

**Passaic Valley Regional High School
District #1**

MINUTES

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Tuesday, October 12, 2021**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

**The Board of Education of the Passaic Valley Regional High School
In the County of Passaic, New Jersey**

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education
Tuesday, October 12, 2021**

The minutes for the regular meeting of the Passaic Valley Regional High School District #1 in the County of Passaic on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, held in the Adra Suchorsky Library at the Passaic Valley High School located at East Main Street, Little Falls, New Jersey, 07424.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY MR. YODICE, BOARD PRESIDENT

Roll Call:

Ms. Brigati - Yes
Dr. Cathcart – Absent
Mr. D’Ambrosio - Yes
Mr. Damiano - Yes

Mr. D’Angelo – Yes
Mr. Doell – Yes
Mrs. Luker – Absent
Dr. Varcadipane – Absent
Mr. Yodice – Yes

Also Present:

Mr. Bracken Healy, Superintendent
Colin Monahan, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Raymond Reddin, Esq., Board Attorney

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. READING OF ANNOUNCEMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Board of Education of the Passaic Valley Regional High School District #1 issued notice of this meeting on January 7, 2021, by having the date, time and location of the meeting posted on the bulletin board of Passaic Valley High School and sent to The North Jersey Herald News and The Record. Notice was also filed with the Township Clerk of Little Falls, the Borough Clerk of Totowa, and the Business Administrator of Woodland Park and sent to those persons requesting that such notice be mailed to them. On September 30, 2021, a revised board meeting notice was advertised in the North Jersey Herald News and The Record. Notice was also filed with the Township Clerk of Little Falls, the Borough Clerk of Totowa, and the Business Administrator of Woodland Park and sent to those persons requesting that such notice be mailed to them.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Yodice congratulated the Students of the Month.

V. STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

- Academics Connor O'Brien
- Athletics Carissa Ostolaza
- Character Irene Urgolo

Mr. Healy conducted the Students of the Month/Hornet of the Month program. He read a short description of each student and presented each student with a certificate.

The Board congratulated the students.

VI. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

VII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Healy spoke about the Start Strong Testing and stated it went well and the results will be received shortly.

VIII. CALL FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Mr. Yodice asked if there were any members of the public to heard.

Mr. Monahan read correspondence from Ghassan Shabaneh, Washington Drive, Woodland Park, New Jersey.

Mr. Yodice asked for a motion to close the Public Session.

Ms. Brigati made a motion to close the Public Session; seconded by Mr. D'Ambrosio.

IX. EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. Report of HIB

The Superintendent reported and requested approval of the following HIB investigation(s):

Incident #	Location	Consequences	Intervention	Other Action	Determination
2122-01	Social Media	Suspension	None	None	Not HIB
2122-02	Social Media / School	None	None	Follow up parent meeting	Not HIB
2122-03	Social Media	Restorative Justice	None	Meeting with Ms. Morris, Mr. Settembre, Ms. Wilks	HIB
2122/04	Classroom	None	None	Met with Mr. Settembre and Mrs. Pasquariello	Not HIB

2. Report of Suspensions – September 2021

The Superintendent reported and requested approval of suspensions for the month of September 2021.

3. Approval / September 2021 Student Attendance

The Superintendent reported the following attendance for September 2021:

Possible number of days school has been open	18.00
Possible number of days attendance	18,103.00
Days absent	855.00
Percent of attendance	95.3%
Average daily attendance	958.22
Average daily enrollment	1,005.72

4. Approval / Home Instruction 2021-2022

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following Home Instruction:

ID	
HI6-2122	Educere
HI7-2122	Educere
HI8-2122	In District
HI9-2122	In District
HI10-2122	Services by Bergen County Special Services

5. Approval / Ms. Diana Roper - Move on the Guide

The Superintendent recommended approval to move Ms. Diana Roper to Step 5 Class 3 as per the guidelines of the PVEA contract.

Education Committee

6. Approval / In School Event(s)

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following in school events:

Department	Teacher/ Advisor	Event	Date/Time/Location	Purpose
Future Medical Professionals	S. Iobst	Blood Drive	November 17, 2021 / 8am – 3pm / Farrell Gym	Blood drive to support Red Cross blood banks
Hey Jude	Youngberg	Concert	May 20, 2022 / 7pm / Auditorium	All funds raised for St. Jude’s Research Hospital

7. Approval / Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreement with Passaic County Community College

The Superintendent recommended approval of the dual enrollment articulation agreement with Passaic County Community College for the 2021-2022 school year.

