

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

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

January 22, 2018

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. in the Pascack Valley High School Auditorium.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order in Room 167 at Pascack Valley High School at 7:30 p.m. by Mr. Jeffrey Steinfeld, President.

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

Absent: Mr. Brian Hallowell

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.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 167 at Pascack Valley High School, 200 Piermont Avenue, Hillsdale, NJ, for the purpose of recessing to a closed Executive Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Blundo to enter into an executive session at 7:33 p.m. Ms. Molinelli 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: possible HIB incidents.
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 Mr. Ralph to return into the public meeting at 7:55 p.m. Ms. Bissinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

At this time the meeting resumed in the auditorium.

Also present at that time were:

Student Representatives: Olivia Lein – PHHS; Amelia Moran – PVHS

Ms. Claudia Gibbs, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent

Mr. Steinfeld asked the board to remain standing for a moment of silence for Shanon Pasternak a 2016 Pascack Valley alumni.

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 12, 2017 and January 19, 2018.

IV. ROUTINE MATTERS

Monthly Reports

Superintendent’s Report: Mr. P. Erik Gundersen

We received news today that 2016 PV graduate – Shanon Pasternak died by suicide this past weekend. His death is another painful reminder of how important it is to focus on the needs of our young people and provide them with the tools and support to work through the challenges they are facing as they grow into adults. Although we are working to remove the stigma that can sometimes be associated with mental illness – Shanon’s passing tells us that we must not lose focus on how important it is to enhance and support the mental wellbeing of our young people.

As you know, last week our administration discovered that several students had distributed inappropriate photos of fellow students via their cell phones to other students. Our district has worked in conjunction with local and regional law enforcement officials to end such distribution and to educate our students on why such behavior is wrong as well as illegal - and can have an ever-lasting effect on those who are in the transmitted images. Our district has taken disciplinary action against the students we know distributed the images and have communicated with the students and parents of those who may have been in or received the images. This is behavior that is reprehensible and as a school district, we will do what is necessary to educate our students in the hopes that we will never witness such poor judgment and reprehensible behavior in the future.

The bright spot for our district this month has been the very positive attention that has been paid to our girls' basketball program and their Coach – Jeff Jasper! Coach Jasper's 1000th win was celebrated two weeks ago with a victory over Northern Highlands. Nearly 1000 people were in the stands to witness Coach Jasper's milestone. These supporters each have their own stories to tell of how Jeff has impacted their lives and how Jeff has helped propel countless students and athletes into confident, skilled, and proud adults. Congratulations to Jeff and all of his students and players.

Thus concludes the Superintendent's Report for January 22, 2018.

Student Reports:

Olivia Lein – Pascack Hills High School

To begin, Hills DECA sent 120 students to the regional competition held at Ramapo College. An amazing 61 competitors qualified for states in Atlantic City in February! Congrats to all participants and coach Gamgort. In addition, congratulations to the district dance team on its first place win at the competition held at Ramapo College.

Congratulations to Sarah Winston, Amber Leung, Zainah Alizade, and Gianna Lucido on their acceptance to the Region I Choir. They will proudly represent Pascack Hills by performing in this prestigious vocal ensemble. Also Congratulations to Katherine Park on acceptance to NJSMA Region I Orchestra, as well as Danny Joeng who was named to the all-state orchestra this past weekend.

The Hills History Bowl team, in their first ever competition at Ridgewood High school defeated Watchung Hills, Paramus, and Ridgewood. Congratulations to the members and coach Scerbo on a great showing in their first competition.

Pascack Hills students, John Santos, Ryan Sailer, Frank Scott, Thomas Van Geldren, Kyle Butler, and Charles Geanopulos have all volunteered to participate in the Mayor's Snow Angel program. The boys assist Montvale senior citizens with shoveling walkways during snow storms.

As for sports, the Hills wrestling team is having a strong season, compiling an 11-2 record thus far. Also, the bowling team had an impressive boys and girls sweep of River Dell last Friday! The Girls High Jump team of Hanna Figueroa and Kaia Paulson took second at state relays with a combined height of 10 feet. Hanna Figueroa clears 5'4" to tie the Hills High Jump record. Celine Aliko and Alyssa Beutel break the Hills shot put relay record at the State Group Relays with a combined distance of 55 feet. In other track news, Liam Landau, Pj Skibin, and Kai Lash all were league champions in their respective events at the league meet held last weekend.

This officially concludes my January report.

