

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

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

April 12, 2021

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on Monday, April 12, 2021 at
7:00 p.m. in the Pascack Valley High School Cafeteria and Zoom Webinar –
<hyperlink to follow>

Special Note: N.J.S.A. 10:4-8b authorizes local units to conduct public hearings through the use of streaming services and other online meeting platforms in certain circumstances. Therefore, in light of the public health emergency, the board of education will hold its regular meeting in a hybrid manner. The district website contains information on public participation.

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.

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, Montvale, NJ 07645.

*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 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:
 - a. Review of non-tenured staff.
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 Mr. Blundo to reconvene into the public meeting at 7:24 p.m. Mr. Fronte seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

The public session resumed in the Pascack Valley High School cafeteria.

III. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY PRESIDING OFFICER

Both adequate and electronic notice of this meeting has been provided, specifying the time, place, and manner in which such notice was provided and 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 29, 2020, October 23, 2020, and April 10, 2021.

There are two opportunities for the public to make comments, and when meetings are held in a hybrid or remote manner, there are two methods to comment:

1. Persons attending the public meeting, wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise, approach the podium and state their name and address.
2. Persons in attendance via the online streaming service, Zoom, may indicate their wish to speak when prompted by clicking the “Raise Hand” button on their screen, or if accessing by phone, by pushing *9. You will need to unmute yourself to speak by clicking the microphone button on the screen.

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

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| March 22, 2021 | Board Retreat | 4:30 p.m. |
| March 22, 2021 | Regular Minutes | 7:30 p.m. |

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"/> | Molinelli | <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"/> | Stankus | <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"/> |

V. PRESENTATION

Enhanced Schedule for School Year 2021-2022 - [Presentation](#)

Dr. Barry Bachenheimer
Mr. Glenn deMarrais
Mr. John Puccio
Mr. Tim Wieland

Mr. Blundo asked if a student chooses study hall would that be every day.

Dr. Bachenheimer indicated that the master schedule has not been developed as the administration has been running through different permutations.

Mr. Blundo asked if lunch would be a common lunch or multiple periods.

Mr. Wieland commented that ideally, they would like to revert to a common lunch if it is safe. He said the common lunch would open up many location options to eat lunch for health and safety purposes as opposed to only the cafeteria for multiple lunch periods.

Ms. Molinelli asked how art classes will be identified and developed.

Dr. Bachenheimer mentioned that they will follow their normal process by looking at registration data and develop sectioning. They look at how many students in sections and how teachers will be needed to staff the sections.

Mr. Blundo asked at what point will they know if they can or cannot move forward with this in September.

Dr. Bachenheimer said it's difficult to say as they finalized the master schedule in mid to late August last year. They have brought this to the Board to expedite the process.

Mr. Blundo asked if the students will be asked the area of interest if the 8th period schedule comes to fruition.

Mr. Wieland commented that they have already done this and have the information. He mentioned that at both schools some of the classes have more than enough room to add more students and in other classes they do not. In the latter case, additional section(s) would be needed.

Mr. Weaver said he is in support of the 8th period schedule since it enhances the curriculum and what is offered to students. He asked what the logistics are to inform the administration that there is Board support (financially). He asked if there are any other logistics that would hold up the proposed schedule for next year. If the Board gives support tonight then it would provide administration more time.

Dr. Gundersen said that is what they are seeking, not an official vote. He indicated that the administration does not want to move forward unless the majority of the Board is in support of the new schedule. He mentioned that the Pascack Period was the middle ground, but this will afford students an opportunity to take an additional class. He added that the administration is aware that this could be done financially to some degree.

Mr. Fronte commented that he is in favor as long as it can be done financially.

Mrs. Martin agreed.

Mr. Stankus indicated that this has been discussed in curriculum meetings and he is behind it. He added that anything that gives student flexibility and more choices/options will enrich students' learning experience.

Mrs. Varghese said she supports it and commended the administration for looking to enrich the district and students.

Dr. Gundersen commended the team for leading the effort. He commended the school counselors for speaking to each student to get their choice of what they would do if the option was available.

VI. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Citizens are invited to make comments regarding agenda items 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.

