

**Passaic Valley Regional High School
District**

Minutes

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Tuesday, August 20, 2024**

Order of Business

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Tuesday, August 20, 2024

The minutes for the regular meeting of the Passaic Valley Regional High School District in the County of Passaic on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, 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. DELUCA, BOARD VICE PRESIDENT, AT 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call:

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

Mr. Damiano - Yes
Mr. D’Angelo – Absent
Mr. DeLuca - Yes
Mr. DeMarco – Yes
Dr. Varcadipane -Yes

Also Present:

Dr. Bracken Healy, Superintendent of Schools
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 issued notice of this meeting on January 10, 2024, by having the date, time and location of the meeting posted on the bulletin board of Passaic Valley Regional 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.

IV. President's Report

None

V. Acknowledgment of Correspondence To The Board Of Education

None

VI. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. DeLuca asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 30, 2024 Regular and Executive meeting of the board.

Mr. D'Ambrosio made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Regular and Executive meeting of the board for July 30, 2024; seconded by Mr. DeMarco.

Roll Call:

Ms. Brigati – Absent
Mr. Casasnovas – Yes
Dr. Cathcart – Yes
Mr. D'Ambrosio – Yes

Mr. Damiano - Yes
Mr. D'Angelo – Absent
Mr. DeLuca - Yes
Mr. DeMarco – Yes
Dr. Varcadipane -Yes

VII. Report of The Superintendent

Dr. Healy reported that the release of the student schedules went smoothly.

Freshman Orientation is scheduled for Aug. 27th and 28th. This is the 3rd year for orientation. During orientation, the students will have their pictures taken for IDs and receive their Chromebooks.

This is the largest enrolled class since 2017. There are 260 freshmen currently enrolled, with 24 students still to register. Last year's enrollment ended with 1051 students. Current enrollment is 1066 students, with 40 still to register with a 17% increase in enrollment in the previous four years. Passaic Valley has received 15 transfers back from PCTI over the summer.

Fall sports have begun with an increase in the number of students participating.

Facility Updates:

Dr. Healy reported the Guidance office is being painted. The Gris gym has been screened, recoated and court repainted. The Farrell gym has been painted, screened and recoated. The Wrestling gym has been painted, sanded and recoated. The Superintendent's and Business Administrator offices had two walls removed to better use the working space.

VIII. Student Representatives Report

None

IX. Call For Members of The Public To Be Heard

Mr. DeLuca asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Mr. DeMarco made a motion to open the meeting to the public; seconded by Mr. D'Ambrosio.

None

Mr. DeMarco made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Mr. D'Ambrosio.

X. Education Committee

1. Approval / Fundraiser(s)

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

| # | Department | Advisor | Event | Date/Time | Purpose |
|----|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1 | Field Hockey | J. Suarez | Chipotle Dine and Donate | 9/4/24 All day | Field Hockey program and events |
| 2 | Field Hockey | J. Suarez | BSN Sports Online Clothing Store | 08/21/24- 08/31/24 | Field Hockey program and events |
| 3 | Field Hockey | J. Suarez | Online Crowd Funding "Snap Raise" | 9/2024 - 10/2024 | Post season dinner and awards |
| 4 | Boys & Girls Cross Country | W. Bleuler | Wendy's Dine & Donate | 09/18/24 | Seniors and end of the year dinner |
| 5 | Future Business Leaders of America | L. Kurtishi | Wendy's Dine & Donate | 9/11/24 5:00-8:00pm | Consumer Bowl Competition |
| 6 | Class of 2026 | L. Kurtishi | Wendy's Dine & Donate | 9/25/24 5:00-8:00pm | Junior Prom |
| 7 | Girls Tennis | J. Holsworth | Online Popcorn Sale | 8/25/24 – 9/9/24 | Off-season training and end of the season dinner |
| 8 | Class of 2025 | E. Thornton | LF ShopRite Can Shake | 9/28/24 | Senior Prom |
| 9 | Class of 2025 | E. Thornton | Chipotle Dine and Donate | 10/22/24 | Senior Prom |
| 10 | Math Honor Society | E. Thornton | Chipotle Dine and Donate | 11/19/24 | Club Apparel |
| 11 | Gymnastics | J. Agosta | LF ShopRite Can Shake | 9/21/24 | End of the year dinner and team gifts |
| 12 | Girls Soccer | M. Salvatore | Online Crowd Funding "Snap Raise" | 9/2024 - 10/2024 | Post season dinner and awards |

2. Approval / 2024-2025 Substitute Teachers

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following substitute teachers at the per diem substitute rate for the 2024-2025 school year.

- Gay Boyle

3. Approval / McKinney-Vento Intent to Collaborate Contract

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the 2024-2025 McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program LEA General intent to collaborate (Applicant Agency: Bergen County Special Services)

Education Committee

4. Approval / Substitute Pay Rate 2024-2025

The Superintendent recommended approval of substitute pay rates for the 2024-2025 school year.

- \$135.00 Permanent Sub
- \$115.00 Daily Sub

5. Approval / Use of Facilities

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following use of facilities:

| # | Department | Requested by | Area | Equipment | Date/Time | Purpose |
|---|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Op Grad | Damaris Noriega | Back parking lot | Water hose | 9/7/24 12pm-3pm Rain date: 9/8/24 9am-1pm | Op Grad |
| 2 | LF Tri-Town Cross Country | Little Falls Rec | Campus grounds. No indoor use of PV. | n/a | 9/2024 - 10/2024 Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:30pm-8pm | Program Practices |
| 3 | LF Tri-Town Cross Country | Little Falls Rec | Campus grounds. No indoor use of PV. | n/a | 9/21/24 at 3pm | Cross Country Meet |

6. Approval / Care Plus Bergen Inc./Bergen New Bridge Medical Center Contracts

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following contracts with Care Plus Bergen Inc./Bergen New Bridge Medical Center for the 2024-2025 school year. The following services to be provided.

- Teen T.H.R.I.V.E. Program for Substance Abuse Testing Services
- Behavioral Health Outpatient Program for Psychiatric Evaluation and Clearance

7. Approval / 2024-2025 Tech Team

The Superintendent recommended the following persons for the Tech Team 2024-2025 school year to provide technical support to staff and students for devices, programs, platforms and hosting PD sessions regarding tech updates. Each to receive a stipend of \$4,000.00 paid through ESEA Title I accounts 20-237-100-100-007600-050.

- Matt Youngberg
- Jamie Picarelli

Education Committee

8. Approval / Mentors 2024-2025

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following novice teacher mentor assignments:

| <u>Novice teacher</u> | <u>Mentor</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| • Hurta, Jared | Megan Miele |
| • Tawara, Oraib | TBD |

9. Approval / 2024-2025 Lead Teachers

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following lead teachers for the 2024-2025 school year. Stipend \$4,500.00 per teacher. Monies in the amount of \$31,500.00, charged to ESEA Title I Acct #20-237-200-100-007600-050.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| English K. Dellanno | Mathematics S. Sileo | PE/Health M. Couden | Science S. Iobst |
| World Language L. Zulic | Social Studies N. Colon | Fine & Performing Arts J. Chelel | |

10. Approval / Revised William Paterson University Academic Transition Program 2023-2024

The Superintendent recommended the retroactive approval for the revised contract for student 1800669 at William Paterson University reflecting a change from four days a week to three days a week for 2023-2024.

11. Approval / 2024-2025 Out of District Placement

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education approve the following out of district placement(s):

| | Student ID | Location | Cost |
|---|-------------------|--|--|
| 1 | 938248 | High Point School of Bergen County 45 Spring Street Lodi, NJ | \$ 7,936.84 ESY \$63,839.80 Tuition <i>\$71,776.64 Total</i> |
| 2 | 18002 | New Bridges High School 296 East Ridgewood Ave Paramus, NJ 07652 | \$85,095.00 Tuition \$ 7,254.00 Non Resident Fee \$92,349.00 Total |
| 3 | 31391 | Windsor Prep High School 60 West Midland Ave Paramus, NJ 07652 | \$ 9,539.70 ESY \$58,192.17 Tuition \$67,731.87 Total |

12. Approval / Move on the Guide

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following Move on the Guide request as of September 1, 2024:

- Marc Salvatore Step 19 Class 3

Education Committee

13. Approval / New Course Curricula for Adoption

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following courses as per NJDOE guidelines for curricular implementation:

- Social Media Marketing
- Freshman Seminar
- True Crime
- American History Through Film
- Digital Marketing
- English Applications

14. Approval / Revised Course Curricula for Adoption

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following course revisions as per NJDOE guidelines for curricular implementation:

- Sociology
- Media and Pop Culture
- Intro to Art
- Photography
- Entrepreneurship
- Entertainment Marketing
- Audio Visual Production
- Creative Coding

15. Approval / Summer Curriculum Writing - New Course

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following curriculum writing position for a new course. Position compensated at PVEA contractual rate (\$37/hr.)

- American Sign Language (1 teacher, 20 hours) - O. Tawara

16. Approval / Revised Emergency Management Procedures School Safety & Security Plan

The Superintendent recommended approval of the revised Emergency Management Procedures School Safety & Security Plan.

Education Committee

17. Approval / District Goals 2024-2025

The Superintendent recommended approval of the 2024-2025 District Goals.

18. Approval / Ms. Victoria Hunt, Resignation

The Superintendent retroactively recommended the approval of the resignation of Ms. Victoria Hunt, PV/Bergen ABA Paraprofessional. Effective 8/13/2024.

19. Approval / 2024 Part Time ABA/PVRHS Paraprofessionals & Bus Aides

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following part time ABA/PVRHS Paraprofessionals & Bus Aides for the 2024-2025 school year, rate \$23.00/hour, up to 29.5 hours/week, no benefits. Start date pending receipt of criminal history and all required paperwork.

- Ms. Ashley Leon
- Ms. Hilaida Minoso

20. Approval / 2024 Part Time PVRHS Paraprofessional

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following part time PVRHS Paraprofessional for the 2024-2025 school year, rate \$20.00/hour, up to 29.5 hours/week, no benefits. Start date pending receipt of criminal history and all required paperwork.

- Ms. Hajaleh Balloutine

21. Approval/ Field Trip(s)

The Superintendent recommended approval of the for the following field trip(s):

| | Department | Teacher/ Advisor | Event | Date/Time/Location | Purpose |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Gymnastics | J. Agosta | Gold Over America | Oct. 1, 2024/ 6:00pm-10:30pm/ Prudential Center, Newark, NJ | Learn about gymnastics and team bonding. Approx 12 students & 2 team coaches. Cost to BOE: PV Bus |
| 2 | Gymnastics | J. Agosta | Corrado's Haunted Hayride | Oct. 11, 2024/ 3:45pm-10:00pm/ Hackettstown, NJ | Team bonding. Approx 12 students & 2 team coaches. Cost to BOE: PV Bus |

22. Alternate Representative – Northern Region Educational Services Commission

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Passaic Valley Regional High School Board of Education, appoints Ms. Krista Voorhis as an alternate board representative to the Northern Region Educational Service Commission.

Education Committee

23. Approval / 2024-2025 Part Time Title I Instructional Paraprofessionals

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following part time Title I instructional paraprofessionals for the 2024-2025 school year. Rate \$27.00/hour, up to 29 hours/week, no benefits. Account #20-237-100-100-007600-050.

- Haynes, Betty
- Vilchez, Zulema

24. Approval / 2024-2025 Part Time Title I CST Instructional Paraprofessionals

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following part time Title I CST instructional paraprofessional for the 2024-2025 school year. Rate \$20.00/hour, up to 29 hours/week, no benefits. Account #20-237-100-100-007600-050.

- Bleuler, Walter

Mr. Casasnovas made a motion to approve Education items 1 – 24; seconded by Mr. D’Ambrosio.

Roll Call:

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

Mr. Damiano - Yes
Mr. D’Angelo – Absent
Mr. DeLuca - Yes
Mr. DeMarco – Yes
Dr. Varcadipane -Yes

XI. Finance Committee

25. Approval / August 2024 Monthly Bills List

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:19, Expenditure of Funds; Audit and Payment of Claims, provides Board of Education to make payments on claims for goods received and services rendered payable to the order of the person entitled to receive the amount after approval by the Board; or in accordance with payrolls duly certified; or debt service or when provided by resolution approval by a person designated by the Board, and

WHEREAS, the following bill lists are drawn from the Authorization checking account and is being presented to the Board with the recommendation that it be paid:

| Date | Check Numbers | Total Amount |
|---------|---------------|---------------|
| 8/21/24 | Pending | \$ 402,708.51 |

WHEREAS, each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and audited as required by law in accordance with, N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Passaic Valley Regional High School Board of Education approved the above bill list from the Authorization checking account, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Passaic Valley Regional High School Board of Education authorized the School Business Administrator to pay bills between board meetings if it is determined that a need arises prior to the next board meeting in accordance with Policy 6470 – Payment of Claims.

26. Acceptance of the Board Secretary’s Report, Cash Reconciler’s Cash Report and the Board Secretary’s Certification of Funds for the Month of June 2024 / Preliminary

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 requires the Board Secretary and the Passaic Valley Regional High School Board of Education to certify that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that the sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligation, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 further requires the Passaic Valley Regional High School Board of Education receive and accept the monthly financial statements, the Board Secretary’s Report and the Cash Reconciler’s Cash report; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary Board Secretary’s Report and the Cash Reconciler’s Cash report for the month ending June 30, 2024 for the Board to accept;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Passaic Valley Regional High School Board of Education acknowledged receipt of and accepted the preliminary Board Secretary’s Report and the Cash Reconciler’s Cash report for the month ending June 30, 2024, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary and the Board of Education certified that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that there are sufficient funds available to meet the District’s financial obligation.

Finance Committee

27. Approval of 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. LoPorto | Lunch Balance Refund | 1405 | \$ 56.20 |
| NRESC | Nutrition Ad | 1406 | \$ 100.00 |
| Advanced Plumbing | Jet Clean 8" Pipe to Cafe | 1407 | \$ 800.00 |
| United Cleaning | Power Wash Hood | 1408 | \$ 580.00 |
| Pomptonian | Inv # 671063024 | 1409 | \$ 9,024.80 |
| Advanced Plumbing | Cleaning Grease Traps | 1410 | \$ 237.00 |

28. Approval of Line-Item Budget Transfers – June 2024

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board approve the following line-item transfers to include administrative cost budget transfers for the month of June 2024 as presented.

29. Acceptance of Preliminary Financial Status Report – June 2024

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board accept the preliminary Financial Status Report for the month of June 2024, as presented.

30. Acceptance of Revenue Report – June 2024

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board accept the Revenue Report for the month of June 2024 as presented.

31. Approval of Additional Compensatory Special Education Aid 2023-2024

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended approval of the Additional Compensatory Special Education aid in the amount of \$79,901.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.

32. Approval / 2024-2025 School Year Tuition Contract PCTVS

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator, presented for approval the 2024-2025 School Year Tuition Contract for Passaic County Technical Vocational Institute (PCTVS): \$3,987,088.00 (367 students).

Finance Committee

33. Approval of Media Center Projector – Title IV Revised

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary recommended the Board approve the Title IV account adjustments for the Epson PowerLife Laser Projector and screen in the amount of \$9,997.00.

From

Accounts:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 20-280-100-600-007600-050 | \$ 5,219.00 |
| 20-280-200-500-007600-050 | \$ 2,243.00 |
| 20-280-400-731-007600-050 | <u>\$ 2,535.00</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 9,997.00</u> |

To

Accounts:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 20-280-100-600-007600-050 | \$ 440.00 |
| 20-280-400-720-007600-050 | <u>\$ 9,557.00</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 9,997.00</u> |

Dr. Varcadipane made a motion to approve Finance items 25 – 33; seconded by Mr. D’Ambrosio.

Roll Call:

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Ms. Brigati – Absent | Mr. Damiano - Yes |
| Mr. Casasnovas – Yes | Mr. D’Angelo – Absent |
| Dr. Cathcart – Yes | Mr. DeLuca - Yes |
| Mr. D’Ambrosio – Yes (Abstained #25 PO # 2500157) | Dr. Varcadipane -Yes |
| Mr. DeMarco – Yes | |

XII. Operation Committee

34. Appointment / Operational Staff

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, recommended the Board appoint Mr. Dominic Amatucci Jr. as a Night Custodial Operations Staff member for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Amatucci will begin work on or about September 1, 2024, at a prorated salary of Step-1, \$43,361.00 of the contractual Operational Staff salary guide. Mr. Amatucci's employment is contingent on a successful criminal history review, receipt of Sexual Misconduct forms and TB test.

35. Approval of Renovations and Repairs

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, retroactively recommended the Board approve the renovation and repairs to the Superintendent's office in the amount of \$8,250.00 to Mulligan Construction Company LLC.

Mr. Damiano made a motion to approve Operations items 34 – 35; seconded by Mr. D'Ambrosio.

Roll Call:

Ms. Brigati – Absent
Mr. Casasnovas – Yes
Dr. Cathcart – Yes
Mr. D'Ambrosio – Yes

Mr. Damiano - Yes
Mr. D'Angelo – Absent
Mr. DeLuca - Yes
Mr. DeMarco – Yes
Dr. Varcadipane -Yes

XIII. Committee Reports

Mr. D'Ambrosio asked Mr. Monahan to start the process for negotiations with the Custodians and Administrative Assistants. Mr. Monahan said he would speak with both unions.

Attorney's Report

None

Passaic County School Board's Association – Report of Delegate

None

New Jersey School Board's Association – Report of Delegate

None

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Call For Members of The Public To Be Heard

Mr. DeMarco made a motion to open the meeting to the public; seconded by Mr. D'Ambrosio.

None

Mr. DeMarco made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Mr. D'Ambrosio.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

Mr. DeMarco asked for a motion to adjourn.
Mr. D'Ambrosio made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Casasnovas.

Respectfully submitted,



Colin Monahan

Next Meeting

Regular Meeting:
Tuesday, September 24, 2024, 7:00 pm
Adra Suchorsky Library
Passaic Valley High School
East Main Street
Little Falls, New Jersey