Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education

Pascack Valley High School – Pascack Valley Cafeteria

Executive Session - 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

AGENDA
November 16, 2026

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 Ms. Cynthia Kirk.
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

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

Ms. Debra Stephans, President
Ms. Elizabeth Calderone, Vice President
Ms. Gia Guzman
Mrs. Stephanie Huang
Ms. Katie Keller
Mrs. Kristin Martin
Mr. James Stankus
Mrs. Gini Varghese
Mr. Michael Weaver

Mr. Dirk Phillips, Interim Superintendent
Ms. Cynthia Kirk, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary
Student Representatives:
Isabelle Mednard - PHHS
Max Bachanan - PVHS

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.

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

III. **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY PRESIDING OFFICER**
Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by publishing said notice on the Pascack Valley Regional High School District website.

IV. **MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION ON November 16, 2026**
The Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education will meet at 7:00 p.m. in room 156 at Pascack Valley High School, 200 Piermont Avenue, Hillsdale, NJ, for the purpose of recessing to a closed Executive Session.

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. Contracts
    b. Personnel
    c. HIB incident 315078 (attached)
    d. HIB incident 314430 (attached)
    e. HIB incident 314380 (attached)
    f. HIB incident 314046 (attached)
    g. HIB incident 314117 (attached)
    h. HIB incident 315074 (attached)
3. The Board will return to the Regular Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
4. Official action may or may not be taken when the Board reconvenes to Public Session.

V. **ROUTINE MATTERS**

Monthly Reports

Board President Report:	Debra Stephans
Interim Superintendent's Report:	Dirk Phillips
Committee Reports:	
Governance & Personnel 10/1/26	Kristin Martin
Steering 10/15/26	Debra Stephans
Finance/Facilities 11/9/26	Gine Varghese
Negotiations 10/29/26 & 11/10/26	Gini Varghese

VI. **MINUTES**

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

October 26, 2026	Regular Meeting	**7:30 p.m.**
October 26, 2026	Executive Meeting	**7:03 p.m.**
October 26, 2026	Executive Meeting	**8:42 p.m.**

Moved by: Choose an item Seconded by: Choose an item

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Calderone	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stankus	☐	☐	☐	☐
Guzman	☐	☐	☐	☐	Varghese	☐	☐	☐	☐
Huang	☐	☐	☐	☐	Weaver	☐	☐	☐	☐
Keller	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stephans	☐	☐	☐	☐
Martin	☐	☐	☐	☐					

VII. **PRESENTATION**

Assessments — Dr. Mark Russo

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. State law prohibits Board members and administrators from discussing personnel matters, student discipline, or other confidential issues. Please note this is not a dialogue or Q&A session between speakers and the Board. While we may not respond immediately or to every comment made tonight, all input is carefully considered and helps inform our decisions. Responses may come through emails, reports, Board statements, website updates, or after the comment period closes. Thank you for your participation in our school community's governance. 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 Item: 1

1. **Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Report**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education approve action taken pursuant to HIB Reports:
Possible HIB Incident # 312344 (attached)
Possible HIB Incident # 311949 (attached)
Possible HIB Incident # 312251 (attached)
Possible HIB Incident # 313016 (attached)

Moved by: Choose an item Seconded by: Choose an item

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Calderone	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stankus	☐	☐	☐	☐
Guzman	☐	☐	☐	☐	Varghese	☐	☐	☐	☐
Huang	☐	☐	☐	☐	Weaver	☐	☐	☐	☐
Keller	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stephans	☐	☐	☐	☐
Martin	☐	☐	☐	☐					

X. **EDUCATION**
Consent Agenda Item 1

1. **Aide for Out-of-District Placement**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve a shared aide for student ID# 815222 who attends New Milford High School as per the student's IEP. The total cost for the 2026-2027 year is $23,976.50 (ESY and Sept-June)

