

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

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

**Monday, April 7, 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 compete 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
Ms. Katie Keller
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

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. MOMENT OF SILENCE

In remembrance of Walter Piela, Custodian at Pascack Valley High School.

Please join us in a moment of silence to honor the memory of our beloved custodian, Walter Piela, who was a dedicated member of our Pascack Valley family.

Walter was a valuable member of our night shift team, and he played a vital role in supporting our students. He always had a big smile on his face when he was helping our students and was always willing to lend a hand, whether it was setting up practice spaces for clubs and teams, moving furniture and equipment for events, or assisting with athletic and extracurricular activities. As a former Varsity wrestler, he understood the rigors of our student athletes and consistently went above and beyond to help our students. Walter's kindness, dedication, and willingness to go the extra mile made a significant impact on the lives of our students and staff.

He was a constant, reliable presence, and his contributions often went unseen but were always deeply appreciated. He truly embodied the spirit of service and was a valued member of our Pascack Valley family.

Notes from Mr. Puccio:

Walt never met a small engine that could beat him. No one in his family needed to buy a new piece of outdoor equipment such as a lawn mower, snow blower or weed-wacker since he always had one laying around or was able to fix whatever issue you had. He would always call family members before a predicted snowstorm to make sure their snow blower was operating at peak

efficiency.

Walt was a fanatical Jets fan, from owning season tickets to owning hats, socks, jerseys, etc. He was an important part of the “L7” pregame tailgate crew and never missed a game. He loved the Mets, almost as much.

Walt was an avid outdoorsman and fisherman. He knew a bad day fishing is better than a good day at work, and always said to try for the big ones, but always to enjoy the fight of the small ones.

V. ROUTINE MATTERS

Monthly Reports

Finance Committee Meeting Kristin Martin

Ad Hoc Committee Meeting (3/31/25 & 4/7/25) Debra Stephans ([attached](#))

PFA Liaison Report Stephanie Huang ([attached](#))

VI. 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:

March 17, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:30 p.m.
March 17, 2025	Executive Meeting	8:30 p.m.
April 2, 2025	Special Meeting	6:30 p.m.

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"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keller	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 April 2 Special Meeting Minutes.

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.

None

VIII. **POLICY**

Consent Agenda for Items 1-3

1. **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 # 287818 (attached)
- b. HIB # 288238 (attached)
- c. HIB # 288829 (attached)

2. **2025-2026 School Calendar****RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following adjustment to the 2025-2026 school calendar: Wednesday, November 26, 2025: Noon Dismissal for Staff and Students.3. **Cooperative Sports Program Agreement****RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Cooperative Sports Program agreements for the following sports for the 2025-2026 school year:

Team	Host School	Cooperating School(s)
Gymnastics	Pascack Hills High School	Pascack Valley High School
Ice Hockey	Pascack Valley High School	Park Ridge High School Pascack Hills High School
Swimming	Pascack Valley High School	Pascack Hills High School

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	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 1.

IX. **EDUCATION**

Consent Agenda for Items 1 - 4

1. **Overnight Trips**

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve an overnight trip for Pascack Valley High School DECA members, and advisors Matthew Schulien and Jonathan Rose to travel to the DECA National Competition in Orlando, Florida, (attached) from April 26 - 30, 2025.

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- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve The Robotics Team and chaperones James Whitfield, Kevin Killian, Jack Teadore, and Lisa Ruggieri to compete at the FIRST Robotics World Championship in Houston, Texas (attached) from April 16-20, 2025.

2. **Out-of-District Placement**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve additional Mastery Courses/Spanish I for student ID# 812420 per student's IEP at Fusion Academy for the 2024-2025 school year. The cost of the additional courses is \$1,955.

3. **Home Instruction**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve home instruction for student ID# 814117 per student's IEP, provided by (EI US, LLC) Learnwell from March 20 - June 17, 2025. Instruction is for 10 hours per week at \$62 per hour.

4. **Curriculum Surveys**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, grant permission for Noemi Rodriguez, District Supervisor of World Languages, Multilingual Learners, Music & Family and Consumer Sciences, to conduct curriculum surveys for students and parents. The results will be analyzed and used to evaluate curriculum and make course revisions in the future. Surveys will be distributed during the 2024-2025 school year.

Moved by:

Keller ▾

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	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Mr. Weaver asked if the Curriculum Committee sees the surveys before they go out.

Dr. Bachenheimer confirmed that the World Language Committee reviews it and then it's shared with the Board to review to comply with the survey policy. He mentioned that the purpose is to engage parents and students in what new courses or languages they might be interested in as part of the 5-year plan.

