

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

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

November 19, 2018

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on Monday, November 19, 2018 at 8:07 p.m. in the Pascack Hills High School Auditorium.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order in the Media Center at 7:16 p.m. by Mr. Jeffrey Steinfeld, President.

Present Mr. Jeffrey Steinfeld, President
 Ms. Janet Bissinger, Vice President
 Mr. Joseph Blundo
 Mr. Kenneth Ralph
 Mr. Arnold Scher
 Mr. James Stankus
 Mr. David Steinberg

Absent: Mr. Brian Hallowell
 Ms. Tammy Molinelli

Also Present: Mr. P. Erik Gundersen, Superintendent
 Ms. Pamela Baxley, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

II. FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Steinfeld led all those present in a salute to the flag.

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 Ms. Pamela Baxley, 28 West Grand Avenue, Montvale, NJ 07645.

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

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Blundo to enter into an executive session at 7:16 p.m. Ms. Bissinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action on the Executive Session herein set forth.
2. The subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 1. Possible HIBs.
 3. The Board will return to the Regular Board Meeting at 8:00 p.m.
 4. Official action may or may not be taken when the Board reconvenes to Public Session.

A motion was made by Ms. Bissinger to return into the public meeting at 8:07 p.m. Mr. Blundo seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

At this time the meeting resumed in the auditorium.

Also present at that time were:

Ms. Claudia Gibbs, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent
Matthew Friedman – Pascack Hills High School Representative
Olivia Jones – Pascack Valley High School Representative

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 June 12, 2018 and November 17, 2018.

IV. ROUTINE MATTERS

Monthly Reports

Superintendent's Report: Mr. P. Erik Gundersen

The Pascack Regional High School District stands firm on our message that symbols of hate, offensive graffiti, and other demonstrations of intolerance have no place in our district and will not be tolerated!

These past several weeks have been difficult for the Pascack Valley Regional Community as this is a community comprised of caring, compassionate, respectful students, staff, parents, and community members. Unfortunately, such events are transpiring not only within our Pascack Valley Community, but throughout our state and nation.

We continue to work in lock-step with the Hillsdale Police Department and are making significant progress in our investigation to determine who is responsible for the etching of swastikas in several bathroom partition walls. These crimes are serious and there are significant, real-world consequences for hate crimes.

I could not be more impressed with how our K-8 districts, municipal and state officials, faith-based communities and students have rallied together in light of these heinous acts.

In particular, I would like to thank the members of the Pascack Valley Clergy Council, the New Jersey / New York Anti-Defamation League, and our own Pascack Valley Student Government Association for their contributions on developing programmatic measures that we will put in place in the coming days, months, and years.

This week, student leaders will be implementing a student-government led activity where they will be standing up against hate – to make it clear to our community that any act of hate – has no place at Pascack Valley.

Longer term, we are working actively with the Anti-Defamation League and our own staff to develop peer-training, curricular, and school-climate programing that will reaffirm our ongoing commitment to foster a school environment that is welcoming, inclusive, safe and

secure so all students can thrive and take maximum advantage of all that Pascack Valley has to offer our young people.

We recognize that we cannot solve this problem alone. Teaching students caring, compassion, and respect involves everyone: students, families, faculty, staff, civic leaders, and religious leaders. To this end the district will provide opportunities for parents to share their concerns and learn strategies to engage in conversations promoting these essential values.

The Pascack Valley Regional Community will not let these heinous and cowardly acts define our community. Our collective efforts will prevail and together, we will continue to demonstrate to all that we are a loving, accepting, safe, and welcoming community.

Thus concludes the Superintendent's Report for November 19, 2018.

Student Reports: Matthew Freidman – Pascack Hills High School

The month of November has been loaded with success and excitement at Pascack Hills!

In athletics, our Varsity Girls Volleyball team wrapped up an extremely successful season, first gaining the title of League Champions, and, following a win against Caldwell, advancing in the state tournament. Girls Soccer had similar success, winning 2-1 in the state quarterfinals against Glen Rock. The Cross Country team also continued their successful season, with the freshman boys winning first in the County Championships, the Varsity boys and girls advancing to the NJ Group Meet at Holmdel, and senior Dillon Jensen making the State Meet of Champs. Additionally, the Pascack Gymnastics Team made the State competition and achieved great success there. Congratulations to all of our Fall Sports Teams! We are so proud of all that you have accomplished.

Arts at Pascack Hills have had an equally exciting month, with success in both choir and the fall musical. Lillian Zou, John Giardina, Alex Moss, and Zainah Alizade were accepted to the 2018-19 Bergen County Choir. This achievement is well-complemented by the fantastic fall musical - Godspell. The show was a big hit with adults and kids alike, and we are all so excited to see what our talented students bring to their performance in the spring.

On October 30th, Pascack Hills welcomed 21 new members to the National Honors Society. Congratulations to these seniors. We are excited to see all that you accomplish as part of this fantastic organization!

Throughout November, Interact has been gathering canned goods and non-perishables in their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. This year they collected well-over 1000 items, and will bring holiday joy to many local families. Congratulations to the Interact club!

This past weekend, Hills Peer Leaders went on their annual overnight leadership training trip, where students worked together to complete exciting challenges and team-building exercises. A fun time was had by all, and the skills learned will prove valuable in both the running of organization activities as well as throughout life.

Inside the classroom, Pascack Hills students were given unique opportunities and experiences throughout the month of November. The Physical Education department has purchased several Spike Ball sets and students have been enjoying this new and fun way to exercise. On November 1st, Pascack Hills Music Tech and Video Production students had the opportunity to utilize the technology equipment in Solid State Logic's high tech mobile van. On November 6th, Literature of the Holocaust students from both Pascack Hills and Pascack Valley had the privilege of hearing from speaker Erwin Ganz, survivor of Kristallnacht.

The next couple weeks will be no short of excitement either. Tomorrow night is the Mr. Pascack Hills Competition, where students and teachers will compete in separate categories and showcase their unique talents and skills to see who will be crowned Mr. Pascack Hills. This Wednesday will be the 2nd annual Homecoming/Thanksgiving Alumni Visit, where recent graduates are invited to come together and see their former classmates, teachers, and administrators. Next Monday marks the start of the Project Paterson Toy Drive, where students will gather toys and games to provide those in need with some holiday gifts. All of this is happening before we even reach December! Everyone at Pascack Hills cannot wait to see what the coming weeks have in store.

This officially concludes my November report.

Olivia Jones – Pascack Valley High School

The World Language Honor Society Induction ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 6 at 7:00pm in the PV Auditorium for students from Chinese, French, Italian, and Spanish. All are welcome to attend!

The PV Network collected funds and had several bake sales in order to raise money to donate to Josephine's Garden HUMC. They raised \$225.00.

The Peer Leaders raised \$200 for a local foundation that fosters dogs, Good Karma Dog Rescue Service.

PV French classes participated in National French Week, from November 1 to 7. The students learned how to make French and entered an essay contest sponsored by the AATF (American Associations of Teachers of French). Lastly, the PV students continue communicating with our French partner school, via Skype and Edmodo.

Tirso Ballesteros, Maddie Byun, Isabella Tjan, Katie Suarez, and Evan Ferioli participated in the All-State Mixed Chorus and All-State Orchestra over the Teacher's Convention Week. The rehearsals and the concert took place at the Ovation Hall in Atlantic City. These students will have another concert as a part of this engagement on Sunday, November 18, at 3pm in New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.

The Interact Club held a bake sale to raise funds for the Holiday Toy Drive, participated in the annual Bag a Lunch Help a Bunch project through Table to Table, and baked chocolate chip cookies for the National Honor's Society Thanksgiving baskets.

Jeffrey Steinfeld presented a seminar on immigration and current issues to Ken Sarajian's US History II classes on Wednesday, November 7. Mr. Steinfeld has been kind enough to make this an annual event for history classes, our Syracuse University sponsored Public Policy course and the This Week in Politics club. Students were given several readings by Mr. Steinfeld in preparation of the seminar. This year's seminar focused on current topics including the Caravan, DACA and Dreamers, as well as the Birthright issue relative to the 14th amendment.

Congratulations to the Pascack Valley Regional Gymnastics Team for winning the 2018 Bergen County Championship. This tremendous accomplishment was a true team effort. Congrats on a remarkable season.

The PV World Cultures Club has been celebrating Italian Heritage Month through a variety of activities:

- 1) a *tarantella* lesson
- 2) movie afternoon "Letters to Juliet"
- 3) an Italian themed bake sale

After we close this theme, we will start celebrating the holiday season with an international flair... stay tuned!

For this year's Fall Play, over 75 PV Theatre students working on stage and backstage presented the US premiere of the play BRAINSTORM, which is an original play, created by the cast with their directors. It is based on their own life experiences and the latest scientific discoveries about brain development. For this performance, the theatre group transformed the Valley stage into a black box-- putting the audience on the stage with the actors.

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:

November 5, 2018	Regular Meeting	8:00 p.m.
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Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities	R 5661
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Moved by: Bissinger Seconded by: Scher

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scher	<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"/>
Hallowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steinberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Molinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steinfeld	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ralph	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

VIII. EDUCATION

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 5

1. Overnight Trip

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Pascack Valley High School Italian students, teachers, and if necessary, chaperones, for an overnight trip to Treviso, Italy to meet peers, appreciate and respect differences and promote tolerance, from May 17-26, 2019.