Moved by: Choose an item Seconded by: Choose an item

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Calderone	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stankus	☐	☐	☐	☐
Guzman	☐	☐	☐	☐	Varghese	☐	☐	☐	☐
Huang	☐	☐	☐	☐	Weaver	☐	☐	☐	☐
Keller	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stephans	☐	☐	☐	☐
Martin	☐	☐	☐	☐					

XI. **HUMAN RESOURCES**

WHEREAS, the interim superintendent, after considering the recommendation of /his 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 interim superintendent, appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated, as provided by the budget, in accordance with terms of the employment specified:

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

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

Consent Agenda for Items 1- 13

1. **Resignations**
   a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation (attached) of Tara Wholey, Part-time Nurse at Pascack Hills High School, effective December 23, 2026.

   b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation (attached) of Carlos Morales, Custodian and Bus Driver at Pascack Valley High School, effective November 16, 2026.

2. **Leave of Absence - Revised**
   RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following revised leave of absence:

Employee ID#	**Position**	**Request**
1902	PVHS Social Studies Teacher	From: Total Leave Period: October 6, 2026 - November 8, 2026 NJFLA/FMLA: October 6, 2026 - November 8, 2026 To: Total Leave Period: October 6, 2026 - November 29, 2026 NJFLA/FMLA: October 6, 2026 - November

		29, 2026

3. **Leave of Absence**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following leave of absence:

Employee ID#	Position	Request
2773	Speech Language	Total Leave Period: February 15, 2027 - June 16, 2027 Using 18 sick days FMLA and NJFLA: March 15 - June 13, 2027 Leave of Absence: June 14 - June 16, 2027

4. **Leave Replacement - Revisions**
   a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the revision to the following leave replacement for covering employee ID# 1192 during the 2026-2027 school year.

Name	**Position**	**Salary**	**Effective Date**
Lois Jasper	Leave Replacement Special Education Teacher - PHHS	$500 per diem without benefits	From: September 22, 2026, to on or about January 4, 2027 To: September 22, 2026 to November 20, 2026, plus one shadow day at the sub. rate of $150

   b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the revision to the following leave replacement for covering employee ID# 2290 during the 2026-2027 school year.

Name	**Position**	**Salary**	**Effective Date**
Betsy Barbour	PVHS Leave Replacement English Teacher	$330 per diem, MA/Step 1, without benefits	From: On or about August 27, 2026, to November 18, 2026 To: On or about August 27, 2026, to October 30, 2026

c. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following individual as long-term leave replacement while employee ID# 1837 is on leave during the 2026-2027 school year:

Name	Position	Salary	Effective Dates
Michele Olszewski-Garcia	Leave Replacement World Language Teacher	$500 per diem, without benefits	From: August 27, 2026 to December 9, 2026 To: August 27, 2026 to December 18, 2026

5. **Leave Replacement**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following individual as a leave replacement while employee ID# 2668 is on leave:

Name	Position	Salary	Effective Date
Brenda Lyons	PVHS Leave Replacement School, Counselor	$368.82 per diem, without benefits	On or about January 4, 2027--May 10, 2027

6. **Additional Assignment - Temporary Coverage - Revised**
   a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve revised additional sixth period assignments while employee ID# 1902 is on leave. Revised timeframe: from October 6, 2026 - November 8, 2026 (4 days and 4 weeks), to October 6, 2026 - November 25, 2026 (7 days and 6 weeks)

Name	Subject	School	Total payment
Theresa Flynn	AP US History 1	PVHS	From: $1,360 To: $2,105
Connor Quinlan	US History 1	PVHS	From: $1,360 To: $2,105
Jeff Jasper	Honors US History 1	PVHS	From: $1,360 To: $2,105
Ken Sarajian	US History 1	PVHS	From: $1,360 To: $2,105
Luciano Cofrancesco	Religion in America	PVHS	From: $1,360 To: $2,105

b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the revision for Katherine Vargo teaching an additional sixth period assignment while employee ID #2281 is on leave:

Subject	School	Timeframe	Payment
Biology Collaborative	Pascack Hills	From: August 27, 2026 - November 18, 2026 (11 weeks and 5 days) To: August 27, 2026 - September 18, 2026 and November 2, 2026 - November 18, 2026 (5 weeks and 5 days)	From: $3,350 To: $1,700

7. **Extra Hours**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve extra hours for Part-time Nurse, Sandra Hroncich, not to exceed 4 hours per week, for the 2026-2027 school year.

