

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

**Pascack Valley Regional High School District**

**Monday, January 27, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.  
In the Pascack Valley High School Media Center**

**Meeting Regulations**

The Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education members, district administration, and staff will treat parents/guardians and other members of the public with respect and expect the same consideration in return. The district is committed to maintaining orderly processes for keeping school and district events free from disruption. 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.

During this regular meeting, two opportunities are provided for citizens to make comments. In order for a citizen to make a comment, they must be physically present at the meeting. During the first opportunity, early on the agenda, comments regarding agenda items are invited. The second opportunity will occur just prior to adjournment, when residents may address general comments to the Board.

Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise and state their name and town of residence. Comments shall be limited to issues. If personal remarks or discourteous statements are made, the presiding officer shall require the speaker to sit down.

**All regular meetings will be live streamed for viewing purposes only to the Pascack Valley Regional High School District [YouTube](#) channel.**

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 Mr. Yas Usami, 28 West Grand Avenue, Suite 2, Montvale, NJ 07645.

Notice: With advance notice, we can provide personal assistance for those with disabilities. Please contact 201-358-7005 x21005.

*Copies of all public meeting agendas are online on the district website:*

<http://www.pascack.org>

The Vision of the Pascack Valley Regional High School District:

To create a culture of innovation, inquiry, and individuality that promotes achievement and choice by cultivating the skills needed to complete and collaborate as ethical and responsible global citizens.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. Varghese, President

Present: Mrs. Gini Varghese, President  
 Ms. Debra Stephans, Vice President  
 Ms. Elizabeth Calderone  
 Ms. Gia Guzman  
 Mrs. Stephanie Huang arrived 7:34  
 Mrs. Kristin Martin  
 Mr. James Stankus  
 Mr. Michael Weaver  
 Dr. Sarah Bilotti, Superintendent  
 Mr. Yas Usami, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
 Student Representatives: Andrew Varian – PHHS; Ella Gokhale – PVHS

Absent: Ms. Katie Keller

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

Mrs. Varghese 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 August 26, 2024.

**IV. ROUTINE MATTERS**

Monthly Reports  
 Governance Committee Meeting Gini Varghese ([attached](#))  
 PFO Liaison Stephanie Huang ([attached](#))  
 Student Reports: Andrew Varian– Pascack Hills High School ([attached](#))  
 Ella Gokhale– Pascack Valley High School ([attached](#))

**V. 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:

|                   |                                  |           |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| December 16, 2024 | Regular Meeting                  | 7:00 p.m. |
| December 16, 2024 | Executive Meeting                | 7:03 p.m. |
| January 6, 2025   | Reorganization & Regular Meeting | 7:30 p.m. |

Moved by:

Stankus ▾

Seconded by:

Calderone ▾

## VOTE

| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                      | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Calderone | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stankus  | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guzman    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Huang     | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weaver   | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keller    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | Varghese | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Martin    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |     |                          |                          |                          |

Ms. Guzman abstained to all the Minutes.

Mr. Weaver abstained to the December 16 Executive Minutes.

## VI. PRESENTATIONS

MLK Day of Service Recap

Dr. Russo ([attached](#))

Dr. Russo presented the 2025 Beloved Community Day of Service inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This brought a collaboration among staff, students and community members to provide service. He mentioned that despite the snow there were 25 locations and 185 students participated. He highlighted the services performed at Pascack Valley, Pascack Hills and other various outside locations. He indicated that the Sensory Carnival had the largest number of participants with over 75 students and faculty and members of the community. Dr. Russo thanked the Board, Dr. Bilotti, Dr. Bachenheimer, Ms. McGlone, faculty, administration, site leaders, those who came up with sites, students, Ms. Beshell, Riley Alexander, Peter (was to be keynote speaker), Lauren Bielen who put in countless hours, and Eric Franceski without her the day would not exist.

Internship / Career Readiness

Mr. Orlak

Joe Orlak presented and introduced his team - Laura McSpirit, Jen Errity, Christine Haller, Betty Ann Hannigan, and Maria Mathews. Mr. Orlak said the program is designed to provide real world experiences in the area of student interest and career aspirations. He indicated that key areas are career exploration, skill development - soft and technical skills, opportunity to network, career readiness, and professional growth.

Ms. McSpirit spoke about how the process starts now with juniors and they meet the team.

Students are given an application and must provide a resume and letter of interest. Then they meet with the team to figure out a match. She said they prepare them for interviewing and take them out to interviews at various sites. She indicated that the program has morning and afternoon internships. Morning is not only for trades, but also in the medical field and culinary. The program is for all academic levels including the 18-21 Milestones students and LLD students. It also helps students find out that their particular field is not what they thought.

