

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING/
BUDGET HEARING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

April 24, 2017

Minutes of the Regular Meeting/Budget Hearing of the Board of Education held on Monday, April 24, 2017 at 7:45 p.m. in the Pascack Hills High School Faculty Cafeteria.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order in the Pascack Hills High School Faculty Cafeteria at 7:45 p.m. by Ms. Janet Bissinger, Vice President.

Present: Ms. Janet Bissinger, Vice President
Mr. Brian Hallowell
Mr. Arnold Scher
Mr. James Stankus
Mr. David Steinberg

Absent: Mr. Joseph Blundo
Ms. Tammy Molinelli
Mr. Kenneth Ralph
Mr. Jeffrey Steinfeld, President

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

II. FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Bissinger 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. Scher to enter into an executive session at 7:47 p.m. Mr. Hallowell seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

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: a possible HIB incident.
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 7:55 p.m. Mr. Scher seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

At this time the meeting resumed in the auditorium.

Also present at that time were:

Student Representatives: Alexandra Gluck – PHHS; Kelly Petro – PVHS
Ms. Claudia Gibbs, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent

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 and April 21, 2017.

IV. ROUTINE MATTERS

Monthly Reports

Superintendent's Report: Mr. P. Erik Gundersen

Good evening and welcome to the district's budget presentation meeting. As Ms. Baxley will review in a few minutes – our budget has been developed with much consideration for the needs of our students and the needs and limitations of our community. I'd like to commend our Board Members for their ongoing support of the great work we continue to do here in the Pascack Valley Regional High School District.

Earlier this month the PVREA and the Board of Education came together jointly to support a special night, "A celebration of Music Education" - highlighting the talents of our students and staff and the important role that arts education has in shaping the lives of our young people. The event celebrated our NJ Teacher of the Year – and was an exceptional display of how our district rallies around one another's successes. On aside – note – Argine Safari is currently in Washington DC and will be recognized by the President this week at the White House along with her other State Teacher of the Year.

The district was proud to host the Bergen County Freeholders earlier this month as they conducted an off-site meeting at PHHS. I am pleased to say that several dozen students were in attendance to observe the workings of County government officials – and our students were able to see a Pascack Hills Graduate – Freeholder Tracy Zur – chair the committee.

Spring sports are in full swing – the Robotics team will be heading to the international championship, DECA will be leaving for the Nationals soon, and the research students will be heading to Texas for the iSweep Challenge. In addition, we have several exchange programs in motion right now with more trips coming in the next few months. Exciting times at Pascack!

Thus concludes the Superintendent's Report for April 24, 2017.

Student Reports:

Alexandra Gluck – Pascack Hills High School

There have been some awesome athletic achievements at Pascack Hills. First off the girl's lacrosse team remains undefeated with an 8-0 record. MVP Caitlin Ernest was named North Jersey "Athlete of the Week" and recently had her 200th goal. On the track, the girls team beat Ramsey for the first time since joining the Patriot Division. The boy's baseball team is also off to a great start with a 9-2 record.

Congratulations to Allie Korn on winning a Certificate of Merit in the NJCTE's 2017 High School Writing Contest! Also congrats to the Debate Team on winning third place varsity team at the end of the year dinner!

Earlier in April the Pascack Pi-oneers Robotics Team competed at the Montgomery Mid-Atlantic District Tournament. The Pi-oneers advanced through the playoffs as part of the 5th seeded alliance, making it to the semifinals. The Pi-oneers also won the Engineering Inspiration Award, acknowledging their STEM outreach efforts throughout the state and the world. The team leaves for St. Louis to compete in the FIRST ROBOTICS World Championships! Way to go, Pi-oneers!

On April 6th the PFA hosted the annual Fashion Show at the Pearl River Hilton. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year and is an extremely memorable event for the PHHS seniors.

PHHS Interact & Becca's Closet are sponsoring a Mother's Day Drive. They are collecting beauty supplies that will go to a local woman's shelter.

This Tuesday the National Honors Society will be inducting its new members. The juniors are excited to become a part of this wonderful society.

Last Wednesday during Pascack Period Michael DeLeon presented "Steered Straight" to the entire student body. He spoke about the real dangers of modern Marijuana.

Congratulations to Ms. Macke, as she was awarded a \$1000 STEM Classroom Grant from Orange and Rockland. The money will be used to continue student molecular genetics research on "Creating Fuel from Algae."