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 accord 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.

Consent Agenda for Items 1-14

1. Resignations

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, accept with regret, the resignation of Dr. Sarah Bilotti, Superintendent of Schools, effective June 30, 2025.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, accept with regret, the resignation of Danielle Tassoni, PVHS Paraprofessional, effective April 11, 2025.

2. New Hire

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following individual for the position Indicated:

Name	Position	Account Number	Salary	Effective Date
Mary Morin	Full Time Central Office General Secretary Accounts Payable	11-000-251-100-02-000	\$62,186 plus \$3,109 for previous experience prorated, with health benefits, tenure track, per PVRSSA contract	On or about April 28, 2025

3. **Change of Position**

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

Name	Position	Salary	Effective Date
Mark Russo	From: District Supervisor of Mathematics & Computer Science To: Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment	\$195,000 plus \$3,000 doctorate stipend, with health benefits, tenure track	July 1, 2025

4. **Non-Tenured Support Staff Appointment**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of non-tenured support staff for the 2024-2025 school year.

5. **Leave of Absences**

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve employee ID #0535 to be on sick leave through June 30, 2025.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following medical leave of absence:

Employee ID#	Position	Request
2196	PHHS Teacher	Total Leave Period: April 22 - June 9, 2025 Using 16.5 sick days and 3.5 personal days NJFLA: May 20 - June 9, 2025

6. **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	Starting March 24, 2025, and not to exceed 35 (full) days	Substitute secretary hourly rate

7. **Support Services**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve John (Jay) Uhl to build the master schedule for the 2025-2026 school year. Twenty hours will be allotted for Mr. Uhl to build, troubleshoot, reprogram the current platform, and identify a rooming matrix for room allocation at Pascack Hills and Pascack Valley high schools during the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Uhl will be paid at the professional development rate of \$51 per hour.

8. **Additional Periods**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the additional periods for the following teachers for the 2024-2025 school year for coverage needs.

Name	Subject	Additional Period	Amount
Allison Schultz	Algebra I	April 22 – June 9 (5 days, 6 weeks)	\$1,975
Lindsay Runge	Algebra II w/Trig. Enhanced	April 22 – June 9 (5 days, 6 weeks)	\$1,975
Kevin Killian	Algebra I	April 22 – June 9 (5 days, 6 weeks)	\$1,975
Kevin Kirkby	Algebra II w/Trig. Enhanced	April 22 – June 9 (5 days, 6 weeks)	\$1,975

9. **Additional Periods - Adjustments**

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the adjustments to the previously board approved additional assignments for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years:

Name	Subject	School Year (FY)	Amount
Zabrina Kearns	Milestones Special Education Classes (1) & (2)	2023-2024	From: \$21,925 To: \$23,790
Zabrina Kearns	Milestones Special Education Classes (1) & (2)	2024-2025	From: \$22,000 To: \$23,790

- b. **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 second additional assignment for the 2024-2025 school year for coverage needs:

Name	Subject	Additional Period	Amount
David Frangiosa	Chemistry in the Community	From: March 17-June 17, 2025 (6 days and 11 weeks) To: March 17-June 17, 2025 (60 days)	From: \$3,415 To: \$4,004

10. Co-Curricular Support

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

Activity	Name	Position	Stipend
PVHS Spring Musical	Ryan Dore	14 Pit Musician Services	\$1,400
PVHS Spring Musical	Kelsey McGrail	10 Dance Lessons	\$1,000

11. Testing Support

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve testing support for the Practice ACT 10 exam held at Pascack Hills High School on March 29, 2025.

Name	Support	Amount
Jenna Howard	Test Coordinator	\$1,150
Standard Time Proctor	Mary Scorese	\$216
Standard Time Proctor	Corin Gamgort	\$216
Standard Time Proctor	Vani Apanosian	\$216
Extended Time Proctor	Alexandra Pfleging	\$285
Testing Help	Steven Casamento	\$200
Relief/Floater Proctor	Shelley Tobin	\$200
Relief/Floater Proctor	Paul Henry	\$200

12. Chaperones

- a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, and following necessary approvals, approve parents, Nuro Aliko, Dawn Lazarus-Wolpov, and Robert Wolpov, as volunteer chaperones for the PHHS Music Department Trip to Boston from April 25- 27, 2025.
- b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve chaperones for The All State Jazz and Regional Choir events at the rate of \$80 for two hours and additional time will be prorated.