Ms. Errity commented about mentors for the program. She indicated that they will speak to anyone to see if they could be a mentor. She said some mentors are disappointed if the program does not have a student interested in their particular field. She mentioned that in a particular field there are many jobs that are needed to support it. She indicated that high school internships can result in college internships since there is so much real world experience. She commented that the mentors want to teach interns about their field.

Ms. Irene Motta, owner of Ace Global (corporate services) and a mentor in the program for six years, spoke about how invaluable the program is. She indicated that she needed assistance with social media and marketing. She mentioned how she enjoys teaching the interns about her business and how she can show them practical applications in her industry. She takes pride in teaching the interns that they can love their job. She sees growth in the interns during the year. She also has learned from the interns.

Nick Najarian, an intern working with Dr. Goldstein said it has changed his life. He is interested in becoming a nurse. He said he has seen many surgeries and met the CEO of Pascack Valley Hospital as well as the CFO, CNO and Human Resources Manager. He indicated that the networking will assist him in the future. He said it has been an amazing experience as he has learned a great deal about his future profession.

Ms. Errity commented that Dr. Goldstein is a neighbor and has been a terrific mentor. She said he has enjoyed his experience with the interns so much that he has started a college internship program.

Eli, a senior at Hills and an intern at Pascack Valley Medical Center. He said it has been a life changing experience. He has been exposed to so much that he is unsure of what he wants to do. He said his experience has helped build his resume for college. He added that he has enjoyed his internship immensely.

Mr. Weaver asked the percentage of students in the program who are college readiness and those who are not.

Mr. Orlak said he could get the number. He mentioned that there is a stigma and how they break it. He said the number should be greater.

Mr. Weaver asked how the new scheduling has grown elective offerings and especially in the trades. He added if the district has considered giving credit for extracurricular activities, so that students could take additional electives.

Mr. Orlak indicated when he was the phys. ed. supervisor, the district looked at Option 2 and the Board did not want to implement it. He mentioned that there is practice to provide Option 2 for certain circumstances. He added that soft/professional skills have been incorporated across all content areas.

Mr. Weaver shared an experience with an auto body owner who is working on the car, negotiating with the insurance company and managing communications with the rental car company.

Ms. Calderone thanked Mr. Orlak and his team enlightened everyone about the program. She said the information is invaluable and hopes that students take advantage of the program.

Ms. Stephans commented that she loves the program and loved hearing from everyone, especially the students. She shared an experience as an intern with a judge who was an adjunct professor as well. She learned a lot when all the interns/students got together and shared their experiences. She thought that something similar could be possible here.

Mr. Orlak said that they do have meetings with the interns and conversations are organic. He commented that the program is unique because it's half days for nine and half months.

Ms. Stephans asked how the class impacts one's GPA.

Ms. McSpirit and Mr. Orlak explained that it's real world experience. They meet with them often to see how they are progressing. It does not positively affect their GPA since it's not weighted like honors or AP. Mr. Orlak does not want this to be honors; he wants it to be real. He said students experience what they cannot receive in the classroom.

Mr. Weaver asked if the students receive a midterm and final grade.

Ms. McSpirit said that they receive a semester grade. She indicated they receive mentor readings three times a year (quarterly grades), graded on communications, time sheets and the team check on them at their job sites. The team with input from the mentors provide areas of growth to the interns.

Ms. Errity added that they have had valedictorians, salutatorians, students attending Cornell and West Point. She commented that taking the internship does not change where they will go to college. She said that they look uncommon on the common app and it helps in an interview.

Mrs. Varghese asked why a previous Board did not want to implement Option 2.

Mr. Orlak said in the past there was a competitive Irish dancer and students who participated in Junior Olympics for ice hockey who opted for Option 2. Former superintendent, Dr. Tantillo who taught phys. Ed. and social studies did not believe it benefitted all students.

Mrs. Varghese mentioned that there is a post secondary committee chaired by Ms. Calderone and they would like to know what is needed to grow/improve the program. She said the program sets the district apart from others and she appreciates the enthusiasm of the team. She asked if every student gets into the program.

Mr. Orlak said that the interest in the field needs to have a mentor and the student's schedule needs to accommodate the half day internship. He mentioned that the program is not exclusionary. He indicated that they need help with transportation for those students who cannot get to a site which is a limitation.

Mrs. Martin said there is a parking issue at Valley which can be a limitation. She mentioned that her daughter was torn between the internship and a class. She added that her daughter could have benefitted from Option 2 since she was in competitive dance. She realises how hard the team works at securing internships and appreciates them.

Mr. Orlak mentioned the teacher shortage and that their teacher cadet program is growing. They have former interns who are teachers mentoring in this program.

Ms. Errity commented that forensics, psychology and physics are very popular and the most difficult to find placements. She said whoever is teaching these subjects is doing a fabulous job.

