

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

**Pascack Valley Regional High School District**

October 11, 2021

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on Monday, October 11, 2021  
at 5:30 p.m. in the Pascack Hills High School Auditorium

**Meeting Regulations**

During this regular meeting, two opportunities are provided for citizens to ask questions and to make comments. During the first opportunity, early on the agenda, comments are invited. The second opportunity will occur just prior to adjournment, when residents may address general comments to the Board with time limits being at the discretion of the President.

Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise and state their name and address. 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.

Comments and questions 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 livestreamed 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.

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

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**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 compete and collaborate as ethical and responsible global citizens.



**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:
  1. Superintendent Search Firm Interviews.
3. The Board will return to the Regular Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
4. Official action may or may not be taken when the Board reconvenes to Public Session.

A motion was made by Mrs. Varghese to reconvene into the public meeting at 7:19 p.m. Dr. Blundy seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

The public session resumed in the Pascack Hills High School auditorium.

### **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 May 18, 2021.

### **IV. ROUTINE MATTERS**

One Agenda Item

#### **1. Minutes**

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

|                    |                 |           |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| September 27, 2021 | Regular Meeting | 7:30 p.m. |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|

|                    |                   |           |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| September 27, 2021 | Executive Meeting | 7:31 p.m. |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|



She mentioned that bus is dedicated to them. She added that she would provide responses for additional questions.

Dr. Focella, spouse of Ms. Silvano and an internist and certified in travel medicine (considered an expert). He indicated the students on this trip are tourists and they will be segregated as opposed to a traveler like he and his wife who traveled to three European countries and mingled with many people over the summer. He said he counsels patients who are traveling to Africa, India, the Orient, South America ranging from consultation, vaccinations, food and water precautions, and insect bites. He would tell a student traveling to Italy that there is no problem to go. He would advise them to wear masks and avoid large crowds.

Eli Moallem of River Vale commented that the cost of the schools is going through the roof and board leadership is subjecting the community to additional expense and distractions over the mascot. He said the students have lost a significant amount of time educationally due to the pandemic and the non-educational initiatives like the mascot fiasco. He indicated that getting rid of the Indian was the dumbest thing ever and did not know why the Cowboy was replaced. He called this a charade, power trip and a tool of division. He mentioned that some board members sent a message that the mascot had to go because of cultural appropriation. He said that some children were called racists if they supported the Indian and the school's great heritage. The Board thought it was worth \$300,000 to replace the mascot and that should scare every taxpayer considering the budget has exploded in recent years. The cost per pupil has gone from \$21,000 to almost \$26,000 in four years. He indicated that the Board throws around money, so how can they be trusted. He commented that the Board has implemented half-baked measures to support policies. He said that the mascot process needs to be re-evaluated with cost being at the forefront. He added that maybe the community could weigh in on such an important decision.

Dee Scacchetti of River Vale thanked Cindy Reese and her team along with ACIS. She asked the Board to allow ACIS to guide them with the trip(s). She indicated that many of the parents purchased the extra insurance in order for their kids to go on the trip. She commented that the experience will allow them to see the world as well as prepare them for college and possibly study abroad. She asked the Board to keep an open mind.

Melissa Starr of River Vale thanked the Board for the time that they dedicate. She supported what Ms. Scacchetti and Ms. Reese said. She mentioned that ACIS has taken precautions for this trip and she asked the Board to allow the company to make the decision what is right for the students.

Steve Hershkowitz of Hillsdale asked why would the trip be canceled. He said COVID will be here for a while, possibly forever like the flu. He indicated that last year people were afraid because it was new. He mentioned that everyone on the trip will be vaccinated and if anyone does get sick, it's in a country where they can be treated. He was unaware if there was a meeting when this was discussed.

Mr. Blundo responded that it was not discussed at a meeting that it has been brought up now.

**VI. POLICY**

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 2

**1. Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the 2021-2022 Updated (2019) Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement between the Pascack Valley Regional High School District and the police of Hillsdale, Montvale, River Vale, and Woodcliff Lake.

**2. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Executive Report**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, affirm the findings of the following harassment, intimidation and bullying incident:  
#222097\_PHH\_09092021

Moved by: Blundy Seconded by: Martin

**VOTE**

| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                                 | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye                                 | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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"/> |
| Blundy    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fronte    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Varghese | <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"/> | Weaver   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Molinelli | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                                     |                          |                          |                          |

**VII. EDUCATION**

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 2

**1. Travel Abroad Rescinded Due to COVID Restrictions**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, rescind travel abroad approved for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Europe PVHS Depart: 4/14/2022 Return: 4/24/2022
- Italy, Greece PVHS Depart: 2/18/2022 Return: 2/27/2022
- France PVHS Depart: 4/14/2022 Return: 4/23/2022
- Italy PVHS Depart: 5/26/2022 Return: 6/4/2022

**2. Academic Supplemental Reading Instruction (Orton Gillingham)**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve academic

supplemental reading instruction (Orton Gillingham) for student # 811105, for two hours a week at \$55 per hour, for the 2021-2022 school year with Danielle Macaluso, as per the student’s IEP.

Ms. Molinelli commented that the Board does not make policy for one trip and not another. She said the Board takes all input before making decisions.

Mr. Weaver commented that his position is based on the recommendation of the interim superintendent which was based on meetings with school administrators. His understanding is for those who travel abroad are required to be tested to return to the U.S. His concern is if one student tests positive then two staff would need to stay with the student since it’s not good to have one staff with one student. He mentioned that would create a liability to the district even though the trip has educational value. If there was no requirement to be tested to return to the U.S. then there would be no conversation about this.

Dr. Blundy asked what the urgency is to have this done tonight. She would like their questions answered by ACIS to have a clear understanding.

Dr. Fishbein indicated that a trip in February would need approval by November unless parents bought the premium/ultimate insurance. The higher insurance would allow parents/district to cancel up to 4 days before the trip, for no reason.

Mr. Fronte agreed with Dr. Blundy about getting more information and waiting since they do not know what the situation will be. He indicated that he does not want to make a decision too early. He added that the trips should be separated by travel date. He wanted to table the resolution and make a motion to table #1, obtain more information and break out the trips. However, it was pointed out to all that there could no longer be any discussion if the motion is approved.

Motion to Table #1, obtain more information and break out the trips

Moved by: Blundo Seconded by: Stankus

**VOTE**

| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                                 | Nay                                 | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye                      | Nay                                 | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Blundo    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stankus  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Blundy    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fronte    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Varghese | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Martin    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weaver   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Molinelli | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                          |                                     |                          |                          |

Discussion resumed.

Mrs. Varghese who is a nurse practitioner said people have been asked to be patient during the pandemic. The Board has asked for patience since every week things have changed. She would like to practice patience with the trip. She indicated that the

students have been through a lot and that parents will not put their child in harms way. She recommended that they wait and see.

Mr. Stankus wanted to know if the travel companies look at hospital capacity. He said decisions have been based on what is going on in the area and hospital capacity. He would like to know what is going on in the country before the children travel. He indicated that the data needs to be reviewed, see what the travel companies say and the health department. He is concerned about the two-week quarantine.

Ms. Stephans was concerned about the number of students and staff going on the trip since the ratio is to be 1 teacher for every 6 students.

Dr. Fishbein indicated that about 35 students for the Italy trip and about 14-15 for the other trips.

Ms. Stephans was concerned that if there is a student who tests positive then teachers would need to stay behind and they would miss teaching class which would affect the students in those classes. She asked how many students have the premium insurance and if it could be mandatory to have it to go on the trip.

Dr. Fishbein said he would provide the number who have it and added that most do. He indicated that they could make it mandatory. He believed that those without the premium insurance would need to cancel by November 15 and those who do have up to 4 days before the trip.

Mrs. Martin wanted to confirm that the Board would vote on a trip by trip basis and they will be guided by the CDC and health department rather than a travel company.

Mr. Weaver wanted to confirm that those without the premium insurance for the Italy/Greece trip have a deadline of November 15 and the other Italy, France and Europe trips have the same three-month timeline. Dr. Fishbein confirmed, but was not sure about the last Italy trip and he would get that information. He indicated that these trips are for Pascack Valley students and should only be current students.

Mrs. Varghese thought students who missed the trip the previous year and are now in college would be allowed to go on this trip. Ms. Molinelli commented that the Board is only responsible for current students.

Mr. Weaver said he would be in favor of tabling this item in order to get more information and discussing it. He was concerned how students who are not current students could go on the trip and would like to see if it's addressed in policy.

Mr. Blundo made a motion to table Item #1.