8. Approval / Fundraiser(s)

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following fundraiser(s):

	Department	Teacher/ Advisor	Event	Date/Time/Location	Purpose
1	National Math Honor Society	E. Thornton	Dine & Donate	Nov 11, 2021 / Panera Bread	Raise funds for induction ceremony.
2	National Math Honor Society	E. Thornton	Dine & Donate	Dec 6, 2021/ Chipotle	Raise funds for induction ceremony.
3	National Math Honor Society	E. Thornton	Dine & Donate	Jan 12, 2022/ Wendy’s Route 46	Raise funds for club activities & induction ceremony.
4	Girls Volleyball	Ament	Bake Sale	Oct 15, 2021 / Home game versus Wayne Hills.	Raise funds for Susan G. Komen Foundation.
5	ABA Environmental Science	Sanders	Plant Sale	Oct 21 – June 22 / In school	Raise funds to support operations of the class.
6	Class of 2023	Feo/S. Iobst	Can Shake	Nov 13, 2021 / Shop Rite Little Falls	Raise funds for Jr. Cotillion and Senior year activities.
7	Class of 2022	Joseph/ Feinstein	Apparel sale	Oct 1-31, 2021 / Online	Raise funds for Senior year activities & expenses.
8	Class of 2022	Joseph/ Feinstein	Dine & Donate	Oct 19, 2021/ Wendy’s Route 46	Raise funds for Senior year activities & expenses.

9. Approval / Part-Time ABA Paraprofessional and Bus Aide 2021-2022

The Superintendent recommended retroactive approval of Kyle McCarthy part-time paraprofessional(s) and bus aide(s) for the 2021-2022 school year. Rate \$18.00/hour (para), \$16.00/hour (bus), not to exceed 29 hours, no benefits.

Education Committee

10. Approval / Substitute Teachers 2021-2022

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year

- Joe Santoro \$115.00 per diem
- Kathy Hill \$115.00 per diem (retroactive to 9/22/21)

11. Approval / Paraprofessional Resignations

The Superintendent recommended acceptance of the following paraprofessional resignations:

- Jeffrey Blaine Bargiel as of June 30, 2021
- Star Kent-Finnegan as of October 15, 2021

12. Approval / Medical Leave, 4425

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education to approve the following leave for employee #4425, effective September 14, 2021 through December 3, 2021.

Dates	Coverage	Amount of Time
9/14-12/3/21	Paid Sick Leave	53 days
	Federal Medical Leave Act	
	NJ Family Leave Act	
	Federal Emergency Paid Sick Leave	
	Emergency Federal Medical Leave Act	
	Unpaid Leave of Absence	

13. Approval / Student Teachers

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education to approve the following student teachers for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Lindsey Giordano Social Studies
- Steven Sirgusa English
- Louis Batelli Physical Education/Health

14. Approval / Revised Academic Calendar

The Superintendent recommended approval of following 2021-2022 Academic Calendar revisions.

- October 27, 2021 Parent teacher conference; early dismissal
- October 28, 2021 Parent teacher conference; early dismissal
- November 3, 2021 School Closed Education Committee

Education Committee

15. Approval / Substitute Teacher

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year. *Start date pending* receipt of criminal history, issuance of substitute certificate, TB test and sexual misconduct forms.

Christopher Watkins	\$115.00/per diem
Scott Berman	\$115.00/per diem

Mr. Doell made a motion to approve Education agenda items # 1-15; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Roll Call:

Ms. Brigati - Yes
Dr. Cathcart – Absent
Mr. D’Ambrosio - Yes
Mr. Damiano - Yes

Mr. D’Angelo – Yes
Mr. Doell – Yes
Mrs. Luker – Absent
Dr. Varcadipane – Absent
Mr. Yodice – Yes

X. FINANCE COMMITTEE

16. Approval / Payment of Cafeteria Invoices

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board approve payment of the following cafeteria invoices:

Vendor	Description	Check #	Amount
Ms. Gianduso	Student Refund	1229	\$81.80
Ms. Morla	Student Refund	1230	\$58.35
Pomptonian	Invoice # 671091021	1231	\$1,430.17
Pomptonian	Invoice # 671092421	1232	\$10,128.78
Pomptonian	Invoice # 671091721	1233	\$25,679.74

17. Re-Appointment / Insurance Brokerage Services – Dental Benefits

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board approve Fairview Insurance Agency Associates, Inc., Verona, New Jersey, as the insurance broker for the District's dental benefits from November 1, 2021 through October 31, 2022.

18. Approval / Renew Dental Carrier – Delta Dental

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board approve the renewal of Delta Dental from November 1, 2021 to October 31, 2022. There will be a zero percent increase in the rate during this time period.

