

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

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

November 20, 2017

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on Monday, November 20, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. in the Pascack Valley High School Media Center.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order in the Pascack Valley High School Media Center at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Brian Hallowell

Present: Mr. Joseph Blundo
Mr. Brian Hallowell
Ms. Tammy Molinelli
Mr. Kenneth Ralph
Mr. Arnold Scher
Mr. James Stankus
Mr. David Steinberg

Absent: Mr. Jeffrey Steinfeld, President
Ms. Janet Bissinger, Vice President

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

II. FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Hallowell 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 12, 2017 and November 19, 2017.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Scher to enter into an executive session at 7:03 p.m. Ms. Molinelli 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 Classroom at Pascack Valley High School, 200 Piermont Avenue, Hillsdale, 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:
 - a. A personnel matter
 - b. 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. Blundo to return into the public meeting at 7:50 p.m. Mr. Scher seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

At this time the meeting resumed in the media center.

Also present at that time were:

Student Representatives: Michael Port – PHHS; Amelia Moran – PVHS
Ms. Claudia Gibbs, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent

IV. ROUTINE MATTERS

Monthly Reports

Superintendent's Report: Mr. P. Erik Gundersen

Good evening and thank you to the students and families who are present here this evening. We are thrilled to be recognizing the students who have worked hard to become members of the Bergen County Choir as well as our students who have earned the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts. In addition, we have the honor of welcoming our NJ Teacher of the Year who has received the 2018 California Casualty Award for Teaching Excellence. We are excited to honor your accomplishments here this evening!

Earlier this month, Northern Ignite Innovation Cluster, Bergen County Superintendents, administrators, and teachers had the opportunity to learn about several Pascack programs including our: wellness center, seal of bi-literacy program, computer science in Algebra I initiative, technology education program, Pascack CAPS internship program, our innovative spaces, and our Pascack Schedule.

Thus concludes the Superintendent's Report for November 20, 2017.

Student Reports: Michael Port – Pascack Hills High School

Since our last report, the fall athletic season has officially come to a close. Collectively, it was a very strong season, with all but one team finishing the fall campaign with a winning record. With that, the winter season kicks off with tryouts for most of our sports starting today.

Earlier this month 24 new members were inducted into the Hills Chapter of the National Honor Society at an evening ceremony held in the media center.

In the first week of November, The Hills theater program put on four outstanding performances of *Bonnie and Clyde*. All four showings were well attended and received great reviews from both staff and students.

This year's Dig Pink event, a team fundraising effort between Teens Against Cancer and Volleyball raised \$3,500 for the Side Out Foundation, an organization dedicated to breast cancer research and treatment.

The Debate team season is off to a strong start. In the first two events of the season held at Northern Highlands and Pascack Valley, Yash Khatiwala received a 1st place and 2nd place speaker award. At PV Krupal Sharma and Dillon Blowers went, 4 and 0, taking home 2nd place.

Hills Interact Club is in the process of collecting non-perishable food for the annual Thanksgiving drive. All donations will go to local food pantries.

On November 3rd, the Trailblazer produced and shared its first video news cast, "The Pascack Recap". The production teamed the Trailblazer reporting staff with Mrs. Manzella's advanced video class to produce a 7 minute news show that included video taken with the new drone. The next episode is scheduled to air this Wednesday on the Trailblazer YouTube Channel.

This past weekend, the Hills Peer Leaders completed their overnight leadership training trip to Camp Mason in Hartwick, NJ. The peer leaders would like to thank the board of education for supporting this valuable bonding experience.

Lastly, this Wednesday morning Hills will be hosting the first ever Alumni bagel breakfast in the cafeteria. The event will be funded by the PFA and hopes to provide an opportunity for recent college graduates to come back and reconnect with classmates and staff members. Based on responses, it is a crowd of 60+ graduates which are expected to attend.

On behalf of the Hills Student government, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. This concludes my November report.

Amelia Moran – Pascack Valley High School

The garden planted by the Environmental Club near the tennis courts has recently become certified by the Bergen County Audubon Society by meeting the requirements of the Certified Wildlife Garden program.

The club, One Spirit, is purchasing holiday gifts for a family with 8 children on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. The club is also accepting donations that can be dropped off in room 230 or 234 until the end of the month - new toys and hygiene products will be accepted.

Boys' soccer won the Big North National Division for the 3rd consecutive year. Josh Ulin and TJ Mastowski made first team all-county. Justin Schaumberger won the JCC Kaplan scholar athlete award. He will be receiving a \$1,000 scholarship from Phil and Chris Simms on November 29. T.J. and Josh also will be playing in the Senior All-Star game at Fort Lee High School on November 22.

The Smoke Signal reasserted itself as one of the state's premiere journalism programs on Oct. 31 at the Garden State Scholastic Press Association's Fall Conference, where it won 37 awards, including three of the top awards a staff can win. For the second straight year, The Smoke Signal was awarded the Distinguished Journalism Award for print in the middle Division B size classification.