Carolee Adams of Montvale commented that she was happy to hear that students are interested in financial literacy. She mentioned that she sent an email earlier today in regards to the policy regarding student surveys and how the policy does not conform to New Jersey State Law. One is written informed parental consent two weeks prior to survey administration and the survey must be available to view. A violation of this is subject to monetary fines. She indicated that Pascack Valley Regional’s policy does not conform to the informed written consent, only written consent and it does not indicate monetary fines if the district violates the law. She recommended that the Board wait on adopting the policy since it violates NJ State law. She further recommended that Strauss Esmay and possibly the board attorney be consulted on this subject.

Dr. Gundersen acknowledged receiving Ms. Adams’ email a few hours ago and have sent her questions to Phil Nicaastro of Strauss Esmay and asked that he and his team review the policy. He indicated that he is comfortable approving the policy as it stands. He added that if Strauss Esmay believes a modification to a policy is needed then a revision is sent for a first and second reading.

VII. POLICY

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 6

1. Board 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 policies and regulations:

| Name of Policy or Regulation | Policy/ Reg Number |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Board Member Resignation and Removal | P 0145 |
| Board Member Participation at Board and Committee Meetings Using Electronic Device | P 0155.1 |
| Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency | P 0164.6 |
| Family Leave | P 1643 |
| Every Student Succeeds Act | P 2415 |

| Name of Policy or Regulation | Policy/ Reg Number |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Title I – Fiscal Responsibilities | P 2415.02 |
| Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations | P 2415.05 |
| Every Student Succeeds Act Complaints | P 2415.20 |
| Independent Education Evaluations | P 2468 |
| Employment of Support Staff Members | P 4125 |
| Administration of Medical Cannabis | P 5330.01 |
| Political Contributions | P 6360 |
| Lead Testing of Water in Schools | P 7425 |
| Student Records | P 8330 |
| Recruitment by Special Interest Groups | P 9713 |
| Earned Sick Leave Law | R 1642 |
| Every Student Succeeds Act Complaints | R 2415.20 |
| Administration of Medical Cannabis | R 5330.01 |
| Lead Testing of Water in Schools | R 7425 |

2. Abolish BOE Policies

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, abolish the following policies and regulations as they have been incorporated into previously revised policies and new policies adopted in Item 1:

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| P 2415.01 | P 2415.03 | P 3431.1 | P 3431.3 |
| P 4431.1 | P 4431.3 | P 7430 | R 7430 |

3. [Performance Reports 2019-2020](#)

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, publicly acknowledge

receipt of the reports and the posting of the 2019-2020 Performance Report to the district website.

4. Change to Co-curricular Club

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve A Cappella at Pascack Hills High School for the 2021-2021 school year, due to its success as a probationary club in 2019-2020. Margarita Elkin will be paid a stipend of \$1,530 for the 2020-2021 school year.

5. Substitute Teacher Rate for AP Proctoring

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a per diem rate of \$150 for AP test proctoring by district approved substitute teachers for the 2020-2021 school year only.

6. Summer Help Rates (modified)

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following hourly rates for the summer of 2021:

| Positions | Rate |
|---|----------------|
| Custodian/Technology Summer Help – 1 st Year | \$13.00 |
| Custodian/Technology Summer Help – Returning | \$14.00 |

Vote on Items 1-6 except Item 1, Policy 2415.05 Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations

Moved by: Blundo 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"/> | Molinelli | <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"/> | Stankus | <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"/> |

Mr. Weaver indicated that Ms. Adams had raised the policy in question at the last meeting. He asked if the board attorney had been consulted beside following up with Strauss Esmay.

Dr. Gundersen said that Strauss Esmay is the go to authority and if they recommend contacting the board attorney he follows up.

Mr. Weaver asked if there are any cons in approving the second reading of that policy. He had done some research, but was unable to obtain any clarification.

Dr. Gundersen indicated that the district has not issued any survey that needed to comply with that type of policy in quite some time. He mentioned that the school climate and culture survey does not pertain to this policy. He commented that typically the surveys that fall into this policy are developed by the U.S. Department of Education asking students individual questions about their own behaviors and challenges that they are facing. He added that law always supersedes policy.