Mrs. Martin said that some receive college credit and perhaps students should not be driven solely by GPA. She thanked all the teachers who make learning fun.

Mr. Stankus indicated that NJ is allowing school vans for transportation that could alleviate the transportation issue. Mr. Orlak said he'll leave that with the Board. Mr. Stankus asked how many students have gone through the program and how many years has the program been in existence.

Mr. Orlak said it's the 15th year of the program and it operated during Covid when other districts pulled it. He mentioned that internships were done remotely if possible. He did not have the number of students. He indicated that the program staff has continually grown over the years.

They must check on the students every 10 days by statute. The team works hard meeting people to see if they would like to be mentors.

## **VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Citizens are invited to make comments regarding agenda items and are limited to three 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, sign in, and state their name, town of residence, and which agenda item(s) they are referencing.

Tim Wieland of River Vale and Principal of Pascack Hills mentioned that about six years ago Dr. Mark Russo envisioned a give back to the community and to build the district community on MLK Day with student involvement. Erica Fanceski was willing to partner with Dr. Russo. Covid interrupted the vision, but after it became a reality. He mentioned Dr. Russo's passion and that he is not getting the attention he deserves. He thanked Dr. Russo.

## **VIII. POLICY**

Consent Agenda for Items 1-2

1. **Schedule of 2025-2026 Board Meetings**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, adopt the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education meeting schedule ([attached](#)) for the 2025-2026 school year.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Business Administrator / Board Secretary distribute the meeting schedule to all locations as listed below:

The Record and Community Life

Board Members

Office of the Superintendent

Pascack Valley and Pascack Hills High Schools

Building & Grounds Coordinators & Director of Facilities and Capital Improvement

Cafeteria Managers

Hillsdale Board of Education and Municipal Clerk

Montvale Board of Education and Municipal Clerk

River Vale Board of Education and Municipal Clerk

Woodcliff Lake Board of Education and Municipal Clerk

2. **Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Reports**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education approve action taken pursuant to HIB Reports:

- a. HIB # 284524 (attached)
- b. HIB # 269830 (attached)
- c. HIB # 284103 (attached)

Moved by:

Stephans ▾

Seconded by:

Stankus ▾

| VOTE      |                          |                          |                          |                          |          |     |                          |                          |                          |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                      | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
| Calderone | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stankus  | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guzman    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Huang     | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weaver   | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keller    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | Varghese | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Martin    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |     |                          |                          |                          |

Mr. Weaver abstained to Item 2.

Mrs. Varghese noted that the board meeting schedule has a couple of Wednesday meetings. She believes this will give members advance notice to schedule appropriately. She indicated that in July the meeting location will change to Hills. She said it might be a little early.

Dr. Bilotti indicated that traditionally the location switches each year between the schools. She said ideally the switch would occur each July, but it's always the case due to construction or conflicts.

Mrs. Martin commented that she thought the meeting in September would be at Valley. She said the retreat would be at Hills again.

Dr. Bilotti mentioned that the past year the retreat was at Hills due to technological requirements available at Hills.

Mrs. Martin thought the change would take place when the school starts.

Dr. Bilotti thought that traditionally the change took place in July. The schedule was interrupted during and shortly after Covid.

## IX. EDUCATION

Consent Agenda for Items 1 - 3

### 1. Overnight Trips

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Pascack Valley High School students and chaperones Cindy Reese and John Reese to travel to Germany, Austria, Prague, and Budapest (attached) from April 11 - 20, 2025.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve an overnight trip for Pascack Hills High School DECA members, advisor Corin Gamgort, and chaperones Paul Henry, Steve Casamento, Nicole Olshalsky, Nick Scerbo, Dana Amato, Michelle Gaeta, Vani Voss, and Evan Lampert to travel to the DECA state level competition in Atlantic City, NJ (attached) from March 4 - 6, 2025.
- c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Pascack Valley High School students and chaperones Theresa Flynn and Laura McSpirit, to travel to Greece (attached) from April 11 - 19, 2025

### 2. Bedside Instruction

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve bedside instruction for student ID# 812591 who has been placed at Four Winds Hospitals, per student's IEP. Instruction took place on December 2 and December 3, 2024 for two hours of instruction per day. Educational services are \$132 per day.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve bedside instruction for student ID# 812092, per student's IEP, provided by LearnWell with a start date of November 25, 2024 to June 17, 2025. Educational services will be billed at \$62.00 per hour.

January 27, 2025

- c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve two hours per day of instruction time for student ID# 813007 who has been placed at Aspire Adolescent Counseling Center, per student's IEP with a start date of December 24, 2024 to February 27, 2025. Educational services will be \$135 per day.