Date	Event	Name	Timeframe
1/4/25	Regional Choir Auditions	Argine Safari	8:00am-3:00pm
1/21/25	Regional Choir Auditions	Argine Safari	4:00pm-9:00pm
2/1/25	Regional Choir Concert	Argine Safari	4:00pm-6:30pm

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4/23/25	All State Choir Auditions	Argine Safari	4:00pm-8:00pm
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- c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following chaperones at the one-time event rate of \$83:

Date	Event	Name
12/12/24	Winter Band Concert	Argine Safari
5/8/25	Spring Band Concert	Argine Safari
5/15/25	Spring Choir Concert	Craig Yaremko

13. 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 2024-2025 school year:

Name	School	Sport
Anthony Cieszko	PHHS	Baseball
Matthew Worgul	PVHS	Lacrosse

14. Substitutes

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

Name	Position	Type
Karina Ceglinski	Classroom Substitute	New
Hannah Whitfield	Classroom Substitute	New

To Closed: 7:45

Mrs. Martin made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss human resource items specific to contracts.

Moved by: Martin ▾Seconded by: Huang ▾

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guzman	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephans	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<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"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

A motion was made by Ms. Guzman to return to the public session at 8:27 p.m. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by: Guzman ▾Seconded by: Weaver ▾

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	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Mrs. Varghese apologized for taking more time in executive session than anticipated. She commented that she needed to tend to her mother who has been in the hospital for the last several days, thus she has been able to answer questions from board members. She indicated that the executive session clarified the questions.

Mr. Weaver commented that based on the information the Board received the committee did a phenomenal job with the selection process for the Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment and thanked them for the recommendation. He indicated that he will abstain from voting because of Item 1a - superintendent resigning. He mentioned that the Director position is the third most important position in the district after business administrator. He believes that the hiring should be done by the next superintendent. He said it's no reflection on the committee or the candidate. He added that (Dr. Russo) will do a great job because he has the support of the committee and the rest of the Board. Mr. Weaver indicated that he needed to express this since the district is in a time of transition. He mentioned that it feels like the district has been in transition for the last 6-7 years. He said it is time to take a step back and re-establish a strong foundation to grow over the next 6-7 years. He commented that there will be a lot of hard work and that he and the Board are committed as well as the administrators. He added that the next important job for the Board is to identify the next leader who the district will support. He gave a premature congratulations to Dr. Russo. Mr. Weaver reiterated that he would be abstaining for the reasons that he mentioned.

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Board members and administrators congratulated Dr. Russo after he was approved. Mrs. Varghese again apologized for not being around to answer questions from board members. She said she's excited and looking forward to what Dr. Russo can do.

Moved by:

Huang ▾

Seconded by:

Guzman ▾

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"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keller	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Mrs. Huang abstained to Item 3.

Mrs. Martin abstained to Item 3.

Mr. Weaver abstained to Items 1a and 3.

XI. **FINANCE**

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 20

1. **Approval of Bills (attached)**

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 April 7, 2025	\$2,794,079.33
Payroll as of March 31, 2025	\$1,810,135.53
Total	\$4,604,214.86

2. **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 (attached):

Name	Professional Development or School Trip
Sarah Bilotti	Vacation Day Statement (per contract)
Sarah Bilotti	NJASA Spring Leadership Conference (no cost)
Sarah Bilotti	NJSBA Artificial Intelligence Summit Participate in a panel discussion on the future of AI to commemorate our achievements in AI, aligning with Goal #3: Optimize Technology Integration for School Success. (no cost)
Sarah Bilotti	NJASA Women in Educational Leadership (WIEL) Conference; Introducing NJDOE Commissioner and Presenting on Growth, Connection, and Balance

	(no cost)
Noemi Rodriguez	NJASA Women in Educational Leadership (WIEL) Conference; Presenting on harnessing AI to optimize your time and energy as part of this leadership conference
Stephanie DiStasi	Counselor Visit Days at Binghamton University
Corin Gamgort	International Career Development Conference (ICDC) - DECA National Competition
Paul Henry	International Career Development Conference (ICDC) - DECA National Competition
Courtney Rems	Teaching Grammar in Proficiency-Based Classrooms
Jonathan Rose	International Career Development Conference (ICDC) - DECA National Competition
Matthew Schulien	International Career Development Conference (ICDC) - DECA National Competition

3. **Capital Reserve Withdrawal - PH Auditorium Upgrades**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a withdrawal from Capital Reserve in the amount of \$20,998.00 for the upgrade of a sound board related to the Auditorium Upgrades at Pascack Hills.

4. **Capital Reserve Withdrawal - PV Cafeteria HVAC Project**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a withdrawal from Capital Reserve in the amount of \$8,697.00 for the Plan Review Fee to the Borough of Hillsdale related to the Cafeteria HVAC Project at Pascack Valley.