8. **Co-curricular Appointment**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following co-curricular appointment for the 2026-2027 school year:

Name	**Activity**	**Position**	**Stipend**
Kristin Edson	Camp Raspberry	Co-advisor	$1,579

9. **Athletic Resignations**
   a. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, accept with regret the resignation of Brandon Stein, PHHS Assistant Baseball Coach, for the 2026-2027 school year.

   b. **RESOLVED** that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, accept with regret the resignation of Melissa Boretti, PVHS Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach, for the 2026-2027 school year.

10. **Volunteers**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following volunteers:

Name	**School**	**Activity**
Jonathan Moore	PHHS	Boys Basketball
Michelle Reale	PHHS	Winter Track

11. **Testing Support**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following staff members to support ACT testing at PVHS on November 14, 2026:

Position	**Name**	**Amount**
Test Coordinator	Culvert, Maggie	$1150
Standard Time Proctor	Olshalsky, Nicole	$216
Standard Time Proctor	Koenig, Bill	$216
Standard Time Proctor	Nilsen, Chris	$216
Standard Time Proctor	DeMello, Danielle	$216
Standard Time Proctor *if needed	DeSantis, Valentina	$216
Standard Time Proctor *if needed	Healey, Marlene	$216
Extended Time Proctor	Murphy, Caitlin	$285
Testing Help	Moran, Jonathan	$200
Testing Help	Amato, Dana	$200
Relief/Floater Proctor	Ortiz, Nicole	$200

12. **Chaperones**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following chaperones for the PVHS Fall Drama at the rate of $83 per event.

Date	**Name**	**Time**
11/19/26	Natalie Burd	7 pm
11/19/26	Elizabeth Egan	7 pm
11/19/26	Nicole Ortiz	7 pm
11/20/26	Luisa Antonio	7 pm
11/20/26	Elizabeth Egan	7 pm
11/20/26	Nicole Ortiz	7 pm
11/21/26	Danielle Macaluso	1 pm
11/21/26	Chris Nilsen	1 pm
11/21/26	Chris Guinta	1 pm

11/21/26	Michael Sherman	7 pm
11/21/26	Caitlin Murphy	7 pm
11/21/26	Amy Maniscalco	7 pm
11/21/26	Ellen Doyle	7 pm

13. **Substitute**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following substitute for the district for the 2026-2027 school year:

Name	**Position**	**Type**
Paul Johnson	Classroom Teacher	New

Moved by: Choose an item Seconded by: Choose an item

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Calderone	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stankus	☐	☐	☐	☐
Guzman	☐	☐	☐	☐	Varghese	☐	☐	☐	☐
Huang	☐	☐	☐	☐	Weaver	☐	☐	☐	☐
Keller	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stephans	☐	☐	☐	☐
Martin	☐	☐	☐	☐					

XII. **FINANCE**
Consent Agenda for Items 1 – 11

1. **Approval of Bills**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve bills as follows:

Budget Expenditures as of November 16, 2026	$1,552,549.23
Payroll as of October 30, 2026	$2,203,438.11
Payroll as of November 13, 2026	$1,771,169.99
Total	$5,527,157.33

2. **Secretary's and Treasurer's Financial Reports**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, accept the Secretary's and Treasurer's unaudited 2026-27 financial reports, which are in agreement, reflecting the district's financial activities for the period September 2026.