19. Approval / Cooperative Pricing System

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board approve the following resolution to participate in the Northern Region Educational Service Commission Cooperative Pricing System.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Region Educational Services Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency " has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services;

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2021 the governing body of the Passaic Valley Regional High School Board of Education County of Passaic, State of New Jersey duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services;

Finance Committee

(continued)

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

TITLE

This RESOLUTION shall be known and may be cited as the *Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Passaic Valley Regional High School Board of Education*.

AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)*, the School Business Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

CONTRACTING UNIT

The Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the *Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.)* and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Mr. Damiano made a motion to approve Finance agenda items # 16-19; seconded by Mr. D’Ambrosio.

Roll Call:

Ms. Brigati - Yes
Dr. Cathcart – Absent
Mr. D’Ambrosio - Yes
Mr. Damiano - Yes

Mr. D’Angelo – Yes
Mr. Doell – Yes
Mrs. Luker – Absent
Dr. Varcadipane – Absent
Mr. Yodice – Yes

XI. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

20. Approval / Rescind –Matthew Madonia Appointment

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, recommended the Board rescind the appointment of Matthew Madonia as an Operational staff member for the 2021-2022 school year.

21. Approval / Emergency Repairs/Replacement - Fencing

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds recommended the Board retroactively approve emergency fencing repairs/replacement to Jan Fence, Pequannock, N.J., in the amount of \$23,837.00. These repairs/replacement to the fencing is approved by the insurance carrier.

22. Approval / Emergency Repairs - Track

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds recommended the Board retroactively approve emergency track repairs to Field Turf Inc. ESCNJ Co-Op in the amount of \$104,566.00. This is Phase I of repairs to the track and is approved by the school district's insurance carrier.

23. Approval / Access Control Upgrades

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds recommended the Board approve Open Systems Integrators Inc., Hamilton, N.J., Co-Op#65MCECCPS, BID#ESCNJ 19/20-38 in the amount of \$52,288.00. These monies have been approved through the school district's ESSER II Grant, Account # 20-483-400-720-007600-050.

24. Approval / Security Cameras

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds recommended the Board approve United Federated Systems Inc. in the amount of \$54,135.00 to supply and install 33 security cameras throughout the building. These monies have been approved through the school district's Security Grant.

Operations Committee

25. Approval Use of Facilities

The Superintendent recommended the following use of facilities:

- a) Little Falls Cheer has asked to use the Wrestling Gym & Farrell Gym for Competition Cheer practice while the floor renovation project is taking place at the LF Rec Center. Approval of 15 dates coordinated through the PVHS Athletic Office from 10/14 to 11/19.
- b) PVHS Football/Cheer Parents Association and PVHS Football & Cheer Coaches Pasta Dinners: Friday 10/8/21 (retroactive) & Friday 10/29/21 (PVHS Outside Picnic Area) 5-7pm.
- c) PVHS Boys Soccer Parents Association and PVHS Boys Soccer Coaches Pasta Dinners: Friday 10/8/21 (retroactive) & Friday 10/15/21 (PVHS Outside Picnic Area) 5-7pm.
- d) Operation Graduation 2022 Annual Clothing Drive - Saturday 10/16/21(8am - 3pm) - PVHS Rear Parking Lot near Garage.
- e) PVHS Field Hockey Coaches to run a youth clinic and interest meeting on Oct 15, 2021, 4-7pm on the field hockey field.

26. Approval / ARP ESSER Grant Application Revised

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board approve the revised American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER Grant Application in the amount of \$1,475,501.00.

ESSER	\$1,221,051.00
Accelerated Learning Coaching & Educator Support	\$85,949.00
Summer Learning & Enrichment	\$40,000.00
Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities	\$40,000.00
NJTSS Mental Health Support Staffing	\$88,501.00

Total \$ 1,475,501.00

Ms. Brigati made a motion to approve Operation agenda items # 20-26; seconded by Mr. D’Ambrosio.

Roll Call:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Ms. Brigati - Yes | Mr. D’Angelo – Yes |
| Dr. Cathcart – Absent | Mr. Doell – Yes |
| Mr. D’Ambrosio - Yes | Mrs. Luker – Absent |
| Mr. Damiano - Yes | Dr. Varcadipane – Absent |
| | Mr. Yodice – Yes on 2-3-4-6;
Abstain on 1 and 5 |

Dr. Cathcart entered the Board of Education meeting at 7:15 P.M.