The Environmental Club is kicking off its first ever Earth Week to save the environment. All week they will be holding earth-themed contests for prizes.

Kelly Petro – Pascack Valley High School

On April 20, Pascack Valley hosted its annual Senior Citizen's Day. We were honored to have 30 local senior citizens spend the day with us. Our guests were treated to a delicious breakfast and lunch, classroom visits throughout the morning periods, performances by our band, choir,

and Robotics Team, and an entertaining game of trivia. Our senior citizens were truly impressed with PV. Thank you to all who made the day possible.

Congratulations to the following Pascack Valley Football players who have committed to play in college:

- Phil Wong: Commitment to Montclair State University
- Jack Lupardo: Commitment to SUNY Maritime College

PV Theatre's Fall 2016 production of METAMORPHOSES was nominated for SEVEN Montclair State University Foxy Awards. These awards are given annually to recognize excellence in the production of straight plays (no musicals) from NJ high schools. The nominations are:

- Outstanding Work of Innovation and Invention
- Outstanding Achievement in Choreography or Movement
- Outstanding Achievement by an Acting Ensemble of a Drama
- The Peter Filichia Award for Pushing the Envelope in Academic Theatre- Tom & Merielle Lupfer
- Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design
- Outstanding Achievement in Scenic Design
- Outstanding Stage Crew

The Chamber Choir performed for Senior Citizens Day on April 20. We also have 7 students preparing for All State Chorus auditions that will take place on April 29 at Paramus High School. We hope to have good news on their results for the May Board of Education meeting.

The boy's lacrosse teams at Pascack Hills and Pascack Valley teamed up to raise money and bring awareness to suicide prevention. The teams competed in a game scrimmage on Saturday, March 24 having raised close to \$1,100 for suicide prevention.

Congratulations to the Pascack Valley girls' basketball team for a tremendous season. The team has received additional recognition since the March Board of Education meeting. The team was selected Team of the Year for North Jersey. They were ranked #10 in the State and #18 in the Tri State area. In addition, Brianna Wong was recognized as the Big North Player of the Year and named First Team All-State Group 3. Brianna Smith was named Second Team All-State Group. Congratulations to all of the individual and team awards.

This past Friday, April 14, students from the 2015-2016 Physics and Technology class had their scale model bridge designs placed on display at The Tappan Zee Bridge Outreach Centers in both Nyack and Tarrytown, New York. The models will be prominently displayed in the front window of each location for two months. Currently, there are three scale models at the Nyack Outreach Center and two scale models at the Tarrytown Outreach Center. At the conclusion of the two-month time period, we will replace the models with new designs from the students in our current class - the 2016-2017 Physics & Technology students. For each of the past two school years, students have studied the physics related to a bridge. We invited guest speakers from the Educational Outreach Department including Mr. Daniel Marcy and Mr. Andrew O'Rourke into

our class for each of the past two years. Our students have been able to ask questions related to schooling necessary to work on a project of this magnitude, career opportunities, costs, materials used, testing of materials by third parties, accounting systems, transportation of materials both on roads and on the river, staffing needs, the I Lift NY crane, scheduling, and how the construction officials will meet the due date. The models that our students make are designed and made with the use of our Stratasys 3D printer, our Epilog laser cutter, and hand assembled parts. These bridges represent what each group of students believe should be the style of the NEW Tappan Zee Bridge as if the design review process has not yet been finalized. Students get to choose their style of bridge - whether it be a suspension, cable-stayed, cantilever, beam or arch style bridge. Students are required to research the styles, come up with a proven and sound rationale for their choice and present a persuasive oral presentation to school building administrators, parents, teachers and the representatives from the Tappan Zee Outreach Center.

On April 19, the PV French class welcomed 16 students from our French partner school, Lycée Amiral de Grasse, in southern France. The students will accompany their American partners to school each day; to either attend classes at PV or visit New York City with their teachers. A potluck dinner was held on April 22, for all students and families involved in this exchange program. On April 26, a "meet & greet" is scheduled in the cafeteria during Pascack Period to which all administrators, faculty, and students are invited. The PV and French students have been communicating through Edmodo.com and on various social media for several months. They are thrilled to finally "meet" one another. This collaboration between the two high schools began with Skype sessions in 2012. In fact, Admiral de Grasse, for which our partner school is named, was a French participant of the American Revolution. The PV French class would like to thank everyone involved in this exchange program, especially the host families, for their dedication and participation. A sincere thank you also to the Board of Education and administration for their continuous support of this program. Follow us on Twitter for updates on this visit and other news @PVHSFrench.