3. **Ratification of Board Secretary's Monthly Certification – Budgetary Line Item Status**
RESOLVED pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)3, the Board Secretary certifies that as of September 2026 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 September 2026, after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial report, in the minutes of the Board each month that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(b).4.

4. **Approval of the Following Reports**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the following reports:

a. Cafeteria Account	September 2026
b. e-Learning Account	September 2026
c. Capital Project Account	September 2026
d. Student Government Account – PH	September 2026
e. Student Government Account – PV	September 2026

5. **Transfers**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve transfers for the month of September 2026.

6. **Travel Pre-Authorizations**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the pre-authorization travel expenses for professional development or school trips (attached):

Name	**Professional Development or School Trip**
Megan Graziano	Designing and Delivering Professional Learning for Teachers
Jordan Kapp	Connecticut College Campus Visits and Info. Sessions
Valerie Mattessich	NCTE - *Revision to previously approved travel*
Virena Rossi	NCTE - *Revision to previously approved travel*

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

Date	Donor	Amount	Club or Group
11/9/26	Frank Gravina Construction	$200.00	PV Girls Basketball Team
11/5/26	Nu Products Seasoning Co.	$2,500.00	PH Robotics

8. **Approve District Subscriptions for the 2026-2027 School Year (**attached**)**
WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education requires specialized educational software, instructional digital platforms, and administrative subscription services to maintain continuity of operations and support student achievement for the 2026-2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, the interim superintendent, in consultation with the school business administrator, has reviewed the requested subscriptions and determined them to be necessary and aligned with the district's curriculum goals and operational needs; and

WHEREAS, funds have been properly budgeted and are available in the 2026-2027 school year budget to support these purchases under the designated account lines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the interim superintendent, hereby approves the procurement and renewal of the subscription services as detailed in the attached schedule for the 2026-2027 school year.

9. **Disposal of Obsolete Equipment**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the disposal, donation, sale, recycling or auction on Govdeals of the following items.

# of Items	Item	Inventory Control Number
1	CNC Shark HD5	n/a

10. **Disposal of Marching Band/Choir Items**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the disposal, donation, sale, recycling or auction on Govdeals of the following items.

# of Items	Item	Inventory Control Number
235	Marching Band Uniforms & Apparel	n/a
93	Choir Instructional Materials	n/a

11. **Varsity Prep (attached)**
RESOLVED that the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education, at the recommendation of the interim superintendent, approve the agreement with Varsity Prep USA LLC to utilize Board facilities to design, operate, and manage a summer enrichment program in collaboration with the Board for the term January 1, 2027 - December 30, 2027.

Moved by: Choose an item Seconded by: Choose an item

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Calderone	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stankus	☐	☐	☐	☐
Guzman	☐	☐	☐	☐	Varghese	☐	☐	☐	☐
Huang	☐	☐	☐	☐	Weaver	☐	☐	☐	☐
Keller	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stephans	☐	☐	☐	☐
Martin	☐	☐	☐	☐					

XIII. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Monthly Suspension Report (attached)

XIV. **NEW BUSINESS**

XV. **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. State law prohibits Board members and administrators from discussing personnel matters, student discipline, or other confidential issues. Please note this is not a dialogue or Q&A session between speakers and the Board. While we may not respond immediately or to every comment made tonight, all input is carefully considered and helps inform our decisions. Responses may come through emails, reports, Board statements, website updates, or after the comment period closes. Thank you for your participation in our school community's governance. Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise, sign in, and state their name and town of residence.

XVI. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Moved by: Choose an item Seconded by: Choose an item

VOTE

Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P	Bd. Mbr.	Aye	Nay	Abs.	N/P
Calderone	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stankus	☐	☐	☐	☐
Guzman	☐	☐	☐	☐	Varghese	☐	☐	☐	☐
Huang	☐	☐	☐	☐	Weaver	☐	☐	☐	☐
Keller	☐	☐	☐	☐	Stephans	☐	☐	☐	☐
Martin	☐	☐	☐	☐					