5. **Emerson Shared Services Agreement - Student Internship Program**

RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Shared Services Agreement - Student Internship Program between the Emerson Board of Education (Member District) and Pascack Valley Regional High School District (Host LEA). The Host LEA shall bill the Member District a fixed yearly sum in the amount of \$30,567.00 for up to ten (10) students participating in the program for the 2025-2026 school year. This sum includes a \$10,000 administration fee. Also, each additional student beyond ten (10) participating in the program will be at the rate of \$2,090.00. (attached)

6. **Renewal of Pomptonian, Inc. Contract for Food Service Management Company**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the third renewal of the 2022-2023 contract with Pomptonian, Inc for Food Service Management Company services at a management fee of \$0.0798 for each \$1.00 of sales for the 2025-2026 school year. (attached)

7. **Implement a Policy to Make Post-retirement Contributions**

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School Board of Education (the “Board”) intends to make non-salary reduction contributions on behalf of the Business Administrator who retires;

WHEREAS, the Board will not permit any individual employee to have an option of receiving the equivalent amount as compensation;

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to make such contributions as Employer Contributions as permitted under Sections 403(b) or 403(b)(7) and Section 415(c)(1) of the Code for eligible employees;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board at the recommendation of the superintendent hereby authorizes and directs that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education implements a policy to make post-retirement contributions of all accumulated Sick Day Pay and accumulated Vacation Day Pay to the 403(b) or 403(b)(7) contract of the Business Administrator commencing immediately in the year of the eligible employee’s retirement and shall not continue beyond five years from when the employee retired. These Employer Contributions shall not exceed the limits of Section 415(c)(1) of the Section 403(b) Code.

8. **Hillsdale SLEO IIIs**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Shared Services Agreement between the Borough of Hillsdale and the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education concerning the hiring and placement of special police officer SLEO IIIs at Pascack Valley High School for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$61,180.00 per year per officer.

9. **Montvale SLEO IIIs**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Shared Services Agreement between the Borough of Montvale and the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education concerning the hiring and placement of special police officer SLEO IIIs at Pascack Hills High School for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$61,180.00 per year per officer.

10. **Lease Agreement with the Church of the Assumption - Park Academy Program**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the lease agreement between the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education and the Church of the Assumption, 29 Jefferson Avenue, Emerson, New Jersey for the Park Academy Program in the amount \$75,000.00 plus utilities from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. (attached)

11. **Phoenix Advisors**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Phoenix Advisors as the Continuing Disclosure Agent in the amount of \$1,350 base fee for the 2025-2026 school year and Independent Registered Municipal Advisor Services for general guidance at no charge.

12. Reject Greenhouse Bids

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education advertised for bids for the 12' x 18' Greenhouse at Pascack Hills High School Project ("Project");

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2025 the Board received two bids for the Project;

WHEREAS, the bids exceeded the cost estimate and budget for the Project; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Board reject all bids for the project pursuant to pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:18A-22.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby rejects all bids received for the Project.

13. Initial Application for Temporary Instructional Space - Church of the Assumption

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the application for Temporary Change of Use of Educational Space for Park Academy which is being relocated to the Church of the Assumption, 29 Jefferson Avenue, Emerson, New Jersey for the 2025 - 2026 school year.

14. Submission of Application - Climate Change Education and Resilience through Interdisciplinary Learning Grant Yr. 2

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the submission of the application for the Climate Change Education and Resilience through Interdisciplinary Learning Grant Yr. 2 in the amount of \$15,000.

15. Renew Membership in NESBIG

WHEREAS, a number of Boards of Education in Bergen County have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Group as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-.18B and;

WHEREAS, said Group was approved effective July 1, 1985, by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

WHEREAS, the Bylaws and regulations governing the creation and operation of this Insurance Group contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Group, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Pascack Valley Regional High School District has determined that membership in the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group is in the best interest of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of Pascack Valley Regional High School District does hereby agree to renew membership in the Northeast

Bergen County School Board Insurance Group and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.

April 7, 2025

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Group as are required by the Group's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.