3. **Out-of-District Placement - Revised**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the revised out-of-district placement of student #ID 813118 at Fusion Academy from September 3, 2024, to December 6, 2024, per the student's IEP. The adjusted tuition cost for the 2024-2025 school year is \$34,770.00.

Moved by:

Stephans ▾

Seconded by:

Calderone ▾

## VOTE

| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                      | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Calderone | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stankus  | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guzman    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Huang     | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weaver   | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keller    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | Varghese | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Martin    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |     |                          |                          |                          |

X. **HUMAN RESOURCES**

**WHEREAS**, the superintendent, after considering the recommendation of her administrative staff which included consideration of experience, credentials, and references for the following candidates for employment in the school district, has determined that the appointment of these individuals is appropriate and in the best interest of the school district,

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated, as provided by the budget, in accordance with terms of the employment specified:

Note: Appointment of new personnel to the district is provisional subject to:

1. Authorization from the State Department regarding a criminal background check and/or authorization from the Bergen County Superintendent's Office for emergent hiring; and
2. A medical examination including satisfactory results of the Mantoux tuberculin skin test; and
3. Valid certification appropriate for his/her employment or assignment in New Jersey; and
4. Disclosure and review of applicants' employment history within the statutory time period.
- 5.



1. **Resignations**

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Irene Cassa, Purchasing Compliance Officer at the Pascack Valley Regional High School District, for the purpose of retirement (attached), effective June 1, 2025.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Freda Chudyk, General Secretary for Region II, for purposes of retirement (attached), effective August 1, 2025.
- c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Kerri Merritt, BCBA for Region II, effective February 14, 2025
- d. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Caitlin O'Brien, Teacher Resource Specialist for Region II, effective January 12, 2025.

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 Federal/NJ family leave request:

| Employee ID# | Position             | Request  |
|--------------|----------------------|--|
| 2190         | PHHS Science Teacher | FMLA Leave Period:<br>March 17, 2025 - June 17, 2025 |

3. **Long Term Substitute Rate of Pay**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a rate of pay for long term substitutes. The per diem rate will be equivalent to BA Step 1 for substitute teachers who are in a long term substitute position for over 40 days, hold a valid N.J. teacher certification, fulfill the responsibilities of the classroom teacher, including lesson plans, grading, attendance at meetings, and other responsibilities as per the PVREA bargaining agreement.

4. **Long Term Substitute**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Elise Campbell as a long term substitute for employee ID# 0535. Ms. Campbell will continue to cover classes starting February 1, 2025, and for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year at the long term substitute per diem rate of \$291.37 (BA Step 1).

5. **Staff Assignment Change**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following change of assignment for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Name        | Previous  | 2024-2025   |
|-------------|---|---|
| Erika Velez | PHHS Part-time Paraprofessional:<br>Bilingual Instructional Assistant | PHHS and PVHS Part-time<br>Paraprofessional:<br>Bilingual Instructional Assistant |

#### 6. Additional Periods

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following adjustment to the previously board approved additional sixth period assignments for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Name             | Subject                         | Additional Period  | Adjustment Amount |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Vanessa Martinez | World History & Biology (split) | October 14, 2024 – June 17, 2025<br>(3 days, 14 weeks, and S2) | \$9,545           |
| Margaret Schmidt | ESL                             | October 14, 2024 – June 17, 2025<br>(3 days, 14 weeks, and S2) | \$9,545           |
| Mark Russo       | Algebra II                      | November 11, 2024 – Feb. 3, 2025<br>(3 days, 10 weeks)         | \$2,945           |

- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following additional sixth period assignments for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Name       | Subject    | Additional Period                | Amount  |
|------------|------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Mark Russo | Algebra II | February 4 – June 17, 2025<br>S2 | \$5,500 |

- c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following additional sixth period assignments for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Name           | Subject                                | Additional Period | Amount  |
|----------------|--|-------------------|---------|
| Zabrina Kearns | Milestones Special Education Class (1) | Semester 2        | \$5,500 |
| Zabrina Kearns | Milestones Special Education Class (2) | Semester 2        | \$5,500 |

#### 7. Additional Periods - Temporary

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following additional sixth period assignments while employee # 0880 is on leave. for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Name                 | Subject       | Additional Period              | Amount |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Luciano Confrancesco | World History | January 29 - February 14, 2025 | \$745  |

|                |                                |  |       |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--|-------|
|                | Period 1                       | (3 days and 2 weeks)                                   |       |
| Jonathan Rose  | Financial Literacy<br>Period 3 | January 29 - February 14, 2025<br>(3 days and 2 weeks) | \$745 |
| Connor Quinlan | World History<br>Period 4      | January 29 - February 14, 2025<br>(3 days and 2 weeks) | \$745 |
| Ken Sarajian   | Sociology<br>Period 5          | January 29 - February 14, 2025<br>(3 days and 2 weeks) | \$745 |
| Marisa Mathias | World History<br>Period 8      | January 29 - February 14, 2025<br>(3 days and 2 weeks) | \$745 |