Mr. Blundo asked if there is a financial or operational cost if the policy is pulled. He also asked if they approve the second reading tonight as is he would want assurances that that type of survey is not sent out while they see if a revision is needed.

Dr. Gundersen said that the district does not have any plans to issue a survey that address the NJ State Law that has been referenced. He indicated that he could not think of any downside of tabling the policy at this time. There would be no cost and it would be presented at the next meeting.

Ms. Molinelli commented that the district has a robust policy committee and if Strauss Esmay and possibly the board attorney comes back with feedback the committee could meet and vet it.

Mr. Blundo moved to table Policy 2415.05 and vote on all other Policy items (1-6) which seconded by Mrs. Martin

VIII. EDUCATION

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 2

1. Bedside/Home/Supplemental Instruction

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve bedside tutoring for student ID #811637 admitted to Healing at Hidden River Center, on March 18, 2021 through a date to be determined. Services are being provided by LearnWell billed at \$50 per hour of instruction and a preparations fee of 33%, for 10 hours per week.

2. Independent CST Evaluators – Region II

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following school psychologists for Region II providing services at the rate of \$450 per evaluation and \$77 per hour for CST meetings:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Rachel Maietta | Rachel Mollozzi |
|----------------|-----------------|

Moved by: Blundo Seconded by: Fronte

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"/> | Molinelli | <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"/> | Stankus | <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"/> |

IX. HUMAN RESOURCES

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 9

1. Changes of Assignment

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve John Puccio, principal of Pascack Valley High School, effective July 1, 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year, at an annual salary of \$177,000, with health benefits. Salary will be adjusted when PVRAA contract negotiations are completed.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Steven Papa, Supervisor of Athletics and Physical Education at Pascack Hills High School, effective July 1, 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year, at an annual salary of \$132,624, with health benefits. Salary will be adjusted when PVRSA contract negotiation are completed.

2. Leave of Absence

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

| Name | Position | Requests: |
|----------------|----------------------|---|
| Erica Schwartz | PHHS Spanish Teacher | <u>Total Leave Period:</u> August 28, 2021 – August 28, 2022 Paid using 9 sick days <u>FMLA/NJFLA</u> September 15 –December 7, 2021 <u>Leave of Absence</u> December 8, 2021 – August 28, 2022 |

3. Non-tenured Administrator Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of non-tenured administrators for the 2021-2022 school year.

4. Non-tenured Non-Bargaining Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of non-tenured non-bargaining staff for the 2021-2022 school year.

5. Non-tenured Teacher Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of non-tenured teachers for the 2021-2022 school year.

6. Non-tenured Support Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of non-tenured support staff for the 2021-2022 school year.

7. Substitute Custodian

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Shkljkim Ismaili as a new substitute custodian for the district.

8. Athletic Resignation

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the resignation of Brooks Alexander, head coach for the football team at Pascack Hills High School for the 2021-2022 fall season.

9. Athletic Appointment

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Steve Casamento as assistant coach (50%) for the boys baseball team at Pascack Hills High School for a stipend of \$3,555, Step 3 for the 2020-2021 spring season.

Move Item 1A

X. FINANCE

Consent Agenda Items 1 – 12

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 12, 2021 | \$2,510,816.33 |
| Payroll as of March 31, 2021 | \$1,712,558.41 |
| Total | \$4,223,374.74 |

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 2020/21 financial reports, which are in agreement reflecting the district’s financial activities for the period February 2021.

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 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 February 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 superintendent, approve the following reports:

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

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.

6. Teach Stem Classes in Nonpublic Schools Grant

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education has approved the *Teach STEM Classes in Nonpublic Schools Grant* application submitted for Heichal Hatorah to form a partnership with Steven Comanto, science teacher at Pascack Hills High School, to teach STEM classes at the nonpublic school in FY2021; and

WHEREAS, the approved grant funds shall be allocated by the Department of Education to the school district of the eligible teacher participating in the program and the district shall use the funds to provide compensation to a participating eligible teacher; and

WHEREAS, the agreement between the nonpublic school, the teacher, and the district states the mutually agreed upon times and hours during which the teacher will teach the STEM classes at the nonpublic school, which are outside of Pascack Valley Regional High School District's regular school hours; and

WHEREAS, the grant award for Steven Comanto is \$9,980.00 for FY2021, based on the hourly rate for the teacher of \$63.37 and total number of teaching hours of 157.5, however will be paid on the actual hours taught, not to exceed 157.5; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the allocation of the *Teach STEM Classes in Nonpublic Schools Grant* for FY2021.