Mr. Hallowell invited the mayor of Montvale to the podium to address the board. Last week Montvale settled regarding the number of affordable housing units that it must provide. There are to be 615 units off Spring Valley Road in Montvale and 80 additional units in another area of town. Approximately 700 homes will be coming to Montvale shortly. He would like to form a committee to plan for the arrival of incoming students. About 200 students will be entering into the system, mostly in the K8 schools. By settling the lawsuit the town maintains control over the zoning. The mayor went on to describe where the new units would be located within the town. One or two members from the school board would be needed on this board for a standing committee.

Mr. Gundersen thanked the mayor for coming tonight and engaging in the dialogue. The impact of higher enrollment on the schools has been discussed between the two men. As a high school Pascack Valley Regional can handle the additional students. How to use the additional tax revenue wisely for the schools was discussed. Mr. Blundo recommended that we have this conversation with the other three sending districts as well. Woodcliff Lake will be having a similar situation.

V. STUDENT RECOGNITION

1. 2017-2018 Bergen County Choir

WHEREAS, the following students from Pascack Hills and Pascack Valley High Schools were selected to the 2017-2018 Bergen County Choir:

Lisa Agranov	Zainah Alizade	Tirso Ballesteros
Evan Ferioli	John Giardina	Stephanie Joo
Hansol Lee	Gianna Lucido	Ryan Muska
Seungjoon Oh	Joshua Ozawa-Morriello	Mark Pothen
Areg Safari	Amy Santo	Angela Song
Delia Stiles	Julian Stiles	Katherine Suarez
Isabella Tjan	Sarah Winston	

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, recognize and commend these students for their outstanding achievement.

2. 2018 NEA Foundation California Casualty Award for Teaching Excellence

WHEREAS, Argine Safari, a music teacher at Pascack Valley High School, is a recipient of the 2018 National Education Association (NEA) Foundation, California Casualty Award for Teaching Excellence recipients. The Awards for Teaching Excellence program recognizes educators from around the country who shine in their schools, their communities, and their own learning. The NEA Foundation is a public charity founded by educators for educators to improve public education for all students, and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, recognize and commend Ms. Safari for her outstanding achievement.

3. Eagle Scouts

WHEREAS, the following students from Pascack Valley High School achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. This prestigious honor is a reflection of your commitment and dedication to the values instilled in you by your family and the Boy Scouts of America:

Matthew Green	Karl Hauck
Kevin Herlihy	Christopher Mayer

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, recognize and commend Matthew, Karl, Kevin, and Christopher for their outstanding achievement.

4. New Jersey's Future Ready Schools Initiative

WHEREAS, Pascack Hills and Pascack Valley High School have been selected as Future Ready Schools by the New Jersey's Future Ready Schools Initiative. This coalition of NJIT, the NJSBA, and the NJDOE, is a certification program designed to support the organization of schools' and districts' efforts through the national Future Ready Framework to best prepare their students for success in the digital age, while fostering and enabling collaboration both within and between schools and districts throughout the state of New Jersey, and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, recognize and commend all involved for this outstanding achievement.

Mr. Gunderson thanked the two principals for being here this evening. This certification is recognizing districts that are doing this in the right way. Pascack Valley Regional is perceived as one of the leaders in the state of NJ. He thanked the leadership team of PVHRS that has made such an impact on our students.

BREAK FOR REFRESHMENTS

IX. HUMAN RESOURCES – CERTIFICATED

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 2

1. New Hire

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Karen Freedgood, leave replacement social worker at Park Academy for Brittany Gallagher, from December 15, 2017 for the balance of the 2017-2018 school year, at an annual salary of \$64,500, Step 1, MA+45, prorated, with health benefits.

2. 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 modified from/to:
Katherine Donahue	PHHS English Teacher	<u>Total Leave Period:</u> From: October 23, 2017 – January 1, 2018 Paid using 28 sick days To: October 23, 2017 – January 1, 2018 Paid using 25 sick days <u>FMLA/NJFLA</u> From: December 6, 2017 – January 1, 2018 To: December 1, 2017 – January 1, 2018 <u>Leave of Absence</u> From: None To: None

Moved by: Molinelli Seconded by: Scher

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Bissinger	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steinfeld	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 – 3

1. Athletic Appointments (Revised)

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Curtis Peters and Matt Marini as co-assistant coaches for the Pascack Hills High School women’s basketball team for a stipend of \$3,620 each, Step 3, for the 2017-2018 school year.

Mr. Scher asked on updates for the 18-21 building. Ms. Baxley responded. She will follow up on the next Friday facts.

The SLEO III for Hillsdale is still in the hands of our attorney.

Mr. Blundo brought up the presentation regarding the potential service project for seniors. Once seniors have been accepted at college he feels it would be great. Mr. Gundersen stated that we will have a limited pilot for that program this year.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Molinelli has been asked by NJSBA to participate in a workgroup. She is trying to gather information and encourages feedback on how schools can prepare students who are not on the college path.

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 Ms. Molinelli to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. Mr. Blundo seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pamela Baxley", written over a horizontal line.

Pamela Baxley
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

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