8. **Co-Curricular Appointment**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following co-curricular appointment for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Activity            | Name              | Position  | Stipend |
|---------------------|-------------------|---|---------|
| PVHS Spring Musical | Augustus Koeniges | Assistant Director<br>Sound, Design, and Choreography | \$3,633 |
| PHHS Spring Musical | Ashleigh Butt     | Assistant Director<br>Costumes, Hair, and Makeup      | \$3,633 |

9. **Supplemental Instruction**

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve supplemental instruction for student ID# 813294 per student's IEP.

| Instructor     | Subject   | Hours per week | Dates                  |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|------------------------|
| Heather Ocampo | Algebra 1 | 2              | 11/12/2024 - 6/17/2025 |

- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve supplemental instruction for student ID# 813118 per student's IEP.

| Instructor       | Subject           | Hours per week | Dates                             |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Nicole Olshalsky | Drivers Education | 2              | 1/6/2025 - 2/28/2025<br>(8 weeks) |

- c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve tier three intervention supplemental instruction for student ID# 814113.

| Instructor | Subject | Hours per | Dates |
|------------|---------|-----------|-------|
|------------|---------|-----------|-------|

|                |           | <b>week</b> |                        |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|------------------------|
| Matthew Marini | Geometry  | 1           | 11/29/2024 - 2/10/2025 |
| Heather Lutz   | English 1 | 1           | 11/29/2024 - 2/10/2025 |

#### 10. Home Instruction

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve home instruction for student ID# 812378 per student's IEP.

| <b>Instructor</b> | <b>Subject</b> | <b>Hours Per Week</b> | <b>Dates</b>       |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Amy Maniscalco    | English IV     | 2                     | 1/22/25 to 6/17/25 |
| Len Cusamano      | PE/Health 12   | 2                     | 1/22/25 to 6/17/25 |

- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve home instruction for student ID# 811656 per student's IEP.

| <b>Instructor</b> | <b>Subject</b>                                     | <b>Hours Per Week</b> | <b>Dates</b>       |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Deborah Ragone    | Algebra II<br>via Educere Education                | 2                     | 2/1/2025-6/17/2025 |
| Deborah Ragone    | Physics<br>via Educere Education                   | 2                     | 2/1/2025-6/17/2025 |
| Deborah Ragone    | Childhood Development<br>via Educere Education     | 2                     | 2/1/2025-6/17/2025 |
| Deborah Ragone    | Early Childhood Education<br>via Educere Education | 2                     | 2/1/2025-6/17/2025 |

- c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve home instruction for student ID# 812364 for a total of 5 hours per week.

| <b>Instructor</b> | <b>Subject</b>             | <b>Hours per week</b> | <b>Dates</b>         |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Terri DelGiudice  | Hon. French IV             | 1                     | 1/6/2025 - 1/27/2025 |
| Valerie Santo     | Hon. Lit. of the Holocaust | 1                     | 1/6/2025 - 1/27/2025 |
| Matthew Will      | Physics                    | 1                     | 1/6/2025 - 1/27/2025 |
| Russ Grier        | Hon. Forensics             | 1                     | 1/6/2025 - 1/27/2025 |
| Len Cusumano      | Health & PE                | 1                     | 1/6/2025 - 1/27/2025 |

- d. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve home instruction for student ID# 812309 for a total of 6 hours per week.

| Instructor      | Subject           | Hours per week | Dates                  |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Heather Ocampo  | Statistics        | 2              | 12/20/2024 - 2/28/2025 |
| Jessica Miranda | Ceramics          | 2              | 12/20/2024 - 2/28/2025 |
| Matthew Morone  | Hon. Phil. & Lit. | 2              | 12/20/2024 - 2/28/2025 |

- e. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve home instruction for student ID# 813328 for a total of 10 hours per week.

| Instructor         | Subject           | Hours per week | Dates                 |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Alexandra Pfleging | English 2         | Approx. 2      | 12/14/2024 - 3/1/2025 |
| Deborah Horn       | US History        | Approx. 2      | 12/14/2024 - 3/1/2025 |
| James Soltmann     | Chemistry         | Approx. 2      | 12/14/2024 - 3/1/2025 |
| Kimberly Caminiti  | Algebra 2 w trig. | Approx. 2      | 12/14/2024 - 3/1/2025 |
| Axelle Sandt       | French            | Approx. 2      | 12/14/2024 - 3/1/2025 |

#### 11. Home and Supplemental Instructors

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve all teachers in the Pascack Valley Regional High School District as home and supplemental instructors for the 2024-2025 school year.