XII. POLICY COMMITTEE

27. Approval / Policy Adoption

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended approval and adoption of the following policies:

- P. 1648.11 The Road Forward, Appendix C
- P. 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program

Mr. Doell made a motion to approve Policy agenda item # 27; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Roll Call:

Ms. Brigati - Yes
Dr. Cathcart – Yes
Mr. D’Ambrosio - Yes
Mr. Damiano - Yes

Mr. D’Angelo – Yes
Mr. Doell – Yes
Mrs. Luker – Absent
Dr. Varcadipane – Absent
Mr. Yodice – Yes

XIII. ATHLETICS AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

28. Approval / Mike Yesenosky, 2021-2022 Concert Assistant

The Superintendent recommended the approval of Mike Yesenosky as concert assistant for the following concerts:

- Winter Concert and concert rehearsal - Not to exceed 7 hours @ \$25/hour
- Spring Concert and concert rehearsal - Not to exceed 7 hours @ \$25/hour
- Pops Concert and concert rehearsal - Not to exceed 7 hours @ \$25/hour
- Spring Musical Auditions - Not to exceed 5 hours @ \$25/hour
- Spring Musical Callbacks - Not to exceed 5 hours @ \$25/hour
- Spring musical rehearsal accompanist - Not to exceed 30 hours @\$25/hour

29. Approval / Jennifer Shue, Variety Show Director 2021-2022

The Superintendent recommended the approval of Jennifer Shue as the Variety Show Director, Schedule B stipend position, \$1,267.00.

Mr. D’Ambrosio made a motion to approve Athletics and Student Activities agenda items # 28-29; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Roll Call:

Ms. Brigati - Yes
Dr. Cathcart – Yes
Mr. D’Ambrosio - Yes
Mr. Damiano - Yes

Mr. D’Angelo – Yes
Mr. Doell – Yes
Mrs. Luker – Absent
Dr. Varcadipane – Absent
Mr. Yodice – Yes

XIV. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

30. Approval / Disaster Recovery Service

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, System Network Technology Coordinator recommended the Board approve CDI Managed Services in the amount of \$1,865.00 a month with a onetime set up fee of \$1,865.00 for disaster recovery services from November 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. These monies have been approved through the school district’s ESSER II grant, Account # 20-483-400-720-007600-050.

31. Approval / Emergency Connectivity Funding

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, System Network Technology Coordinator recommended the Board approve Emergency Connectivity Funding in the amount of \$130,650.00. These funds will be used for the purchase of technology devices for students.

Mr. D’Angelo made a motion to approve Technology agenda items # 30-31; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Roll Call:

Ms. Brigati - Yes
Dr. Cathcart – Yes
Mr. D’Ambrosio - Yes
Mr. Damiano - Yes

Mr. D’Angelo – Yes
Mr. Doell – Yes
Mrs. Luker – Absent
Dr. Varcadipane – Absent
Mr. Yodice – Yes

XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee

None

Operations Committee

Ms. Brigati stated a meeting was held earlier this evening and the items discussed were as follows: turf field; insurance updated on the fencing, back parking lot, track, all fields needing to be repaired. The committee also discussed access control system/card swipe for staff; security camera system; ESSER funding.

Mr. Healy spoke about the COVID-19 testing procedures as per Governor Murphy's Executive Order for Passaic Valley School District to include Little Falls, Totowa and Woodland Park.

Finance Committee

Mr. Monahan stated the District's audit is scheduled to begin late-November.

Athletic/Student Activities Committee

None

Negotiations Committee

Mr. Monahan stated the district is still waiting for the PVEA to finalize their salary guide and expects to have an agenda item for approval by the October 26th Board meeting.

Public Relations/Student Welfare Committee

None

Policy Committee

None

Technology Committee

Mr. D'Angelo stated a meeting was held this afternoon and the items discussed were as follows: upgrades to the district's website to pvrhs.org; server upgrades; ECF funding for devices – 335 Chrome books being ordered; there is a cost to the Board of \$3,015.00 for Google's White Glove Service and potentially accident coverage; a second round of funding was applied for additional devices. He also discussed disaster recovery as a service; outdoor networking connectivity; and technology improvements to the library.

Ad Hoc Committee

None

Attorney's Report

None

Passaic County School Board's Association – Report of Delegate

None

New Jersey School Board’s Association – Report of Delegate

Mr. D’Angelo stat if anyone would like to attend the New Jersey School Board Association virtual conference it will be held October 26th – 28th.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

XVI. CALL FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Mr. Yodice asked if there were any members of the public to heard.

No one wished to be heard.

Mr. Yodice asked for a motion to close the Public Session.

Mr. Damiano made a motion to close the Public Session; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Yodice asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. D’Ambrosio made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Next Meeting

Regular Meeting:
Tuesday, October 26, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Adra Suchorsky Library
Passaic Valley High School
East Main Street, Little Falls New Jersey