Motion to Table #1





Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 11

**1. New Hire**

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

| <b>Name</b>   | <b>Position</b>              | <b>Salary</b>    | <b>Effective Dates</b> |
|---------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Luisa Sanchez | Special Education<br>Teacher | \$61,150 revised | 8/30/2021              |

**2. Resignations**

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, accept with regret, the resignation of Janet Donaghy, instructional assistant at Pascack Hills High School, effective November 15, 2021.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, accept with regret, the resignation of Deborah Carpino, Treasurer of School Monies for the Pascack Valley Regional High School District, effective October 29, 2021.

**3. Leave of Absence (Modified)**

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

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>Position</b>     | <b>Requests:</b>  |
|------------------|---------------------|---|
| Jessica Andersen | PVHS FCS<br>Teacher | <u>Total Leave Period:</u><br>From: September 17, 2021 – February 4, 2022<br>To: September 13, 2021 – January 25, 2022<br>Paid using 30 sick days<br><u>FMLA/NJFLA</u><br>From: November 8, 2021 – February 4, 2022<br>To: October 26, 2021 – January 25, 2022<br><u>Leave of Absence</u><br>None |

| <b>Name</b>    | <b>Position</b>            | <b>Requests:</b>   |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Erica Schwartz | PHHS<br>Spanish<br>Teacher | <u>Total Leave Period:</u><br>From: August 28, 2021 – August 28, 2022<br>To: August 30, 2021 – August 28, 2022<br>Paid using 13 sick days<br><br><u>FMLA/NJFLA</u><br>From: September 15 – December 7, 2021<br>To: <b>September 22</b> – December 14, 2021<br><br><u>Leave of Absence</u><br>From: December 8, 2021 – August 28, 2022<br>To: December 15, 2021 – August 28, 2022 |

**4. Leave Replacement**

| <b>Name</b>    | <b>Position</b>               | <b>Salary</b>  | <b>Effective Dates</b>                    |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Rachel Maietta | CST leave<br>replacement PHHS | \$85,250 MA+30 Step<br>7 prorated, with<br>health benefits | November 19,<br>2021 to March 25,<br>2021 |

**5. Additional Periods**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following additional period assignments for the 2021-2022 school year:

| <b>Name</b> | <b>Department</b>    | <b>School</b> | <b>Additional Period</b>   |
|-------------|----------------------|---------------|--|
| Matt Morone | English              | PVHS          | 5 periods per week – from September 27 for the 2021-2022 school year |
| Tracy Ralph | Special<br>Education | PHHS          | 5 periods per week – from November 8, 2021 to November 19, 2021      |

**6. Additional Summer Days**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve ten summer days for Maggie Ely, school counselor at Pascack Valley High School.

**7. Substitute Teachers, Nurses, and Custodians**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following substitutes for the district:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Position</b>      | <b>Type</b> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Karen Elder           | Substitute Teacher   | Renew       |
| Timothy Serbe         | Substitute Teacher   | Renew       |
| Joelle Greene         | Substitute Teacher   | New         |
| Edinson Perez Santana | Substitute Custodian | New         |

**8. Co-curricular Appointment**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following co-curricular appointment for Pascack Hills High School for the 2021-2022 school year:

| <b>Position</b>            | <b>Name</b>     | <b>Amount</b> |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Musical Assistant Director | Nicole D'Angelo | \$3,520       |

**9. Volunteers**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following volunteers for the 2021-2022 school year:

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>School</b>            | <b>Activity</b>  |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Mark Schell      | Pascack Valley           | Girls Basketball |
| Hannah Sarakin   | Pascack Hills            | Volleyball       |
| Richard Krautman | Pascack Valley (Revised) | Football         |

**10. Athletic Resignations**

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, accept the resignation of Charles Appel, varsity boys lacrosse coach at Pascack Hills High School, effective immediately for the 2021-2022 school year.



**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 August 2021 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 August 2021 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 Interim Superintendent, approve the following reports:

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| a. Cafeteria Account               | August 2021 |
| b. e-Learning Account              | August 2021 |
| c. Capital Project Account         | August 2021 |
| d. Student Government Account – PH | August 2021 |
| e. Student Government Account – PV | August 2021 |
| f. Athletic Account – PH           | August 2021 |
| g. Athletic Account – PV           | August 2021 |

**5. Transfers**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approve transfers for the month of August.

**6. Travel Pre-Authorization**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve travel expense pre-authorization for Noemi Rodriguez.

**7. Dual Enrollment Agreement – Ramapo College**

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education at the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement between Ramapo College and Pascack Valley Regional High School District at the rate of \$123.95 per academic credit for the 2021-2022 school year.