Amelia Moran – Pascack Valley High School

On January 11, PVTV News live streamed its first ever sporting event, which was the historic 1000th win for Coach Jeff Jasper and the Girls Basketball team. The all student crew, supervised by Vidco Production teacher Mr. Sherman, flawlessly executed their roles in the high pressure, quick paced atmosphere of real life sports drama. Over 120 people were viewing the live stream, some as far away as Hong Kong. It has since eclipsed over a thousand views on YouTube. PVTV News will be live streaming the Valentine's Talent Night on February 1 at 7pm. Subscribe to PV Stream on YouTube for all future events.

Throughout January and February, the PV World Cultures Club will present a series of lunches dedicated to the Mediterranean. We will discuss all aspects of Mediterranean culture, and analyze those that are touched upon in many animated films, especially the most recent *FERDINAND*. We will also conduct Skype-interviews with Italy, France, Spain, and Greece. The series will end with a Dance Party where students will have the opportunity to learn various cultural dances.

Allison Jeffery, PV Class of 2011, visited Ms. Karen Kosch and Ms. Courtney Farrell's classes to share a presentation about her service in The Peace Corps. Allison went on to Tufts University after graduating from PV, majoring in International Studies and Spanish. She served two years in Guatemala and is now reaching the end of her 6-month extension there. Hundreds of students gained an understanding of the goals of the Peace Corps, learned about the culture of Guatemala, and heard from a young person about reasons for and benefits of service to country and to others. PV Social Studies and Spanish Departments are grateful to Allison for her recent visit and presentation.

The Interact Club is in the process of collecting cold weather accessories such as hats, gloves, and scarves. We will also be holding two bake sales in February to raise funds for Pony Power, a horseback riding therapy program for children with disabilities.

To commemorate Coach Jeff Jasper's 1,000th career win, Smoke Signal journalists, led by editors in chief Lauren Cohen and Madison Gallo, worked day and night to produce an eight-page edition telling stories about Coach Jasper's life and his decades-long impact on the community. The issue, which was handed out at the conclusion of the big game on January 11, also was highlighted by a list of 1,000-win basketball coaches nationwide. To compile this list, Trey Herenda, Ricky Lutz, Jake Lutz, Erik Mannino, and Matt Ricciardi placed

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 modified Federal/NJ family leave request:

Name	Position	Requests modified from/to:
Brittany Gallagher	Park Academy Social Worker	<u>Total Leave Period:</u> From: January 2 – June 14, 2018 To: January 2 – June 14, 2018 Paid using 33 sick days <u>FMLA/NJFLA</u> From: February 22 – May 24, 2018 To: February 19 – May 21, 2018 <u>Leave of Absence</u> From: May 25 – June 14, 2018 To: May 22 – June 14, 2018

Moved by: Bissinger Seconded by: Molinelli

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>					

IX. HUMAN RESOURCES – NON-CERTIFICATED

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 4

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 Christopher DeNoia, District Systems Administrator, effective February 8, 2018.

2. Home Instructor

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Heather Ocampo as a returning home instructor for the 2017-2018 school year.

3. Volunteers

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following volunteers for the 2017-2018 school year:

Name	School	Activity
Joseph Gambardella	Pascack Hills	Baseball
Carl Kiel	PVRHSD	Robotics
Steve Mertz	PVRHSD	Robotics

4. Applied Behavior Analysis Instructional Assistants – Region II

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Christina Johnson as a part-time ABA Instructional Assistant for Region II for the 2017-2018 school year, at the rate of \$30 per hour.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Francine Kalman as a part-time ABA Instructional Assistant for Region II for the 2017-2018 school year, at the rate of \$20 per hour.

Moved by: Bissinger Seconded by: Molinelli

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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. Steinfeld read number one into the record.

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 January 22, 2018	\$237,646.87
Payroll as of January 15, 2018	\$1,513,373.32
Total	\$1,751,020.19

2. Amend Agreement to Provide Services and/or Equipment-Nonpublic School Security Aid Program for the 2017-2018 School Year

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the revised agreement to provide services and/or equipment under the Nonpublic Security Aid for the 2017–2018 school year.

year plan. The committee will be working to finalize that plan in upcoming weeks. Both of the building principals were present at the meeting.

Mr. Scher asked about the status of the music wing renovation. Mr. Gundersen replied that the plans have been finalized and we will be going out for bid shortly. Mr. Scher asked to see the plans.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

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.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Bissinger to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Ms. Molinelli 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.