#### 12. Substitute Teacher/Home Instructor

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following substitute and home instructor for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Name           | Position                     | Type  |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------|
| Joanne Afram   | Substitute Classroom Teacher | Renew |
| Yvette Kohn    | Home Instructor              | Renew |
| Heather Ocampo | Home Instructor              | Renew |

**13. Office Support**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year during regular business hours:

| Name             | Department     | Days                    | Rate                             |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jennifer Donovan | Central Office | Not to exceed 15 (full) | Substitute secretary hourly rate |

**14. Intern Placement**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve intern placement for Jaylyn DeLeon from the University of Rhode Island at Pascack Valley High School. Ms. DeLeon will work with Jimena Ladino, World Language, for the 2025 Spring Semester, January 23 - April 30, 2025.

**15. Chaperone**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Mr. Ed Sandt as an additional chaperone for a previously board approved PHHS overnight trip to Quebec City from February 8-11, 2025.

**16. Chaperones**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve chaperones for after school choir and band auditions and rehearsals. Chaperones will be paid \$80 for two hours, and additional time will be prorated.

| Name            | Event                    | School | Date            | Timeframe   |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------|
| Margarita Elkin | Regional Choir Auditions | PHHS   | January 4, 2025 | 8:00-3:00pm |
| Argine Safari   | Regional Choir Auditions | PVHS   | January 4, 2025 | 8:00-3:00pm |

**17. Athletic Appointments**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following athletic appointment for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Name               | Team                | Position   | Stipend/Step                               |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------|--|
| Stephen Begen      | PVHS Fitness Room   | Supervisor | \$29.75 per period                         |
| Cassandra Liebried | Winter Cheerleading | Coach      | \$4,429.50 (.50 of 1.5 head coach stipend) |
| Alexandra Pflieger | Winter Cheerleading | Coach      | \$4,429.50 (.50 of 1.5 head coach stipend) |

**18. Athletic 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 Elizabeth Egan, PHHS Spring Track Assistant Coach, for the 2024-2025 school year.

Moved by:

Stephans ▾

Seconded by:

Calderone ▾

| VOTE      |                          |                          |                          |                          |          |     |                          |                          |                          |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                      | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
| Calderone | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stankus  | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guzman    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Huang     | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weaver   | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keller    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | Varghese | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Martin    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |     |                          |                          |                          |

**XI. FINANCE**

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 21

**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 27, 2025 | \$4,407,956.46 |
| Payroll as of January 15, 2025             | \$1,783,487.26 |
| Total                                      | \$6,191,443.72 |

**2. Secretary's and Treasurer's Financial Reports (Dec attached) (Dec attached)**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the Secretary's and Treasurer's unaudited 2023-24 financial reports, which are in agreement reflecting the district's financial activities for the period November and December 2024

**3. Ratification of Board Secretary's Monthly Certification – Budgetary Line Item Status**

**RESOLVED** pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)3, the Board Secretary certifies that as of November and December 2024 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

**BE IT RESOLVED** pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2-11(c)4 that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education certifies that as of November and December 2024 after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial report, in the minutes of the Board each month that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(b).4.

4. **Approval of the Following Reports**

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

|                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Cafeteria Account               | November & December 2024 |
| b. e-Learning Account              | November & December 2024 |
| c. Capital Project Account         | November & December 2024 |
| d. Student Government Account – PH | November & December 2024 |
| e. Student Government Account – PV | November & December 2024 |

5. **Transfers**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve transfers for the months of November and December 2024.

6. **Travel Pre-Authorizations**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the pre-authorization travel expenses for professional development or school trips:

| Name           | Professional Development or School Trip   |
|----------------|---|
| Dana Amato     | NJASPERD (New Jersey Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance) Annual Convention |
| Doreen Babis   | NJAPSA (New Jersey Association of Pupil Services Administrators) Winter Academy Conference                |
| Doreen Babis   | Techspo 2025  |
| Sarah Bilotti  | American Association of School Administrators (AASA) National Conference on Education                     |
| Robert Donahue | NJSBGA (New Jersey School Buildings and Grounds Association) 2025 Expo                                    |
| Diane Fallon   | NJPSA School Health & The Law   |
| Tom Gallione   | NJPSA School Health & The Law   |
| Megan Graziano | 2025 NSTA (National Science Teaching Association) Conference  |
| Gia Guzman     | New Board Member Orientation  |
| Amy Lombardo   | NJASPERD (New Jersey Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance) Annual Convention |



|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Natalie Macke  | 2025 NSTA (National Science Teaching Association) Conference<br>Presenting on discovering a changing world with innovative tools from NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) |
| Elise Naramore | 2025 NSTA (National Science Teaching Association) Conference<br>Presenting three workshops on assessment, revitalizing rubrics, and maximizing learning in AP courses                        |
| Steven Papa    | DAANJ (Directors of Athletics Association of New Jersey) State Conference  |
| Amdi Ramani    | NJSBGA (New Jersey School Buildings and Grounds Association) 2025 Expo   |