**8. E-Rate Elite Services, Inc. - Funding Year 2022**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, accept the agreement between E-Rate Elite Services, Inc. and Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education for the Funding Year 2022.

**9. Submission of ARP-IDEA Grant Application and Acceptance of Grant Award**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approve the submission of the ARP – IDEA grant application for Fiscal Year 2022, and accept the grant award of the funds upon subsequent approval of the FY 2022 IDEA application. The total grant awarded is \$100,218, with \$13,274 of the total award allocated to the district’s nonpublic school.

**10. Approve the Amendment of the Storage Lease - Barbara Green Estate Management, LLC**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approve the amendment of the lease for the purpose of storage dated November 18, 2020 between the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education and Barbara Green Estate Management, LLC in the amount of \$2,500.00 per month for a term starting December 1, 2021 and ending on November 30, 2022.

**11. Approve the Submission of Projects to the State Department of Education:**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approve the submission of the following projects to the State Department of Education:

- Toilet Room Renovations (gymnasium lobby toilet rooms) at Pascack Hills High School
- C-Wing Roof Replacement at Pascack Hills High School
- Toilet Room Renovations (toilets across from Media Center) at Pascack Valley High School
- Roof Replacement (Lecture Hall) at Pascack Valley High School
- Cafeteria HVAC Upgrade at Pascack Valley High School
- Exterior Ramp Replacement at Pascack Valley High School

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approve the amendment to the Long Range Facility Plan in order to add the Exterior ramp replacement project at Pascack Valley High School.

**12. Approve Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement with Rothman Orthopaedics**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approve entering into a Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement with Rothman Orthopaedics for the placement of District students as observers of orthopaedic treatments and procedures at Rothman Orthopaedic’s Paramus Offices under the supervision of Dr. Frank G. Alberta, M.D.

**13. 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 Q2124 to Ombali LLC during the 2021-2022 school year.

| Route # | Route                   | Base | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|-------------------------|------|------|----------|-------------|
| Q2124   | Ridge Elementary School | 250  | 40   | 290.00*  | 20,010.00*  |

\*includes cost of aide

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q2125 to Gentle Ride Medical during the 2021-2022 school year.

| Route # | Route                | Base | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|----------------------|------|------|----------|-------------|
| Q2125   | New Alliance Academy | 310  | 50   | 310.00   | 20,150.00   |

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q2126 to Lenoir’s Transport during the 2021-2022 school year.

| Route # | Route                           | Base | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|---------------------------------|------|------|----------|-------------|
| Q2126   | Chapel Hill Academy; AM One Way | 150  | 40   | 150.00   | 20,100.00   |

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q2127 to We Care School Transportation during the 2021-2022 school year.

| Route # | Route               | Base | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|---------------------|------|------|----------|-------------|
| Q2127   | Woodside Elementary | 310  | 60   | 370.00*  | 19,980.00   |

\*includes cost of aide



Moved by: Fronte Seconded by: Stankus

**VOTE**

| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                                 | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye                                 | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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"/> |
| Blundy    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fronte    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Varghese | <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"/> | Weaver   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Molinelli | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                                     |                          |                          |                          |

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

Board Committee Reports – [Reports](#)

Larger group Curriculum and Instruction and Technology Committee – J Stankus

Policy Committee – J Stankus - [Report](#)

Mrs. Martin thanked Ms. Lindstrom for the honey extraction demo. She learned a great deal during the one-hour demo. She commented that we are fortunate to have teachers like Ms. Lindstrom as the students benefit. She added her gratitude to Ms. Lindstrom’s father who helped with the process. She mentioned that Pascack Valley is the only school that she is aware of that has a program like this.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Molinelli mentioned that the Board interviewed three superintendent search firms in the anticipation of naming a superintendent to begin July 2022. She indicated that a fourth firm had already interviewed with the Board. She recommended taking 3-4 weeks to evaluate what the firms can provide to the Board in this search, as hiring a superintendent is one of the responsibilities of the Board. The other is developing policies. The firms recommended a board liaison.

Mr. Blundo agreed, but thought 3-4 weeks may be too long. However, he wanted it to be past the election date. He agreed with selecting a board liaison.

Ms. Stephans volunteered to be the liaison.

- Board Goals – School Finance Training  
[Transfers](#) & [Bills](#) List training

Mr. Blundo said if an account has \$1 million then a transfer out of that account greater than \$100,000 would require county approval. Mr. Usami confirmed and said that a form would be filled out and sent to the county. The county has 10 days to respond and if not, it is deemed approved.