The Smoke Signal is busy as ever as it begins to wrap up this school year and plan for the next one. Staffers are hard at work on a year-end print issue with more sophisticated design concepts and visuals than they have ever attempted. Adviser Bill Rawson and editors Lauren Cohen and Sarah Schmoyer visited a national journalism convention from April 6 to 9 in Seattle, where they attended two full days of workshop sessions and even found a few spare moments to check out the city. Lauren Cohen earned an Honorable Mention award in a feature story contest at the convention. She and roughly 100 other student journalists gathered in a room and took notes on a presentation and Q & A, and they then had an hour to craft a feature story about the person, certainly no easy task. And in other Smoke Signal news, the application and interview process for next year's editorial staff is underway, with announcements to be made on that front in the coming weeks.

Suzy Koons, a senior at Pascack Valley HS and French Honor Society member, is a winner of the 2017 AATF (American Association of Teachers of French) Creative Writing Award! She received a certificate, lanyard, medallion, and \$50 from this national organization. Suzy's essay, in French, was chosen from among 84 national entries and is printed in their newsletter, L'Elan (Spring 2017, Vol. 44, No. 2). This year's essay topic was: *If you had a time*

X. POLICY

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 2

1. Travel Pre-Authorization

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

<u>P. Erik Gundersen</u>	<u>Natalie Macke</u>
--------------------------	----------------------

2. 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 #
Special Education	<u>P2460</u>
Special Education	<u>R2460</u>
Special Education - Location, Identification, and Referral	<u>R2460.1</u>
Special Education - Free and Appropriate Public Education	<u>R2460.8</u>
Special Education - In-Service Training Needs for Professional and Paraprofessional Staff	<u>R2460.15</u>
Special Education – Instructional Material to Blind or Print-Disabled Students	<u>R2460.16</u>
Surrogate Parents and Foster Parents	<u>P2467</u>

Moved by: Scher Seconded by: Hallowell

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stankus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hallowell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ralph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

XI. EDUCATION

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 3

1. Out-of-district Placement

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve and out-of-district placement for students #808137 to the Cornerstone Day School in Mountainside, NJ for the 2016-2017 school year, effective April 18, 2017, for a pro-rated tuition of \$19,253.

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education has determined that the conditions to create an Enterprise Account have been met as outlined in the New Jersey Minimum Chart of Accounts,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education hereby directs the Business Administrator to establish a new Enterprise Account to process the transactions for the Life Skills Program beginning July 1, 2017.

4. Use Variance Application

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the filing of an application for a use variance with the Borough of Hillsdale Planning Board for the premises at 63 Patterson Street which is being leased to house the 18-21 year old Program and authorizes the Business Administrator to sign the application on behalf of the Board of Education.

5. Transportation Joint Services and Agreements between the Pascack Valley Regional High School District and the South Bergen Jointure Commission

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education approve the Joint Transportation Services and Transportation Agreements between the South Bergen Jointure Commission (Host District), an approved Coordinated Transportation Service Agency located in Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, and the Pascack Valley Regional High School District (Joiner District) for the purpose of shared costs with other districts in transporting our district students to and from non-public schools and the Bergen County Vocational and Technical School campuses, including summer sessions, if applicable, in accordance with the N.J.S.A. Chapter 27:6A-10.1-3; Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 beginning July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

6. Transportation Joint Services and Agreements between the Pascack Valley Regional High School District and the Northwest Bergen Council – Region I

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education approve the Joint Transportation Services and Transportation Agreements between the Northwest Bergen Council – Region I (Host District), an approved Coordinated Transportation Service Agency located in Mahwah, NJ, and the Pascack Valley Regional High School District (Joiner District) for the purpose of shared costs with other districts in transporting our district students to and from non-public schools and the Bergen County Vocational and Technical School campuses, including summer sessions, if applicable, in accordance with the N.J.S.A. Chapter 27:6A-10.1-3; Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 beginning July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Mr. Steinberg asked if we are classifying these courses correctly? Mr. Gundersen replied that we were.

Mr. Scher stated that we have a transgender policy and a growing transgender population. He wanted to know if we are educating our students in this area? He didn't think we were doing enough because we don't address it in every grade, only freshmen and senior year. We have a curriculum meeting coming up and he will bring it up at that time.

XVII. 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.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Hallowell to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Mr. Scher seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Respectfully,



Pamela Baxley

Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