7. **Submission to State Dept of Education - Room 104 HVAC Replacement at PHHS**  
**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the submission of the Room 104 HVAC Replacement Project at Pascack Hills to the State Department of Education.
8. **Cancellation of Tennis Court Resurfacing at PVHS**  
**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the cancellation of the Tennis Court Resurfacing Project at Pascack Valley since it was determined by the resurfacing company that it was not needed and return \$195,000.00 to Capital Reserve.
9. **Capital Reserve Withdrawal - Grandstand Soil Erosion & Drainage Repair at PHHS**  
**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$600.00 for the Grandstand Soil Erosion and Drainage Repair at Pascack Hills.
10. **Major Amendment and Submission of the District's Long Range Facility Plan**  
**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Major Amendment and submission of the District's Long Range Facility Plan to the New Jersey Department of Education.
11. **Capital Reserve Withdrawal - Turf Drainage Improvement Project at PVHS**  
**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a Capital Reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$99,325.00 for the Turf Drainage Improvement Project at Pascack Valley.
12. **Award Contract for Pascack Valley Drainage Improvement Project - Your Way Construction, Inc.**  
**WHEREAS**, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education ("Board") advertised for bids for the Pascack Valley Drainage Improvement at Pascack Valley High School Project ("Project");

**WHEREAS**, on January 17, 2025, the Board received seven bids for the Project;

**WHEREAS**, Your Way Construction, Inc. (“Your Way”) submitted the lowest bid with a base bid in the amount of \$37,285.00, together with alternate No. 1 bid in the amount of \$40,460.00 for a total bid in the amount of \$77,745.00;

**WHEREAS**, the bid submitted by Your Way is responsive in all material respects; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board desires to award the contract for the Project to Your Way.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board at the recommendation of the superintendent hereby awards the contract for the Project to Your Way for a total contract sum of \$77,745.00.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this award is expressly conditioned upon the contractor furnishing the requisite insurance certificate and labor and materials/performance bond as required in the Project specifications, together with an AA201-Project Manning Report, and an executed AIA Agreement, as prepared by the Board Attorney, within ten (10) days of the date hereof.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board Attorney is hereby directed to draft the agreement with the successful bidder consistent with this Resolution and the terms contained in the bid documents and specifications for the Project. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

**13. Edwards Engineering Group, Inc. Proposal for Engineering Fees - AC Project Room 104 at PHHS**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Edwards Engineering proposal for engineering fees in the amount of \$3,150.00 for a condenser pad schematic drawing and construction detail related to the AC project in Room 104 (Tech Ed) at Pascack Hills.

**14. Inter-Local Services Agreement with Park Ridge BOE for Advisory Services (attached)**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Inter-Local Services Agreement between the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education and the Park Ridge Board of Education for advisory services to the Park Ridge School District Facilities Manager.

**15. Accept Artificial Intelligence Innovation in Education Grant**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the Artificial Intelligence Innovation in Education Grant from the State of New Jersey Department of Education in the amount of \$75,000.

**16. Donation**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the following donation:

| Date    | Donor          | Amount  | Club or Group       |
|---------|----------------|---------|---------------------|
| 1/17/25 | Robert Buccino | \$1,000 | PH Scholarship Fund |

**17. Award Contract KDP Developers, Inc. and RFP Solutions, Inc. - Fiber Optic Repair (attached)**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the repair of fiber optic cable that operates the lightning detection equipment at Pascack Hills High School under emergency stabilization pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7 and the rule promulgated pursuant thereto at N.J.A.C. 5:34-6.1; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve awarding a contract to KDP Developers, Inc. to perform the repair in the amount of \$56,771.00 without going to bid; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve awarding a contract to RFP Solutions, Inc. to provide and connect the fiber optic cable in the amount of \$6,259.14 through the Educational Service Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ), contract ESCNJ 22/23-36.

**18. Special Payment Authorization - Region II**

**RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, authorize Region II to pay bills on February 12, 2025, upon presentation of properly approved vouchers for the following:

- Occupational and Physical Therapists billing from 12/15/24 to 1/14/25
- Independents: speech and language therapists, LDTC, school psychologists, and social workers for January 2025 billing
- Evaluation billing for December 2024 and January 2025
- Transportation services for January 2025 billing.

