# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Pascack Valley Regional High School District

March 18, 2019

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on Monday, March 18, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Pascack Hills High School Auditorium

#### I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order in the auditorium at 7:30 p.m. by Ms. Tammy Molinelli, President.

Present

Ms. Tammy Molinelli, President

Ms. Janet Bissinger, Vice President

Mr. Joseph Blundo Mr. Michael Fronte Mr. Brian Hallowell Mr. Kenneth Ralph Mr. James Stankus Mr. David Steinberg

Absent:

Mr. Arnold Scher

Also present: Mr. P. Erik Gundersen, Superintendent

Ms. Pamela Baxley, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Student Representatives: Matthew Friedman – PHHS; Olivia Jones – PVHS

Ms. Claudia Gibbs, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent

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

Ms. Molinelli 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

## 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 March 8, 2019.

#### IV. ROUTINE MATTERS

Monthly Reports

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. P. Erik Gundersen

Student Reports:

Matthew Friedman – Pascack Hills High School

Olivia Jones - Pascack Valley High School

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 11, 2019	Regular Meeting	7:30 pm

Moved by:	Bissinger				Seconded by:	Stank	cus		
				VC	DTE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	Ø				Ralph	$\square$			
Blundo					Scher				$\square$
Fronte					Stankus	$\square$			
Hallowell					Steinberg				
Molinelli									

## V. 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.

## VI. POLICY

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 4

#### 1. Travel Pre-Authorizations

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve travel expense preauthorizations for the following:

Teresa DelGiudice	Philip Paspalas	Brooke Schwartzman

## 2. Job Description

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the new job description of Information and Systems Coordinator.

## 3. Summer Help Rates

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following hourly rates for summer 2019:

Positions	Rate
Custodian/Technology Summer Help – 1st Year	\$11.00
Custodian/Technology Summer Help – Returning	\$12.00

# 4. BOE policies and Regulations - First Reading

First reading of the following Pascack Valley Regional High School District board of Education policies and regulations:

Name of Policy or Regulation	Policy/ Reg Number
Conduct of Board Meeting	P 0164
Unsafe School Choice Option	P 2415.06
Health and Physical Education	P 2422
Practice and Pre-Season Heat-Acclimation for School-Sponsored Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities	P 2431.3
Educational Program Evaluation	P 2610
Commercial Driver's License Controlled Substance and Alcohol Use Testing	P 4219
Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	P 5111
Administering an Opioid Antidote	P 5330.04
Service Animals	P 5337
Student Discipline/Code of Conduct	P 5600
Removal of Students for Firearms Offenses	P 5611
Assaults on District Board of Education Members or Employees	P 5612
Removal of Students for Assaults with Weapons Offenses	P 5613
Transgender Students	P 5756

Name of Policy or Regulation	Policy/ Reg Number
School District Security	P 7440
Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Alcohol, and Other Drug Offenses	P 8461
Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs	P 8561
Memorials	P 8860
Special Education – Free and Appropriate Public Education	R 2460.8
Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	R 5111
Administering an Opioid Antidote (New)	R 5330.04
Substance Abuse	R 5530
Student Discipline/Code of Conduct	R 5600
Removal of Students for Firearms Offenses	R 5611
Assaults on District Board of Education Members or Employees	R 5612
Removal of Students for Assaults with Weapons Offenses	R 5613
School District Security	R 7440
Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Alcohol, and Other Drug Offenses	R 8461

Moved by:	Bissir	nger			Seconded by:	Hallo	well		
				VC	TE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	Ø				Ralph	$\square$			
Blundo	abla				Scher				$\square$
Fronte	$\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$				Stankus				
Hallowell	$\square$				Steinberg	$\square$			
Molinelli									

Mr. Steinberg asked when the second reading would be. Mr. Gundersen responded.

## VII. EDUCATION

Consent Agenda for Items 1 - 3

## 1. Overnight Trip

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Pascack Hills High School track team members, coaches, and if necessary, chaperones, to attend the Penn Relays in Philadelphia, PA for April 25 – 27, 2019.

#### 2. Additional Periods

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following additional period assignments at Pascack Hills High School:

Name	Department	Start Date	Additional Period
Michelle Gaeta	Mathematics	03/29/2019	5 additional periods per week
Jamie Kornitzer	English and	03/19/2019	3 additional periods per week
	Social Studies		
Robert Salgado	Science	03/19/2019	3 additional periods per week

# 3. Bedside/Home Instruction and Supplemental Instruction

- **a. RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve six hours per week of supplemental instruction for student ID #809683 per the student's IEP to be provided by a board approved home instructor, at the rate of \$55 per hour for the 2018-2019 school year starting March 18, 2019. This is in addition to the two hours per week approved on January 28, 2019.
- 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 #809114 admitted to High Focus Center, Paramus, NJ on March 8, 2019. Two hours of services per day at \$55 per hour will be provided by Professional Education Services Inc. 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 #808094 admitted to High Focus Center, Paramus, NJ on March 5, 2019. Two hours of services per day at \$55 per hour will be provided by Professional Education Services Inc. for approximately six to eight weeks.

Moved by:	Bissi	nger			Seconded by:	Hallo	well		
				VC	TE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger					Ralph				
Blundo	$\square$				Scher				
Fronte					Stankus				
Hallowell	$\square$				Steinberg	$\square$			
Molinelli									

#### VIII. HUMAN RESOURCES – CERTIFICATED

One Agenda Item

#### 1. Resignation

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Debra Squiccimarri, Pascack Valley High School Assistant Principal, for the purposes of retirement, effective September 30, 2019.

Mr. Gundersen commented that we will miss Ms. Squiccimarri and congratulated her.

Moved by:	Bissir	nger			Seconded by:	Ralpl	1		
				VC	TE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	V				Ralph				
Blundo					Scher				abla
Fronte	$\overline{\mathbf{A}}$				Stankus				
Hallowell	$\overline{\mathbf{A}}$				Steinberg				
Molinelli									

#### IX. HUMAN RESOURCES – NON-CERTIFICATED

Consent Agenda for Items 1 - 3

## 1. Substitute Teacher

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Briana Musco as a substitute teacher for the district for the 2018-2019 school year.

## 2. Co-curricular Appointments (Revised)

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following co-curricular advisors for the 2018-2019 school year:

Name	School	Club	Stipend
Adam Ostrowski	PHHS	Panasonic Challenge	\$1,500
James Kennedy	PVHS	Panasonic Challenge	\$1,500

## 3. Independent CST Evaluator - Region II

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Wendy Rudis as an independent child student team evaluator for Region II for the 2018-2019 school year, at the hourly rate of \$450 per evaluation and \$75 hourly rate for CST meetings.

Moved by:	Bissir	nger			Seconded by:	Ralpl	1		
				VC	TE				
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger					Ralph				
Blundo	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$				Scher				
Fronte					Stankus				
Hallowell					Steinberg	$\overline{\checkmark}$			
Molinelli	$\square$								

## X. FINANCE

Consent Agenda for Items 1-4

## 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 March 18, 2019	\$622,885.36
Payroll as of March 15, 2019	\$1,491,159.45
Total	\$2,114,044.81

## 2. Approval of Tentative Budget

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District approves the tentative 2019-2020 school year budget as follows:

General Fund	\$ \$57,588,902
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 682,833
Debt Service	\$ 1,999,400
Total	\$ \$60,271,135

The amount to be raised by taxation is:

General Fund	\$ \$49,577,550
Debt Service	\$ 1,999,400
Total	\$ \$51,576,950

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2019-2020 school year budget includes banked cap in the amount of \$857,114 to support increased costs associated with transportation, related services and out of district tuitions for special needs student initiatives. The implementation of these initiatives will be completed by the end of the year and cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time.

#### 3. Submission of Project to State Department of Education

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, authorize submission of the following project application for the Pascack Hills High School as a Level IV Other Capital Projects, not requesting EFCFA ROD state grant funding:

Electrical upgrade at Pascack Valley High School (State project Number 3960-050-19-1000)

# 4. Amend Long Range Facilities Plan

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the amendment of the Long Range Facility Plan to revise and add the following project for State Department of Education approval:

Electrical upgrade at Pascack Valley High School (State project Number 3960-050-19-1000)

Moved by:	Bissir	Bissinger			Seconded by:	Hallo	well		
	VOTE								
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	Ø				Ralph	$\square$			
Blundo					Scher				$\square$
Fronte	$   \overline{\mathbf{A}} $				Stankus				
Hallowell					Steinberg				
Molinelli	$\square$								

## XI. OLD BUSINESS

The Curriculum & Instruction, and Technology Committee met last Tuesday to discuss the structure of the group and merging with the tech committee. Mr. Stankus reported that there will be two large group meetings per year with smaller department groups held more often. Revisions in the curriculum were also discussed.

Health, Wellness & Safety Committee: Mr. Gundersen reported that the committee will be meeting soon.

Buildings and Grounds Committee reported by Mr. Hallowell that the five year plan for facilities were reviewed and the committee focused on the 19-20 school year plans in detail. Current projects were also reviewed. He gave the board a synopsis of the current projects and their status.

#### XII. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Bissinger reported that the Robotics competition was held at Bridgewater High School last weekend. The team lost by one point and ended in second place. Hanna Epstein was named as a dean's list finalist.

Mr. Gundersen announced that one of Julianne Downs' students choked on a piece of chicken last week. Julianne responded using her training and implemented the Heimlich maneuver ten times. The outcome was positive and Mr. Gundersen congratulated Ms. Downs. She did a wonderful job.

#### 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.

Ms. Falanga from Woodcliff Lake who has three children in the district addressed the board. Her ninth grader has Down syndrome. He is having a difficult time. The district has filed a due process claim against them. Last week this board created an equity plan. One group of students that should be considered by that committee is students with disabilities. Inclusion for those students is considered the current best practice. She believes that these students are shuffled into LLD programs in this district and therefore do not enjoy the full set of electives. Science for these students is not held in a science classroom. The district has been resistant to her son's inclusion in general education

classes. Teachers have been given no preparation or tools to deal with him. She had three goals when approaching the board. They are, to make the board aware of this problem, to inform them that in NJ there are resources available to aid in inclusion and to ensure that the new affirmative action team seek input from parents of students with disabilities.

Steven Falanga also shared that his story is not unique. He believes that there are others within the district with LDD that are not happy. There are children in this building that do include his son at lunch in the gym, yet, the parents were advised that the children in LLD prefer to eat alone in their group. The district didn't start with how to include this child. He would like to challenge the board to take a holist review of these classes. The district, in his opinion, has an antiquated philosophy in special services.

# XIV. MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education will meet 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 adjourn.
- 4. The Board will not return to the Regular Board Meeting, will take no action, and will adjourn from executive session.

Moved by:	Bissir	Bissinger			Seconded by:	Ralph			
VOTE									
Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	Ø				Ralph	$\square$			
Blundo					Scher				$\square$
Fronte					Stankus				
Hallowell					Steinberg	$\square$			
Molinelli									

## XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Bissinger to adjourn the public session and enter into an executive session at 8:20 p.m. Mr. Ralph seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried. The Board will not return to the public session.

Respectfully,

Pamela Baxley

Business Administrator/ Board Secretary