7. Learn Well Academic Tutoring Services

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement with Learn Well for Academic Tutoring Services during the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$52.00 per hour for up to ten (10) hours per week and an additional 33% for administrative and preparation time.

8. Approve Shared Services Agreement - Student Internship Program – Park Ridge

RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Shared Services Agreement- Student Internship Program between the Park Ridge Board of Education (Member District) and Pascack Valley Regional High School District (Host LEA). The Host LEA shall bill the Member District a fixed yearly sum in the amount of \$28,238.00 for up to ten (10) students participating in the program for the 2021-2022 school year. This sum includes a \$10,000 administration fee. Also, additional students beyond ten (10) participating in the program will be at the rate of \$1,932.00.

9. Approve Shared Services Agreement - Student Internship Program- Emerson

RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Shared Services

Agreement- Student Internship Program between the Emerson Board of Education (Member District) and Pascack Valley Regional High School District (Host LEA). The Host LEA shall bill the Member District a fixed yearly sum in the amount of \$28,238.00 for up to ten (10) students participating in the program for the 2021-2022 school year. This sum includes a \$10,000 administration fee. Also, additional students beyond ten (10) participating in the program will be at the rate of \$1,932.00.

10. Instructure - Canvas Cloud Subscription

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement with Instructure to cover the Canvas Cloud Subscription for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, at an annual rate of \$17,976.

11. Frontline Absence & Substitute Management

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement with Frontline for Absence & Substitute Management for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, at an annual rate of \$12,612.66.

12. Frontline IEP Direct

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement with Frontline for IEP Direct for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, at an annual rate of \$16,486.51.

Moved by: Blundo Seconded by: Blundy

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"/> | Molinelli | <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"/> | Stankus | <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"/> |

Dr. Gundersen commented that he is thrilled to see that Emerson has returned to the internship program. He understood that Emerson stepped away for a year due to COVID. He was pleased with Park Ridge continuing in the program and credited the growth of the program due to increased participation of Park Ridge.

XI. OLD BUSINESS

Policy Committee Report

No report. Ms. Bissinger, who resigned was the chair.

Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee Report – [Report](#)

Ms. Molinelli commented that former trustee, Brian Hallowell raised the need for this four years ago. She said she is proud of the teachers, wellness counselors, support, and the administration for their work. She indicated that the district was ahead of this and thanked Dr. Blundy and the committee.

Curriculum & Instruction, and Technology Committee Report - [Report](#)

Mr. Stankus prefaced his report by saying that he did not attend the meeting and he summarized the report based on the minutes.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Weaver asked about the meeting structure for April 19 which is the interviews for the open Montvale seat. He indicated that this would be via Zoom and asked if members and candidates would be remote. The answer was yes. He asked what the thinking was behind the decision.

Ms. Molinelli indicated it was for safety. She mentioned that it's a large public meeting and it was felt that Zoom would be the safest way to interview people. She added that she and Mr. Blundo feel that questions for the candidates should be consistent. She indicated that she and Mr. Blundo will review the questions and send them to all members for their feedback.

Mr. Weaver commented that in his experience there is a huge difference in meeting someone remotely and meeting someone in person and having that level of interaction especially given the seat they are trying to fill and the term.

Dr. Gundersen indicated that it is a public meeting and anyone interested in attending may come to central office which is where he will be conducting the meeting. He commented that from interviewing administrators via Zoom, it helps to see people's facial expressions, both the candidate and the interviewers. He said a lot more is seen when everyone is on Zoom.

Mrs. Varghese said that she sat on the interviews for the principal position and all eight interviews were via Zoom and it was fine. She indicated that it was nice to see their faces and demeanor. She did not find any issues. She asked Mr. Weaver if he has found any differences.

Mr. Weaver said that he has found it to be different. He indicated that there are levels of interviews. He mentioned that the first round or two may be on Zoom and you get to know the candidates. Then the next round is in-person. He wanted to put it out there for discussion.