16. Donations

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

Date	Donor	Donation	Club or Group
3/20/25	Wegman's	\$500	PH Muslim Student Association
3/21/25	PH PFA	Sound System Valued at \$7,116.70	PH Gym

17. Home to School and Athletic/Extracurricular Awarded Student Transportation Contracts

RESOLVED, Pascack Valley Regional High School District transportation companies renewed the Student Transportation Contracts for the 2025-2026 school year:

Bus Company	Route #	Destination (To/From)	Cost Per Diem	Adjustment
Scholastic Bus Company 18-02 River Road PO Box 1130 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	PH-1	(Home to School) Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	457.94	0%
	PH-1A	Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	474.30	0%
	PH-2	Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	489.56	0%
	PH-3	Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	489.56	0%
	PH-4	Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	474.30	0%
Scholastic Bus Company 18-02 River Road PO Box 1130 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	PV-9	(Home to School) Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	457.94	0%
	PV-10	Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	474.30	0%
	PV-11	Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	457.94	0%
	PV-12	Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	457.94	0%

Scholastic Bus Company 18-02 River Road PO Box 1130 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	BA-18	(Home to School) Bergen Academies, Hackensack	214.79	0%
	BA-19	Bergen Academies, Hackensack	214.79	0%
	BA-20	Bergen Academies, Hackensack	214.79	0%
Scholastic Bus Company 18-02 River Road PO Box 1130 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410	V-45	(Athletic/Extra-Curricular) Pascack Valley HS, Hillsdale	1st 4 hrs. 652.03	Add'l ¼ hr. 43.61
Valley Transportation 28 Jay Street Norwood, NJ 07648	H-54	(Athletic/Extra-Curricular) Pascack Hills HS, Montvale	1st 4 hrs. 439.46	Add'l ¼ hr. 50.45

18. Milestones House – 1st Annual Report for School Bus Emergency Evacuation Instruction Drill for School Bus Riders for the 2024-2025 School Year

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education, pursuant to the Administrative Code (NJAC 6A:27-11.2), and at the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following completed school bus emergency evacuation drill:

For Milestones 63 Patterson St Hillsdale, NJ

The first of two annual drills for bus riders for the 2024-2025 school year was conducted on Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 9:10 a.m.

Evacuation Drill was held at the Bus drop off by the new gym at Pascack Valley High School

Route Numbers: No Specific routes all students on Bus # 3 for Milestones participated in the school bus emergency evacuation drill.

Mr. Thomas Gallione, Assistant Principal of Pascack Valley High School and Ana Roman bus driver of Bus #3 conducted the Emergency Evacuation Drill.

19. Special Education Transportation - Region II Additional 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 Q242523 to Pro Trans School Transportation during the 2024-2025 school year.

Route #	Route	Base	Aide	Per Diem	Annual Cost
Q242523	BCSS, Evergreen	165	65	165.00	14,850.00

April 7, 2025

RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q242525 to Shaddai Transportation Inc. during the 2024-2025 school year.

Route #	Route	Base	Aide	Per Diem	Annual Cost
Q242525	Valley TIP 1:1	170	35	205.00*	11,275.00*

*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 Q242526 to We Care School Transportation Inc. during the 2024-2025 school year.

Route #	Route	Base	Aide	Per Diem	Annual Cost
Q242526	Valley TIP, Haworth	144	55	199.00*	10,945.00*

*Includes cost of Aide

20. Independent Child Study Team Therapy Evaluations and/or Services - Joint Agreement Between Region II and Non-Member District

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement between Region II and the Non-Member District, Fair Lawn Public Schools for Independent Child Study Team Therapy Evaluations and/or Services for the 2024 – 2025 school year.

Moved by:

Stephans

Seconded by:

Keller

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	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

Ms. Guzman asked if the district would not get the grant for the greenhouse since the bids will be rejected.

Mr. Usami indicated that the district will receive the grant funds but there will not be a typical greenhouse since the bids came in well over budget. He commented that Dr. Bachenheimer and Ms. Graziano have an alternate plan to use the funds.

Ms. Calderone asked about Items 8 and 9 (SLEO IIIs) if it's salary and no benefits.

Mr. Usami said no benefits that they have benefits and they are employed by the municipalities.

Ms. Calderone asked if Item 10 (Lease with Church of Assumption) has other expenses the Board should be aware of.

Mr. Usami indicated that it's the rent along with a portion of the utilities and snow removal. He added that there may be equipment but not thousands of dollars.

Dr. Bilotti said no renovations are needed since it's in excellent condition.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

Monthly Suspension Report (attached)

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.

None

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. Business Administrator Contract
 - b. Superintendent ContractIf 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 Mr. Weaver to enter into an executive session at 8:37 p.m. Ms. Calderone seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by: **Weaver** ▾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	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

A motion was made by Mrs. Huang to adjourn the executive session at 10:00 p.m. and return to public session. Mr. Stankus seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by: **Huang** ▾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	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 10:02 p.m. Ms. Keller seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by: **Calderone** ▾Seconded by: **Keller** ▾

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	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yas Usami". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Yas" and last name "Usami" clearly distinguishable.

Yas Usami
Business Administrator/Board Secretary