

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD RETREAT  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Pascack Valley Regional High School District**

December 5, 2016

Minutes of the Board Retreat of the Board of Education held on Monday, December 5, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. in the Pascack Hills High School Media Center.

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order in the Media Center at 5:45 p.m. by Mr. Jeffrey Steinfeld, President.

Present: Mr. Jeffrey Steinfeld, President  
Ms. Janet Bissinger, Vice President  
Mr. Joseph Blundo  
Mrs. Maura Ellis  
Mr. Brian Hallowell  
Ms. Tammy Molinelli  
Mr. Arnold Scher  
Mr. David Steinberg

Absent: Mr. Kenneth Ralph

Also Present: Mr. P. Erik Gundersen, Superintendent  
Ms. Pamela Baxley, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Ms. Claudia Gibbs, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent

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

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

**III. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY PRESIDING OFFICER**

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing copies of said notice to The Record, filing copies of said notice with the municipal clerks of Hillsdale, Montvale, River Vale and Woodcliff Lake and publishing said notice in The Record on July 22, 2016.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

1. Senior Service Presentation
2. Ms. Valerie Mattessich an English teacher at Pascack Valley led a discussion about a proposed program. Students would leave after AP exams in May. They would come back the first week in June to present their experience to the school community. They would perform 25 hours of community service locally. They would check in with their coordinators and log in with supervisors.

She discussed the advantages of this type of community program.  
Easy rollout & implementation.

It had the potential to impact all senior classmen.  
It would capitalize on senior energy.  
It would be a terrific community partnership.  
It would address career readiness standards more directly.

The board asked questions and addressed concerns during a lengthy discussion. Ms. Mattessich asserted that as innovative as the district is, this would expose more students to alternate, innovative experiences.

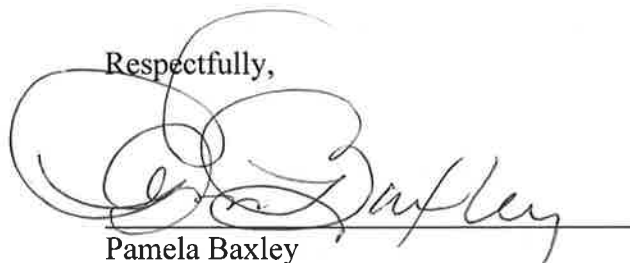
3. Discussion and Update of 2016-2017 Board of Education / District Goals

Mr. Gundersen went over each of the District Goals and the progress that the district has made towards achieving them. Mr. Bachenheimer spoke about dual enrollment programs and advanced placement courses. A discussion regarding the progress toward the first goal was addressed by Mr. Bachenheimer and he answered the questions of the board members. The second goal regarding feedback on the Pascack schedule and assessment modifications was discussed. Mr. Gundersen went over the various methods being used to obtain feedback. The third goal of assessing the effectiveness of the new enhancements to the guidance services was discussed. This assessment will be conducted in the near future. The new wellness centre had terrific benefits just this week with the crisis at Pascack Valley. Freshman feedback from the additional summer guidance hours was very positive. Mr. Bachenheimer led the board in an exercise to illustrate the difficulty in determining the district needs based on all the needs of different groups. The fourth goal of what is needed with regard to instruction was discussed. Embedding coding into the K-8 sending districts is necessary to be able to offer a rigorous program at the high school. The four board goals were addressed by Mr. Gundersen one at a time. The board entered into discussions for each area.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Steinfeld to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Mrs. Ellis seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Respectfully,



Pamela Baxley  
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary