

PEQUEA VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD
Committee Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2026

The monthly Committee meeting of the Pequea Valley School Board was called to order by President Bryant Ferris at 7:00 p.m. Members present were, Michael Fisher, Mike Hartmann, Steve Riehl, Steve Temple, Casey Rohrer, and Tamara Wanner. Absent: Fred Hertzler, Freida Huyard. Tamara Wanner left meeting at 7:50 p.m. Also present were Erik Orndorff, Rich Eby, John Bowden, John Trovato, Ashley Bottiglieri, Cathy Koenig, Fred Kendall, Ellen Geisel, Dan Sauder and LNP reporter.

Phase II Construction Update – Mr. Bowden introduced Mr. Kendall of Abacus Construction Management, who provided an update on Phase II of the construction project. Mr. Kendall reported that approximately 90% of demolition has been completed, with an estimated month of demolition work remaining. He also presented photos highlighting the project’s progress. During the work, an interior wall originally scheduled for replacement was determined to be weight-bearing and will need to remain in place. This adjustment is expected to be a cost neutral solution.

Teaching and Learning Update – Dr. Eby provided a presentation on teaching and learning, including enrollment data indicating that the District serves approximately 35% of the school-age learners residing within its boundaries. Approximately 50% of learners are Amish, with the remaining enrollment represented by homeschool, private school, and charter school options. Dr. Eby also reviewed the District’s Early Learning programs, English Language Arts initiatives, and learning targets. Dan Holler then presented on the factors that support the successful implementation of an instructional coaching model. Mr. Holler explained that instructional coaching has three key areas: who you are, what you do, and where you work. “Who you are” encompasses partnership, communication, and leadership. “What you do” includes data analysis, instructional strategies, and supporting the educational cycle. “Where you work” focuses on the support structures necessary to promote effective coaching.

Learner Cost at Sporting Events – Mr. Trovato facilitated a discussion regarding the possibility of allowing Pequea Valley learners to attend athletic events at no cost upon presentation of a valid PV learner ID. He noted that learner ticket sales generated approximately \$12,000 in revenue last year. While this total includes tickets purchased by learners from opposing schools, the majority of those sales were likely PV learners. A Board member suggested that learners in sixth grade and below be required to attend with a parent or guardian. The Board will vote on the proposal next week.

Public Participation – Ellen Geisel, Honey Brook, commented on the new building and parking improvements, and the relocation of handicapped parking spaces closer to the event entrance. Dan Sauder, New Holland, expressed support for providing student tickets at no cost.

Chief of Finance & Operation’s and Superintendent Recommendations:

On a motion by Mr. Riehl and a second by Mrs. Rohrer, approval was given for the following Consent Agenda Item A (rc):

A. Personnel

Extracurricular Resignation:

Amber Snyder, Girls’ Soccer Junior High Head Coach, effective September 18, 2026.

Extracurricular Appointment:

Kevin Hackett, Girls’ Soccer Junior High Head Coach, \$2,300 prorated, effective September 22, 2026.

Steve Arbutina, Varsity Wrestling Assistant Coach, \$2,500, effective November 20, 2026.

Madeline Heverin, Assistant Director PVS 7-8 Musical, \$1,750, effective November 23, 2026.

Motion carried: Voting yes: Ferris, Fisher, Hartmann, Riehl, Rohrer, Temple; No: 0.

On a motion by Mr. Temple and a second by Mr. Fisher, approval was given for the following Consent Agenda Item B (rc):

B. Approval of Minutes, Financial reports, and Bills as follows:

- September 3, 2026, regular meeting
- The Financial Reports for August 2026, as appearing on the Treasurer's Supplement.
- The July bills, as appearing in the Treasurer's Supplement.
 - General Fund, totaling \$2,922,468.24
 - Capital Reserve totaling \$98,756.00
 - Construction Payments, totaling \$492,188.50
 - Food Service, totaling \$4,555.90

Motion carried: Voting yes: Ferris, Fisher, Riehl, Rohrer, Temple; No: 0; Abstaining: Hartmann

No further information was presented, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Bryant Ferris
President

John A. Bowden
Secretary