Mr. Blundo asked what happens if account lines are underspent.

Mr. Usami explained the process of reserving excess surplus to reserve accounts, usually capital and maintenance along with committing the remaining excess surplus to a future budget. He indicated resolutions are approved in June to not to exceed certain dollar amount for each reserve account. After the audit is completed Mr. Usami makes a recommendation to the Finance Committee in the amount to go towards the reserve accounts and excess surplus for future budget. Ms. Molinelli commented that the committees work during the year to support the goals which leads to budget development during the year. Mr. Blundo indicated that it's good to receive a refresher on these subjects.

- Discussion – Personnel Committee

Dr. Fishbein mentioned that he did some research on what a Personnel Committee could be involved with and made it clear that it would not be involved with hiring. The committee could review job descriptions, a review of needs of the district for budget purposes, used as a negotiations team, administration keeping committee apprised of litigation/grievances related to employee contracts, vacancies, review administrative structures and review personnel policies. Many of these are done through the Briefings to the Board, executive sessions and through other committees.

Mr. Stankus cited that there are three educators on the Board, so they would be unable to participate in negotiations.

Mr. Blundo asked if the job descriptions can have qualifications for the positions.

Dr. Fishbein said that school districts are highly regulated, so the proper certifications are required for certain positions. He mentioned that a minimum of a substitute certificate is required to be with children. There is a criminal background check that a person must clear.

Mr. Blundo and Dr. Fishbein discussed how the qualifications can be higher, but in some cases, it may restrict finding a candidate.

Ms. Stephans believed that the personnel committee would not be necessary since the policy and negotiations committees would cover the topics.

- Mascot Logo – [Presentation](#)

Mrs. Martin commented that Mr. Zeller had great rapport with the students on the committee. She said he made sure not to move on until everyone understood the process and agreed to move forward. She commended him for the endless time he put forth in this process

Dr. Fishbein indicated that the Board wanted to see the images and if they look good then have the students and staff vote.

Mr. Blundo said they looked great. Board members agreed.

Mrs. Martin understood that the Board does not need to vote.

Mr. Weaver understood that they would have discussion if anything was objectionable. There is nothing objectionable. Mr. Fronte agreed.

Dr. Fishbein asked if the final choice needs to come back to the Board

Ms. Stephans said that the students could present what they selected, but no vote by the Board. Mr. Stankus agreed.

Mr. Weaver commented that sounded fine, but the policy should be checked.

Mr. Zeller confirmed with the Board that this may go to the students and staff for a vote.

Mr. Weaver acknowledged the Hills Marching Band has been exceptional and even induced a delay of the game penalty for the football team because they played too long. He said that one his 3<sup>rd</sup> grade twin sons asked if he could play the drums after seeing a Hills football player take off his pads to play the drums at halftime. He thanked all the marching band people.

## **XII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Citizens are invited to make comments and are limited to five 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 and state their name and address.

Bob Ax of Hillsdale appreciated the approach taken by the Board regarding the trips. He asked the Board to be cautious with using strictly the color code CDC guidelines. He recommended using real data on what is transpiring in the particular countries.

Kim Wymbbs of Hillsdale asked why staff is voting for the logo. She mentioned that the students are the spirit of the community with sports program among others. She commented that there is no disrespect to the staff, however students are the lifeblood of the mascot as they will have it throughout their lives.

Mr. Weaver indicated that the process had staff vote with the mascot names, thus the process is the same.

Eli Moallem of River Vale commented that a lot of time has been wasted on the mascot when we have the coolest mascot. He asked if the students were ever asked if they wanted to keep the Indian. He commented that the taxpayers and alumni did not have a say about the mascot change, as he believes the change was done for show. He mentioned that over the last few months he has had communications with the Board and superintendent. He has received responses from Dr. Fishbein some that he may not have liked or received to be complete answers, but he appreciated Dr. Fishbein getting back to him. He indicated that he is not sure where individual board members stand on issues. He mentioned that the Board should be answering to the community, not the superintendent. He indicated that for the community to get any information they must come to the board meetings and they cannot ask questions via Zoom and they must navigate a website which is not easy to find information. He said communications to the public on policies and decisions need to be streamlined, so they stay informed. He commented that all the board meetings should be accessible through Zoom and people should have the ability to ask questions, as it worked well during the hybrid meetings and it will allow community involvement.