**19. Special Education Transportation - Region II - Renewal Revision**

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education renew special education transportation contract 103 to Baraka Transit for the 2024-2025 school year.

| Route # | Route                  | Base   | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|------------------------|--------|------|----------|-------------|
| 2416    | Cresskill Step by Step | 210.67 | 1.99 | 212.66*  | 8,931.72*   |

\*Includes cost of aide

**20. Special Education Transportation - Region II - Quotes**

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q242518 to Stellar School Transportation during the 2024-2025 school year.

| Route # | Route             | Base | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|-------------------|------|------|----------|-------------|
| Q242518 | Hopestone Academy | 161  | 45   | 206.00*  | 22,248.00*  |

\*Includes cost of aide

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q24259 to Sunny Transportation during the 2024-2025 school year.

| Route # | Route              | Base | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|--------------------|------|------|----------|-------------|
| Q24259  | Chancellor Academy | 220  | 30   | 220.00   | 22,220.00   |

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q242519 to Pro Trans during the 2024-2025 school year.

| Route # | Route           | Base | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|-----------------|------|------|----------|-------------|
| Q242519 | Windsor Lrn Ctr | 175  | 75   | 175.00   | 22,400.00   |

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q242520 to First Student Inc. during the 2024-2025 school year.

| Route # | Route            | Base | Aide | Per Diem | Annual Cost |
|---------|------------------|------|------|----------|-------------|
| Q242520 | BCSS, Burlington | 215  | 65   | 215.00   | 22,360.00   |

## 21. Special Education Transportation - Region II - Parent Contract

**RESOLVED**, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation contract to The Parent for route #DD2425 for the 2024-25 school year.

| Route # | Route        | Per Diem | Insurance Premium Adjustment | Annual Cost |
|---------|--------------|----------|------------------------------|-------------|
| DD2425  | Reed Academy | 85.00    | 568.00                       | 13,488.00   |

Moved by: **Martin**

Seconded by: **Calderone**

### VOTE

| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                      | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Calderone | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stankus  | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guzman    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Huang     | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weaver   | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keller    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | Varghese | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Martin    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |     |                          |                          |                          |

Mr. Weaver abstained to Item 6.

Mrs. Varghese thanked Dr. Bachenheimer and his team for the AI Education Grant of \$75,000 which will be split between the two schools.

Dr. Bilotti indicated that Mr. Orlak was involved as well.

## XII. OLD BUSINESS

None

## XIII. NEW BUSINESS

None

## XIV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Citizens are invited to make comments and are limited to three 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, sign in and state their name and town of residence. Zahraa Islam, a student at Hills and the club co-president and co-founder of the Muslim Student Association. She expressed concern for greater inclusivity in the school calendar. She requested that Eid ul Fitr and Eid ul Adha, two significant religious holidays for Muslims, be recognized as days off in the 2025-2026 school calendar, and hopefully beyond. She mentioned that this year Eid ul Fitr falls on March 30, and Eid ul Adha is on June 7. She commented that these are major holidays in Islamic tradition which a sizable population of our school celebrates. She asked that students observing these holidays be granted excused absences throughout the entirety of these celebrations which typically last 3-4 days. She mentioned that students would notify their schools in advance of their planned absences. She indicated that the accommodations would ensure that the Muslim students would feel recognized and supported in their right to observe their faith. She mentioned the importance since students missed school in order to observe these holidays and it became very difficult to catch up on all the missed school work. She said last year, she had a math test the day she came back and it was stressful to manage. She commented that it would be very insightful to provide teachers (and students) with resources to educate the community on Islamic tradition. She added that inclusivity in the school calendar would be an essential step toward creating a truly healthy environment for all students. She thanked the Board for considering the request.

**XV. MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education will meet in the Media Center 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. Personnel

- If needed, the subject of executive session will be stated in the verbal motion
3. The Board will not return to the Regular Board Meeting, will take no action, and will adjourn from executive session.
- OR
4. Official action may or may not be taken when the board reconvenes to Public Session

A motion was made by Ms. Stephans to enter into an executive session at 9:10 p.m.  
Mrs. Martin seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by: Stephans

Seconded by: Martin

| VOTE      |                          |                          |                          |                          |          |     |                          |                          |                          |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                      | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
| Calderone | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stankus  | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guzman    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Huang     | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weaver   | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keller    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | Varghese | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Martin    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |     |                          |                          |                          |

#### XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Calderone to adjourn the public meeting at 10:33 p.m. Mr. Stankus seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by: Calderone

Seconded by: Stankus

| VOTE      |                          |                          |                          |                          |          |     |                          |                          |                          |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bd. Mbr.  | Aye                      | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      | Bd. Mbr. | Aye | Nay                      | Abs.                     | N/P                      |
| Calderone | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stankus  | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guzman    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephans | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Huang     | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weaver   | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keller    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | x                        | Varghese | x   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Martin    | x                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |          |     |                          |                          |                          |

Respectfully,



Yas Usami  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary