

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

Pascack Valley Regional High School District

**Monday, April 28, 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
 Mr. Yas Usami, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 Student Representatives: Andrew Varian – PHHS; Ella Gokhale – PVHS
 Madeline Woo - PVHS in place of Ella Gokhale
 Rod Hara - board attorney

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.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Ms. Stephans to enter into an executive session at 7:32 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	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 Mr. Weaver to adjourn the executive session at 8:17 p.m. and return to the public session. Mr. Stankus seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by: **Weaver**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"/>					

1. Leave of Absence - Dr. Sarah Bilotti, Superintendent of Schools

WHEREAS, Dr. Sarah Bilotti (“Bilotti”), who is employed as the Superintendent of Schools for the Pascack Valley Regional High School District (hereinafter referred to as the “District”), has resigned from her position, effective June 30, 2025;

WHEREAS, Bilotti will use her contractually allotted days for the period beginning April 28, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Board desires to resolve all issues between the parties;

BE IT RESOLVED that Bilotti shall be granted a leave of absence using her contractually allotted days from April 28, 2025 through June 30, 2025;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves the release between the Board and Bilotti.

Moved by: **Calderone**Seconded by: **Stephans**

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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stankus	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guzman	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephans	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Huang	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keller	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

2. Employment Agreement – Dirk Phillips, Interim Superintendent

WHEREAS, Dr. Sarah Bilotti (“Bilotti”), who is employed as the Superintendent of Schools for the Pascack Valley Regional High School District (hereinafter referred to as the “District”), has resigned from her position, effective June 30, 2025;

April 28, 2025

WHEREAS, Bilotti will use her contractually allotted days for the period beginning April 28, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) is desirous of employing an Interim Superintendent of Schools for the period beginning May 1, 2025 and ending no later than June 30, 2026;

WHEREAS, Dirk Phillips (hereinafter referred to as “Phillips”) is desirous of accepting employment as Interim Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, the employment agreement between the Board and Phillips for the position of Interim Superintendent of Schools for the District was submitted to and approved by the Executive County Superintendent according to the standards adopted by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8(j) which are set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:9-12.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby appoints Phillips as the Interim Superintendent of Schools for the District for the period beginning May 1, 2025 until no later than June 30, 2026, at the per diem rate of eight hundred and twenty-five and 00/100 dollars (\$825.00) for each day that he is employed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves the Employment Agreement with Phillips for the position of Interim Superintendent of Schools for the foregoing period of appointment, which Employment Agreement is attached to this Resolution and made a part hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator to execute the Employment Agreement on behalf of the Board.

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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stankus	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guzman	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephans	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Huang	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weaver	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keller	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Varghese	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martin	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

IV. **ROUTINE MATTERS**

Monthly Reports

Post Secondary Education Committee Elizabeth Calderone ([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:

March 20, 2025	Regional Retreat	6:30 p.m.
April 7, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:30 p.m.
April 7, 2025	Executive Meeting	7:45 p.m.
April 7, 2025	Executive Meeting	8:37 p.m.

Moved by:

Martin ▾

Seconded by:

Stephans ▾

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 the March 20 Regional Retreat minutes.

VI. **National Teacher Appreciation Week**

WHEREAS, the week of May 4, 2025, has been designated as National Teacher Appreciation Week; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education recognizes all faculty members from Pascack Hills High School, Pascack Valley High School, the Park Academy program, and the Milestones program for their outstanding efforts and for their dedication to the students of our district.

All in favor by way of voice vote.

Mrs. Martin thanked all the staff members - teachers, custodians, administrators, counselors for all they do for the children and community. Lucky to have them.

VII. **PRESENTATION**

2025-2026 Budget Hearing Cynthia Kirk ([attached](#))

VIII. **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.

IX. **POLICY**

Consent Agenda for Items 1-2

1. **Affirmative Action Team**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the 2025 Affirmative Action Team members to participate in the development of the needs assessment and Comprehensive Equity Plan. (attach)

2. **2025-2026 Park Academy Calendar**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the 2025-2026 Park Academy school calendar (attached).

Moved by:

Keller ▾

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"/>					

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 1-20

1. **New Hires**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following individuals for the positions indicated:

Name	Position	Account Number	Salary	Effective Date
Roseanne Discepolo	PHHS Mathematics Teacher	11-140-100-101-07-108	\$111,245 MA+15, Step 14, with benefits, tenure track, per PVREA contract	On or about August 25, 2025 July 1, 2025
Kieran Walsh	PVHS Art Teacher	11-140-100-101-06-105	\$69,225 MA, Step 3, with benefits, tenure track, per PVREA contract	On or about August 25, 2025 July 1, 2025

2. **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
Elise Campbell	From: PVHS Substitute Teacher To: PVHS Leave Replacement	\$58,274 Step 1 BA, with health benefits, non-tenure track, per PVREA contract	On or about May 1, 2025-June 17, 2025, pending receipt of certificate

3. **Appointment of Business Administrator**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Cynthia Kirk as Business Administrator/Board Secretary (attached) for the period of July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026.

4. **Leave of Absences**

- a. **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
1778	Certificated	Total Leave Period: August 25, 2025 - January 16, 2026 Using 24 sick days NJFLA:

		October 1, 2025 - December 17, 2025 Leave of Absence (no pay and no benefits): 12/24/2025 - 1/16/2026
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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 following medical leave of absence:

Employee ID#	Position	Request
2713	Certificated	Total Leave Period: August 25, 2025 - December 1, 2025 Using 11 sick days NJFLA: September 9, 2025 - December 1, 2025

5. Tenured Administrator Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Administrators for the 2025-2026 school year.

6. Non-Tenured Administrator Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Non-Tenured Administrators for the 2025-2026 school year.

7. Tenured Supervisor Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Supervisors for the 2025-2026 school year.

8. Non-Tenured Supervisor Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Non-Tenured Supervisors for the 2025-2026 school year.

9. Tenured Teacher Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year.

10. Non-Tenured Teacher Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Non-Tenured Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year.

11. Tenured Support Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Support Staff for the 2025-2026 school year.

12. Non-Tenured Support Staff Appointments

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 2025-2026 school year.

13. Tenured Non-Bargaining Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Tenured Non-Bargaining Staff for the 2025-2026 school year.

14. Non Tenured Non Bargaining Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Non-Tenured Non-Bargaining staff for the 2025-2026 school year.

15. Region II Applied Behavior Analysts and Independent Staff Appointments

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Region II Independent Applied Behavior Analysts and Independent Staff for the 2025-2026 school year.

16. Additional Period - Temporary Coverage - Updated

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the additional period assignment for the following teacher while employee ID# 0535 is on leave:

Name	Subject	School	Additional Period	Amount
Stephanie DiGiacopo	AP 2D Art & Design Honors Advanced Photography (7)	PVHS	From: 11/18/2024 - 6/17/2025 With the exception of the weeks from 4/22/2025-5/9/2025	\$65 per day

Jessica Miranda	Ceramics	PVHS	From: 4/28/25 to 5/9/25	\$550 (2 weeks)
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17. Curriculum Writing - Climate Grant

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve additional hours for the following staff members to prepare curriculum for the 2025-2026 school year: (Attached)

NJ CLIMATE GRANT CURRICULUM REVISION/WRITING	Number of Hours	Rate
Danielle DeQuintal	21	\$51
Aarti Mallya	21	\$51
Jessica Andersen	21	\$51
Tracy Recine	21	\$51
Tina Marchiano-Rauscher	21	\$51
Kate Couvielos	21	\$51
Robert Salgado	21	\$51
Kristen Lindstrom	21	\$51
Cindy Reese	21	\$51
Natalie Macke	21	\$51
Julianne Downes	21	\$51
Matthew Will	21	\$51
Chris Nilsen	21	\$51

18. Athletic Appointment

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
Axelle Sandt	PHHS Spring Track	Assistant Coach	\$7,338/Step 3

19. Chaperones

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

Date	Event	Name	Timeframe
2/1/2025	Regional Choir Concert	Argine Safari	From: 4:00 - 6:30 p.m. To: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.
1/27/2025	Regional Choir Rehearsal	Margarita Elkin	4:00 - 9:00 p.m.
2/23/2025	All State Rehearsal & Concert	Margarita Elkin	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
4/23/2025	All State Audition	Margarita Elkin	4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

20. Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)- Region II

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Ms. Ciaran Quille as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) for Region II at the hourly rate of \$100 for the 2025-2026 school year including Extended School Year (ESY).

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	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 mentioned that the supplemental replaces items 9-12.

Mr. Weaver said a special mention to the new business administrator and congratulated Cynthia Kirk.

XI. FINANCE

Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 29

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 April 28, 2025	\$1,434,786.80
Payroll as of April 15, 2025	\$1,792,228.26
Total	\$3,227,015.06

2. **Approve 2025 - 2026 Budget**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of School approves the 2025-2026 school year budget as follows:

General Fund	\$	67,033,132
Special Revenue Fund	\$	792,213
Debt Service	\$	2,076,900
Total	\$	69,902,245

The amount to be raised by taxation is:

General Fund	\$	57,582,399
Debt Service	\$	2,076,900
Total	\$	59,659,299

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2025-2026 school year budget includes a Capital Reserve Withdrawal (budget line 620) from Capital Reserve – Other Capital Projects in the amount of \$1,600,000 for other capital projects costs of the Media Center Rooftop Unit at Pascack Valley High School; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2025-2026 school year budget includes a Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal in the amount of \$430,000 for required maintenance activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2025-2026 school year budget includes an Emergency Reserve Withdrawal in the amount of \$38,348 to improve school security in the district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2025-2026 school year budget includes an allowable healthcare adjustment in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7f-39(e) in the amount of \$792,397 to offset healthcare costs.

3. **Secretary's and Treasurer's Financial Reports**

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 2024-25 financial reports, which are in agreement reflecting the district's financial activities for the period February 2025.

4. **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 February 2025 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 February 2025 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.

5. **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	February 2025
b. e-Learning Account	February 2025
c. Capital Project Account	February 2025
d. Student Government Account – PH	February 2025
e. Student Government Account – PV	February 2025

6. **Transfers**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve transfers for the month of February 2025.

7. **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----
Mary Morin	Accounts Payable
Yas Usami	2025 NJASBO Annual Conference
Tracy Leigh	NJASA Spring Conference
Jonathan Hesney	NJASA Spring Conference

8. **Professional Services**

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education ("Board") appointed professionals services at its Reorganization Meeting on January 6, 2025;

WHEREAS, the appointments were pending and subject to an RFP process;

WHEREAS, the Board rescinds the need for an RFP process for the appointments below;
and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Board authorizes the awarding of contracts for professional services by resolution of the Board of Education without publicly advertised competitive bids,

ACCORDINGLY, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education authorizes the award of the following professional services appointments and contracts:

- a. That the firm of Fogarty & Hara, Counselors at Law, Fair Lawn, NJ, be appointed Board of Education attorneys to provide legal services, at fees negotiated for each individual project, and as per the following hourly rates: \$185 for a partner and \$165 for an associate.
- b. That the firm of Nisivoccia LLP, Mt. Arlington, NJ, be appointed Board of Education auditors and accountants to provide auditing and accounting services, The fee for the audit is \$53,000.
- c. That the firm of AHERA Consultants, Inc, Oceanville, NJ be appointed Board of Education asbestos consulting service, at fees negotiated for each individual project, at the following hourly rates: \$125.00 for asbestos inspector, \$100 for project designer and \$160 for Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant.
- d. That the firm of KSI Consulting Engineers, LLC, Farmingdale, NJ, be appointed Board of Education consulting engineers, at fees negotiated for each individual project, at the following hourly rates: \$220 for principal consultant and \$165 project manager/senior engineer.
- e. That the firm of KSI Professional Engineers, LLC, Farmingdale, NJ, be appointed Board of Education professional engineers, at fees negotiated for each individual project, at the following hourly rates: \$220 for principal consultant, \$175 for project executive, \$155 for senior project manager and \$125 for senior project engineer.
- f. That the firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A, Woodbridge, NJ, be appointed Board of Education bond counsel, at fees negotiated for each individual project, at the following hourly rate: \$200 for attorney time.
- g. That the firm of Edwards Engineering Group of Somerville, NJ, be appointed Board of Education Engineer of Record, at fees negotiated for each individual project, at the following hourly rates: \$180 for principal professional engineer, \$150 for project manager and \$140 for professional engineer.
- h. That the firm of FKA Architects of Oakland, NJ, be appointed Board of Education Architect of Record, at fees negotiated for each individual project, at the following hourly rates: \$175 for principal, \$145 for associate and \$110 for project manager.
- i. That Architect Robert E. Donahue, LLC of Parsippany, NJ be appointed Board of Education Alternate Architect of Record, at the rate of \$1,000 per project.
- j. That Dr. Michelle Mayer, Woodcliff Lake, NJ be appointed Board of Education school physician, at the yearly fee of \$10,000.
- k. That Dr. Oscar Vazquez, Hoboken, NJ be appointed Board of Education school athletic physician at PHHS, at the yearly fee of \$3,000.

I. That Dr. Daniel Charen, Warren, NJ be appointed Board of Education school physician at PVHS until the next reorganization meeting, at the yearly fee of \$3,000.

These professional services contracts are made and awarded without competitive bidding as the services will be rendered by persons experienced in the practice of a process requiring specialized knowledge and resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a brief notice of this action shall be printed once in The Record as required by law, within ten (10) days of its passage, stating its nature, duration, service, and amount that the resolution and contract are on file in the office of the Board of Education in the following form:

This resolution and contracts are on file and available for public inspection at the Board of Education's office located at 28 West Grand Avenue, Suite 2, Montvale, NJ 07645.

9. **Tuition Rates for 2025-2026 School Year**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following tuition rates for the 2025-2026 school year:

Programs	2025-2026
Regular High School	\$28,068
LLD	\$45,204
LLD ESY	\$4,129
RISE	\$47,877
Park @ PVR	\$47,877
Park Academy	\$79,327
Park Academy ESY	\$2,751
Milestones	\$46,813
Milestones ESY	\$3,900

10. **Establishment of Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the establishment of the Pascack Hills High School Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship.

11. **Agreement with Active Internet Technologies, dba Finalsité (attached)**

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement with Active Internet Technologies, dba Finalsité for the maintenance of the district website in the amount of

\$5,508.00 for the 2025-2026 school year.

12. Agreement with ArbiterSports, LLC and affiliate ArbiterSports

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement with ArbiterSports, LLC and affiliate ArbiterSports for a service to pay athletic officials in the amount \$4,230.00 plus a one-time implementation and training fee of \$495.00 for the 2025-2026 school year.

13. Agreement with InSite Health, Inc. (attached)

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the agreement with InSite Health, Inc. for onsite clinician related to mental health services for 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$154,670.00 with additional services charged at the fee schedule attached to the agreement.

14. Bloodborne Pathogens Program

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the Bloodborne Pathogens Program provided by the Bergen County Department of Health Services in the amount of \$15 per person.

15. Approve Contract to A.M.E., Inc

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a contract to A.M.E., Inc., Fairfield, New Jersey for the pneumatics to a DDC System at Pascack Hills High School in the amount of \$272,298.70 through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Bid Number ESCNJ 20/21-50.

16. Approve Change Order 001 - KDP Developers (attached)

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve change order 001 submitted by KDP Developers of Phillipsburg, New Jersey. This change order is for the conduit relocation and uses \$18,632.00 of the general allowance. Furthermore, this change order has been reviewed and approved by Edwards Engineering Group.

Original Contract Amount	\$744,000.00
Previously Authorized Change Order	\$0.00
Contract Sum will be unchanged by Change Order 001	\$744,000.00
General Allowance	\$20,000.00
Decrease General Allowance due to Change Order 001	-\$18,632.00
Remaining Allowance Balance	\$1,368.00

17. Approve Change Order 002 - KDP Developers (attached)

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at

the recommendation of the superintendent, approve change order 002 submitted by KDP Developers of Phillipsburg, New Jersey. This change order is an increase of \$3,665.00 and is for the removal and replacement of site lighting conduit and wiring. Furthermore, this change order has been reviewed and approved by Edwards Engineering Group.

Original Contract Amount	\$744,000.00
Increase due to Change Order 002	\$3,665.00
Used Remaining General Allowance	-\$1,368.00
New Contract Sum including this Change Order	\$746,297.00

18. Capital Reserve Withdrawal - KDP Developers - Grandstand Soil Erosion Repair

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 \$2,297.00 for Change Order #2, the removal and replacement of site lighting conduit and wiring related to the Grandstand Soil Erosion Repair.

19. 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
4/8/25	Gene Haas Foundation	\$2,750	PH Pi-oneers
4/23/25	Crestron Electronics	\$5,000	PH Robotics
4/9/25	Gail Banta	\$100	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship
4/9/25	Steven Siegel	\$100	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship
4/22/25	Hillary (Breslauer) Waldmann	\$100	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship
4/22/25	Susan Trerotola	\$1,000	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship
4/22/25	Don Carlson	\$1,000	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship
4/22/25	Lee J. Tesconi	\$1,000	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship
4/22/25	Lee Tesconi	\$5,000	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship
4/22/25	Jana L. Smith	\$2,500	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship

4/22/25	Diane Hartley	\$5,000	Class of 1974 Alumni Scholarship
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20. Park Academy – 2nd 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 Park Academy 609 Westwood Ave River Vale, NJ 07675

The second of two annual drills for bus riders for the 2024-2025 school year was conducted on Tuesday April 8, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Evacuation Drill was held in front of Park Academy

Route Numbers: All students participated in the school bus emergency evacuation drill. Drill was conducted prior to the trip to Montvale Lanes in Montvale.

David Giraldo Program Coordinator of Park Academy and Carlos Morales Bus Driver conducted the Emergency Evacuation Drill.

21. Transportation

RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve First Student as a vendor for the 2025-2026 School Year, at a rate of \$125 for the first four hours and \$31.25 per ¼ hour thereafter for overtime.

22. Subscription Bussing for the 2025-2026 School Year

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, approves the establishment of a Subscription Bussing program. This is for students who live within statutory limits for the 2025-2026 school year for Pascack Valley Regional High School. This is on a space available basis for transportation from school for a non-refundable service fee in the amount of \$1,670.00 per student.

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

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education approve the Joint Transportation Services and Transportation Agreements between the Northwest Bergen Council-Region I (Host District), an approved Coordinated Transportation Service Agency located in Mahwah, N.J., and the Pascack Valley Regional High School District (Joiner District) for the purpose of shared costs with other districts in transporting our district students to and from non-public schools and the Bergen County Vocational and Technical School campuses, including summer sessions, if applicable, in accordance with the N.J.S.A. Chapter 27:6A-10.1-3; Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 beginning July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

24. Special Education Transportation - Region II - Quote

RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional Board of Education as LEA for Pascack Valley Region II, Special Education award special education transportation Quote contract Q242528 to Stellar School Transportation during the 2024-2025 school year.

Route #	Route	Base	Aide	Per Diem	Annual Cost
Q242528	Venture Program	167	40	167.00	8,350.00

25. Special Education Transportation - Region II - Parent Contracts

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 #NK2425 for the 2024-25 school year.

Route #	Route	Per Diem	Annual Cost
NK2425	Ridge Elem.	50	2,200.00

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 #GR2425 for the 2024-25 school year.

Route #	Route	Per Diem	Annual Cost
GR2425	Roberge Elem.	50	2,300.00

26. Approve Region II - Agencies/LLCs

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following agencies/LLCs as Region II providers effective July 1, 2025, for the 2025-2026 School Year.

Corp. or Agency	Title	Individual Hourly Rate	Group Hourly Rate
Zensational Kids, LLC	Wellness/Yoga Instructor	\$95	\$105

Dr. L. Hanes and Associates:

Service	Rates
Psychological Evaluation	\$450
Educational Evaluation	\$450
Speech Evaluation	\$450
Social History	\$450
OT/PT Evaluations	\$450
Spanish Bilingual Evaluations (psychological, social, educational, speech)	\$570
Speech Therapy	\$112 per hour- Individual/Meetings \$122 per hour- Group Sessions
Occupational Therapy	\$112 per hour- Individual/Meetings \$122 per hour- Group Sessions

Home Based Rate (SpeechTherapy/Occupational Therapy)	\$130 per hour
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J&B Therapy, LLC:

Service	Rates
Occupational and/or Speech Therapy	\$102.00/hour
Physical Therapy	\$102.00/hour
Home Based Rate OT/PT/Speech Therapy	\$130/hour
Educational Support Services (LDTC)	\$102.00/hour
Psychologist Services	\$102.00/hour
Evaluations	\$435.00/evaluation
Bilingual Evaluations	\$535.00/evaluation
Behavioral Support Services as provided by BCBA/Behavioral Supervisor	\$107.00/hour (3 hours/week minimum)
Behavior Plans & Functional Behavior Assessments	\$107.00/hour
Behavioral Support Services as provided by a Behaviorist	\$107.00/hour
Reading Specialist	\$90.50/hour
Home Instruction	\$74.00/hour
Social Work Services	\$90.50/hour
ABA Paraprofessional Services	\$43.00/hour
Paraprofessional Services	\$37.00/hour
Teacher of the Deaf Services	\$151.00/hour
Administrative Fee	1%

Best of You Therapy, Inc.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Individual Rate per Hour</u>	<u>Group Rate per Hour</u>	<u>Rate per Evaluation</u>	<u>Home-based Services Rate per Hour</u>

<u>Speech Therapist</u>	\$100	\$105	\$450	\$130
<u>Bilingual Therapist</u> (SLP, OT, PT)	\$115	\$125	\$625	\$135
<u>Occupational Therapist</u>	\$100	\$105	\$450	\$130
<u>LDTC & Psychologist</u>	\$90 (Meetings Only)	N/A	\$450	N/A
<u>ABA Therapist</u> (BCBA)	\$95	N/A	\$425 (FBA)	\$130
<u>Bilingual LDTC Psychologist</u>	\$100 (Meetings Only)	N/A	\$625	N/A
<u>Physical Therapist</u>	\$100	\$ 105	\$450	\$130

27. Region II - Occupational and Physical Therapists

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following Occupational and Physical Therapists effective July 1, 2025, as Region II providers for the 2025-2026 school year.

Corp. or Agency	Therapist	Title	Individual Hourly Rate	Group Hourly Rate	Evaluation Rate
Dr. L. Hanes & Associates	Nicole Hodges	Occupational Therapist	\$112	\$122	\$450
Dr. L. Hanes & Associates	Catharine Hutchinson	Occupational Therapist	\$112	\$122	\$450
Dr. L. Hanes & Associates	Patreece M. Koth	Occupational Therapist	\$112	\$122	\$450
NANPOC Associates	Beth Abt	Occupational Therapist	\$102	\$112	\$450
NANPOC Associates	Rosemary Delgado	Occupational Therapist	\$102	\$112	N/A

NANPOC Associates	Lauren Farrell	Occupational Therapist	\$102	\$112	N/A
NANPOC Associates	Victoria Santaite	Occupational Therapist	\$102	\$112	N/A
Baby Steps Physical Therapy, LLC	Nicole Fennell	Physical Therapist	\$90	\$100	\$450

Best of You Therapy, Inc.	Nadine Distefano	Occupational Therapist	\$100	\$105	\$450
Sheli Dansky & Associates	Sheli Dansky	Physical Therapist	\$100	\$110	\$450
Hegarty PT	Sabrina “Tate” Hegarty	Physical Therapist	\$97	\$107	\$450
Kappacare Physical	Katherine Shoshilos	Physical Therapist	\$96	\$106	\$450
MTK-PT	Magen Kennedy	Physical Therapist	\$100	\$110	\$450
Allison Rooney OTR/L, PC	Allison Rooney	Occupational Therapist	\$93	\$103	\$450
EZ Therapy & Handwriting, LLC	Elana Rosenbaum	Occupational Therapist	\$96	\$106	\$450

28. Region II - Independent Evaluator

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve Region II Independent Evaluator, Leslie Fishbein, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant (LDTC) for the 2025-2026 school year.

29. Region II - Neuropsychologists

RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following Neuropsychologists effective July 1, 2025, for the 2025-2026 school year on behalf of the Region II districts. Dr. Dries and Dr. Myers will bill the districts directly for all services provided.

Neuropsychologist	Neuropsychological Evaluation Rate
Carlea Dries, Psy.D., ABSNP	\$3000.00-\$4000.00

Neuropsychologist	Steven J. Myers, Ph.D, LLC	
Service	Description	Fee
Mental health assessment including suicide and/or violence risk assessment	Assessment of identified student with significant mental health struggles including parent & school consultation, and brief report.	\$750.00
Psychological evaluation	Evaluation tailored to a specific referral question, including a record review, interviews, behavior rating scales, and testing. Written report provided.	\$1,000.00
Psycho-educational evaluation	An evaluation of academic proficiencies tailored to a specific referral question, including record review, interviews, cognitive and academic testing and a written report.	\$2,000.00
School neuropsychological evaluation	Comprehensive school neuropsychological assessment tailored to specific referral questions including a written report.	\$3,500.00- \$4,500.00
IEP meetings	Attendance at planning, eligibility, or annual review conferences by the hour	\$150.00

Moved by:

Calderone ▾

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"/>	<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"/>					

XII. **OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Stephans thanked the Pascack Hills Class of 1974 for establishing a scholarship fund and the number of donations made.

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.

Ettie Eggers of Montvale, who is part of the theater, spoke about separating the joint program. The combined program limited the roles. In Cinderella for Hills, there were nine roles out of a cast of 21. In Legally Blonde for Hills, there were seven roles out of a cast of 44. For the crew there was a drop of 85.7% in Hills participation. She mentioned that for Pascack Hills Players there are many leadership positions. There were 34 leadership positions in the past five years compared to PV Theater that had 18 during that time. She commented that it's run differently and understands. Ettie indicated that she lost her role as an assistant director when the programs merged. She understood that a director may not want to work with a student assistant director. She pushed into a role that was not necessarily a role suitable for her. Ettie mentioned that the average hours of rehearsal for Cinderella was about 14.6 hours a week and Legally Blonde was about 23.3 hours a week which she said was excessive. She is fearful that after two years the Pascack Hills Players culture will be lost. She said she found herself due to the program and is fearful that would be lost for future students.

Mr. Weaver congratulated Ettie for her Honor Society appointment. He would like to know how the program separately and how it ran combined.

Ettie Eggers said there is a digital proposal with the history, letters from alumni. And the differences between the two programs.

Mrs. Varghese commented that she was very impressed and asked if the proposal could be shared with the Board.

Rily Alexander of Montvale, a senior at Hills and head director for the Fieldstone Middle School Spring Musical. It's a unique program in its eighth year and presenting Frozen Junior this year. She indicated that if the joint program continues then this program will cease. It's a program that she joined when she was in middle school. She has seen it grow and has seen kids blossom. Rily read a comment from a 7th grader who is grateful for the program and without the support of the people she would not be in the club. The student mentioned that she is excited to become a senior and coach others. The schedule did not make it possible to hold rehearsals needed to produce the show. She indicated that typically at Hills rehearsals were 6-9 and the combined program was after school 3-5 and Saturdays. It was unreasonable for middle schoolers to rehearse from 6-9. She mentioned that in March, everyone had to show up for rehearsals and it was non-negotiable. This made for a very difficult situation with the middle school show set to begin May 1st. She commented that this is a special program very dear to her and the thought that the program may not continue is sad.

Mrs. Martin commented that it's very impressive and how Rily has kept it together.

Mrs. Varghese appreciated her passion and she loves it when students come to speak.

Mr. Weaver mentioned when the Solomon's son spoke and was supported by other students about the condition of the auditorium, it had an impact on the Board. He said it's appreciated that she and others have come to speak about this subject and it helps them to do things that will make people happy.

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Jupiter Tamagny of Montvale shared that they were promised a fair combining of the schools. She indicated that it was Hills joining Valley and their culture was erased. She mentioned that at Hills they were given learning opportunities, larger roles due to a smaller cast, and flexible hours. This afforded people from athletics to Robotics to join. She commented that the large number of hours for Legally Blonde did not allow that opportunity. Jupiter said she is currently the stage manager and assistant crew chief and she saw so many of her colleagues were not able to participate. She gave an example of one night working from 3-11 with a 15 minute break.

Mrs. Varghese asked if students voiced their hardship about time.

Jupiter indicated that she believed they did in letters. She added that she sent a letter.

Evie Eggers of Montvale and s freshman at Hills and a former member of the Fieldstone Middle School program for three years. She indicated that it is an amazing program for the kids including herself. She said the support from the Hills students gave her confidence and she fell in love with the theater and inspired her to pursue theater beyond high school. Evie related that it goes beyond the theater as she can speak to her group when she is down. She is booking forward to helping the middle schoolers in the future. She believes the combining of the programs next year will end the Hills program and the middle school program. She urged the Board to reconsider combining the programs.

Kari Solomon of Montvale has two 2022 graduates. She said her son Aaron seized an opportunity and went to work in production at Hills. After high school, he worked for the Rockland Boulders in ticket.box office management. She said he works at his university's events services program and will stage the commencement ceremony. She mentioned that he will have a summer internship at UBS Arena in Long Island. She commented that these experiences were made possible by the opportunity he had in theater production at Hills.

Devon Alexander of Montvale and the mother of Rily urged the Board to bring back the Hills Theater Program. She commented that her son played football, wrestled and was in the band, and he had the opportunity to participate in the theater program. He now is at Montclair State University and is majoring in Design Technical Management. The program helped him find his true passion. She mentioned that both her daughters are in theater and added that Rily was once a very shy child. She indicated that the theater program has helped her development as she runs cross country, part of the yearbook and newspaper, a peer leader, and a leader of adults for the MLK Community Service Day by building community relations. She is concerned with the current state of the program with an 87% reduction in participation is alarming. She would like to see both Hills and Valley programs thrive.

Elizabeth Gloeggler of Montvale, a proud parent of two theater students. She indicated that the Pascack Hills Players has a long history for decades of building a tradition and community. The first show (Oklahoma) was a combined production back in 1965. The next year, it was a separate production of Bye Bye Birdie and a musical was produced every year after including the Covid year at the Hills amphitheater. She mentioned the letters from alumni supporting the program in the proposal. Ms. Gloeggler shared some of the excerpts from the letters. She commented that the common themes were allowing them to be themselves, meet their people and use the skills learned in theater in their jobs. She mentioned that combining programs was due to the loss of their beloved director. She said they found some candidates who are in the proposal. She indicated that they will look for other candidates if needed. She believes that if the separation of

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programs does not occur next year then there will only be one program. She commented that they presented the proposal to Dr. Bilotti, Principal Wieland and Principal Puccio in a meeting.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Martin to adjourn the public meeting at 9:33 p.m. Ms. Keller seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Moved by:

Martin ▾

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,



Yas Usami

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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