weaver asked if the referenced video is available for viewing.

Team members announced that it is available on the website, Team1676.com.

Mr. Blundo indicated that Mr. Zeller would see about attaching the video to the minutes.

Mr. Blundo commented that when he went to Pascack Valley, students with this talent and interest did not have many places to showcase it. He indicated that the spirit and camaraderie he saw today was similar to a football team. He said the bonding was tremendous. He complimented Coach Teadore as the leader, but he has plenty of support.

#### VII. **PRESENTATION**

Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights: Self-assessment Report 2021-2022- Dr. Sean Struncis, District Supervisor of Guidance [Presentation](#)

Ms. Stephans asked who performs the assessment.

Dr. Struncis indicated that each school has a self assessment team and each team conducts an assessment in June and sends the scores along with the data that supports the score to the State Department of Education in the fall. The Department sends the scores to the districts in April.

Mr. Stankus asked the composition of the self assessment team.

Dr. Struncis said the team is led by the Anti-Bullying Specialists who are the Student Assistance Counselors, student, staff administrator, and a community member.

#### 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.

None

#### IX. **POLICY**

Consent Agenda for Items 1- 2

##### 1. **School Self-Assessment Reports under the Anti-Bullying Act**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the submission of the 2021-2022 School Self-assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for Pascack Hills and Pascack Valley High Schools.

**2. 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 incidents: # 246703 PVH, and # 246709 PHH.

Moved by: Stephans

Seconded by: Stankus

VOTE

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

Mr. Weaver abstained on item 2.

**X. EDUCATION**

Consent Agenda for Items 1 - 2

**1. Overnight Trip**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Pascack Hills Girls Lacrosse team members, coach Lindsay Walsh, and chaperones Cynthia Cook and Matthew Walsh to travel to Orlando, Florida for training from March 20-24, 2024.

**2. Extra Speech Therapy Session**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve extra speech therapy cost for student ID # 812473 attending New Bridges (BCSS). As per the student's IEP. The student will receive an additional (1) half hour session a week, at the cost of \$65 per session, for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved by: Stankus

Seconded by: Stephans

VOTE

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

**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- 6

**1. New Hire**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following individuals to the positions indicated, upon receipt of official transcripts and all paperwork:

Name	Positon	Account	Salary*	Effective
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		<b>Number</b>		<b>Date</b>
David Giraldo	PVHS Special Education Teacher	11-213-100-101-06-000	\$82,275 MA 45 / Step 6. with benefits, tenure track per PVREA contract	August 28, 2023
Julia Abahazy	PHHS Science Teacher	11-140-100-101-07-110	\$60,975 BA / Step 4 with benefits, tenure track per PVREA contract	August 28, 2023
Michele Reale	PHHS Special Education Teacher	11=213-100-101-07-000	\$85,775 MA / Step 10 with benefits, tenure track per PVREA contract	August 28, 2023

\*Salary may be adjusted once the PVREA contract is settled.

## 2. Substitute Teacher

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following permanent substitute teacher in the area of special education at PHHS from August 28, 2023 - March 1, 2024:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Salary*</b>
Cassandra Leibfried	\$150 per day Pending CEAS certification, once obtained, compensation will be \$59,275 MA Step1 prorated, with health benefits

\*Salary may be adjusted once the PVREA contract is settled.

## 3. 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 Vicki Schultz, Pascack Valley Paraprofessional, for the purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2023.

4. **Additional Periods**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following additional assignments in the area of music from January 23 - February 17, 2023 (63 periods):

Name	Total Pay
Argine Safari	\$3,500

5. **Instructional Assignment**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following additional assignments in the area of physics and technology from May 4, 2023 until the end of the 2022-2023 school year (17 periods):

Name	Total Pay
William Koenig	\$944.44

6. **Chaperones**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following chaperones for the Pascack Hills High School senior prom on June 8, 2023:

Marcia Forte	Vanessa Martinez
Nick Scerbo	Christopher Volk

Moved by: Stephans

Seconded by: Calderone

VOTE

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

XII. **FINANCE**

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 9

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 May 15, 2023	\$2,272,424.97
Payroll as of May 15, 2023	\$1,763,684.91
<b>Total</b>	\$4,036,109.88

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 2022-23 financial reports, which are in agreement reflecting the district's financial activities for the period March 2023.

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 March 2023 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 March 2023 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	March 2023
b. e-Learning Account	March 2023
c. Capital Project Account	March 2023
d. Student Government Account – PH	March 2023

e. Student Government Account – PV	March 2023
f. Athletic Account – PH	March 2023
g. Athletic Account – PV	March 2023

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 March 2023.

6. **Corrected - Shared Services Agreement with Borough of Hillsdale - SLEO III**

**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 Hillsdale and the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education concerning the hiring and placement of special police officer SLEO IIIs at Pascack Valley High School for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$56,270.40 per year per officer.

7. **Donation**

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

Date	Donor	Donation	Club or Group
5/1/23	Wegmans	\$500	Asian Culture Club PH

8. **Approve Student Accident Insurance - Bob McCloskey Insurance**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the district student accident insurance premium through Bob McCloskey Insurance from August 1, 2023 to August 1, 2024 in the amount of \$106,899.

9. **Nursing Services to Non-Public Students - Catapult Learning**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, renew the service contract with Catapult Learning to provide non-public nursing services for the 2023-2024 school year. Such services shall be rendered pursuant to and in accordance with Chapter 226 of the Laws of 1991, and all rules and regulations promulgated thereunder by the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education. Fees are determined by state allocation for non-public nursing services.



Blundy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Calderone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Luisi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Blundo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stankus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Respectfully,



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Yas Usami  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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