2. Out-of-district Placement

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve part-time placement for student ID #809482 at Rockland BOCES, Nyack, NY for the 2018-2019 school year, tuition is \$12,208.

3. Bedside/Home Instruction

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve bedside tutoring for student ID #808988 admitted to High Focus Center, Glassboro, NJ from October 22-23, 2018 and received two hours of services for two days at \$55 per hour provided by Professional Education Services Inc.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve bedside tutoring for student ID #809641 admitted to Goryeb Children’s Hospital on November 6, 2018. Services are being provided by Learn Well at \$47 per hour, 10 hours per week, for approximately six to eight weeks.
- c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve bedside tutoring for student ID #810069 admitted to Four Winds Hospital, Katonah, NY on

October 24, 2018. Services will be provided by their staff through a date to be determined.

4. Additional Period Assignment

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Danielle Nelson, physical education teacher and leave replacement for Melissa Velez at Pascack Valley High School, to teach 5 additional periods per week starting November 19, 2018 for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. This additional period assignment replaces the previously approved assignment for Ms. Velez.

5. Supervision of Placement Exams

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following teachers to supervise the administration of world language placement exams to incoming students at the rate of \$80 per event:

Jane Conboy	Courtney Farrell	Ivica Kanova
Jimena Ladino	Dorely Leal-Drago	Vanessa Martinez
Francesca Silvano	Debbie Yao	

Moved by: Bissinger Seconded by: Scher

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scher	<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"/>
Hallowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steinberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Molinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steinfeld	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ralph	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Mr. Scher asked about scheduling problems between the sports teams and the Italy trip. Mr. Gundersen responded. Mr. Blundo asked if the overseas partner school was going to continue in the program.

IX. HUMAN RESOURCES – CERTIFICATED

One Agenda Item

1. 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:
Katherine Donahue	PHHS English Teacher	<u>Total Leave Period:</u> April 15 – June 18, 2019 Paid using 24 sick days <u>FMLA/NJFLA</u> May 28 –June 18, 2019 <u>Leave of Absence</u> None

Moved by: Bissinger Seconded by: Scher

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scher	<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"/>
Hallowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steinberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Molinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steinfeld	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ralph	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

X. HUMAN RESOURCES – NON-CERTIFICATED

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 5

1. Leave of Absence (Modified)

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

Name	Position	Requests:
Tina Romanger	Custodian	<u>Total Leave Period:</u> October 29, 2018 – January 22, 2019 Paid using 24 sick days <u>FMLA/NJFLA</u> December 6 –January 22, 2019 <u>Leave of Absence</u> None

2. Substitute Teachers and Home Instructors

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following substitute teacher and home instructor:

Name	Position	Type
Brendan Morrissey	Substitute Teacher	Renew
Kacey Terzini	Home Instructor	New

XI. FINANCE

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 7

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 November 19, 2018	\$983,246.74
Payroll as of November 15, 2018	\$1,462,707.99
Total	\$2,445,954.73

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 2018/19 financial reports, which are in agreement reflecting the district’s financial activities for the period October 2018.

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 October 2018 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 October 2018 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	October 2018
b. e-Learning Account	October 2018
c. Capital Project Account	October 2018
d. Student Government Account – PH	October 2018
e. Student Government Account – PV	October 2018
f. Athletic Account – PH	October 2018
g. Athletic Account – PV	October 2018
h. Compensating Balance	October 2018

XII. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Blundo acknowledged Ms. Baxley's efforts with the audit. Ms. Baxley commended her staff on their excellent work.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Scher commented on 'Brainstorm' at Pascack Valley and is looking forward to seeing it. The black box theatre is a much more intimate setting.

Mr. Scher noted that since Jeff Steinfeld is leaving at the end of his term, he would like to know the bi-laws for electing a new president. Mr. Gundersen explained that the policy is on the website. Mr. Gundersen congratulated Mr. Blundo and Ms. Bissinger for being reelected for another three years and commented that we look forward to welcoming Michael Fronte.

Mr. Scher also commented that Smoke Signal did an eight part series on depression in the past and was hoping they would consider doing a series about hate crimes and the swastika symbol to aid in understanding.

Mr. Scher asked about fundraising for the Hockey Club. He wanted to know how the association and the booster club work. Mr. Gundersen explained that they are outside of the school. Donations from outside organizations to the school must be met with board approval. However, if the outside organization raises money and spends it for the club they can spend it as they see fit. He will remind the coaches that if the booster club purchases a donation, it needs board approval.

Ms. Bissinger commented that the Pascack Pioneers hosted the first Lego League tournament at Pascack Hills. The River Vale Cyber Hawks were once again champions.

XIV. 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.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Blundo to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. Ms. Bissinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Respectfully,



Pamela Baxley

Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

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