Mrs. Varghese believed she got a good idea about the candidates through Zoom.

Mr. Blundo said he could go either way. He understands the issue of the candidates with a mask and he saw Mr. Weaver's in-person rationale.

Ms. Molinelli said in a perfect world they would be altogether and getting to know one another. They are trying to create the best possible experience and to Mr. Weaver's point, it is a very important decision.

Mr. Weaver indicated that he is fine with Zoom, however he would like the Board to be debriefed about the structure and interview questions. He wanted to figure out a way to have the dialog about the process and the questions before Monday's meeting.

Ms. Molinelli said she and Mr. Blundo would get together to get the agenda of what the process will look like and get the questions to the Board tomorrow. She indicated that they are going on what had been done in the past, but anyone could provide input on other ideas.

Mr. Blundo said he would review the questions tomorrow and agreed with what Ms. Molinelli said about any input for changes.

Mr. Weaver asked if there is a set number of questions and time allotted for each interview.

Ms. Molinelli said she would send out a play-by-play of the process. She indicated that members will have the candidates' resumes. The deadline to apply is Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. Ms. Molinelli said that three people had applied thus far and typically many apply at the very last minute. Ms. Molinelli said the agenda and questions would be sent tomorrow and the resumes will be sent by Thursday morning.

Dr. Gundersen indicated that there is a hearing at 6:45 p.m. in closed session prior to the interviews. The interviews begin at 7:30 p.m. After the interviews the Board will go into closed session to deliberate and then return to public to vote.

Mr. Usami recommended conducting a demographic study as one is typically done every five years and the district last had one done in 2016. He indicated that there are construction developments going on in the communities. He mentioned that the study is in next year's budget and he wanted to know from the Board if he should proceed in soliciting proposals.

Mr. Weaver asked if the study would encompass all four towns. And if so, would we consider including any of the four K-8 districts to share the cost.

Mr. Usami believed each have done their own.

Mr. Blundo thought it would be worth a call and considering.

Dr. Gundersen indicated that the last time the district conducted a study, the four districts were contacted and they were all at different stages of their demographic studies. He commented that the regional study focuses on development, housing and business development. Implications are different for regional high school and K-8s. He said he would mention it to the K-8 superintendents as he would be meeting with them the next day.

Mr. Blundo said in the past condos and townhouses did not typically produce many school aged children. He believed that this has changed recently. He would like to get the opinions of the demographers if that is the current trend.

Ms. Molinelli commented that the timeline for development and occupancy may be obtained from the municipalities.

Mr. Usami indicated that the demographers do reach out to the municipalities for that information and then make projections. He added that they look at live births as well.

Mr. Weaver said the reality is the study will give a snapshot of what is being done now, but when the next round of affordable housing comes up in a couple of years it starts all over again. In Montvale, there are 1,000 units scheduled for construction in the next few years. Then in 2025 when the next round of affordable housing comes up there will be developers looking for free space trying to figure out how to rezone. It's never ending

XIII. 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.

Carolee Adams of Montvale commented that the marijuana law is being sensibly revised. She indicated that she would send to the Board a study by the National Institute of Health and published in the Journal of American Pediatric Medicine regarding teens using marijuana. She suggested that the Board would consider what is in this study for the wellness and health of students. She mentioned housing developments and mentioned that her kids were in apartments with no kids and now they have three. Ms. Adams referred to the board meeting on March 8th and she was informed that an attendee with an open mic said some deplorable and vulgar things about her while she was speaking. She does not want to pursue a forensic investigation since that would be at a cost to the district. She asked that the individual apologize to her and that could be done discreetly, not in public. She mentioned that there are people who are aware of the person who spoke those words and they would be culpable if they do not apologize on the person's behalf. She commented that the person may not care, but she does and so do others, including some students. She said she would follow up at the next meeting on the progress of the situation.

Ms. Molinelli said that they will look into it. She commented that the Board believes in respectful conversation and they want the students to be proud of the Board.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Fronte to adjourn the public meeting at 8:45 p.m.
Dr. Blundy seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Respectfully,



Yas Usami
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

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