

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

***MINUTES***

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

**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, October 11, 2022**

The minutes for the regular meeting of the Passaic Valley Regional High School District #1 in the County of Passaic on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 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 DR. VARCADIPANE, BOARD PRESIDENT,  
AT 7:00 P.M.**

Roll Call:

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

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

**Also Present:**

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

Abigail Kosch, Student Representative

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. READING OF ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mr. Monahan read the Public Notice.

**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 8, 2022, 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, the Business Administrator of Woodland Park and sent to those persons requesting that such notice be mailed to them.**

**IV. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. D’Angelo welcomed Abigail Kosch, Student Representative, to the meeting.

**V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

None

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTS OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Mr. D’Angelo asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular and Executive meetings of September 20, 2022, of the Passaic Valley Regional High School District #1 Board of Education.

Mr. Yodice made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular and Executive meetings of September 20, 2022, of the Passaic Valley Regional High School District #1 Board of Education; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Roll Call:

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

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

**VII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Healy spoke about the 2021-2022 school year HIB (harassment/intimidation/bullying) Report and Self-Assessment report. He reported last year there were only 22 HIB investigations which were alleged and only three (3) resulting in an HIB. This number is down drastically since pre-pandemic levels. He stated he is happy to see the levels of HIB are dropping which means students are making better choices. The District is trending in the right direction.

Dr. Healy stated he would also like to report on the HIB and Self-Assessment which Passaic Valley scored a 70 out of a possible 78 points, which is up three (3) points from last year. He stated there are in-service and mandatory trainings that have been put into place.

The Board reviewed, accepted and approved the HIB/Self-Assessment report.

Dr. Healy gave an update on Tutor.com. He stated there up to 300 student sessions, which is equivalent to \$30,000.00. The budgeted amount was \$33,000.00 and Passaic Valley is getting a great return on their investment. Students are using Tutor.com at all different hours, before and after school and weekends. Students are now accessing the PSAT Prep documents and doing some SAT work.

Dr. Healy stated Niche.com scores came out. He explained Niche.com is unique. It is really the only database for school assessments that utilizes actual data that can't be fictitious, which means they pull data from the New Jersey Department of Education and they pull data from the Civil Rights Data Collection. Passaic Valley scored an A- which was the highest score the district ever received and we are in the top 6 of schools for Passaic County.

**VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Abigail Kosch, Student Representative spoke about the great start to the school year and that there is a huge increase in student activities. She further stated that Tutor.com has been very helpful.

**IX. CALL FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

None

**X. EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**1. Approval / 2022-2023 Facility Home Instruction**

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education approve the following home instruction:

Student ID	Instructor	Cost
33427	Learn Well 2 A Main Street Plymouth, MA	\$52.75 per hour, 10 hours per week

**2. Approval / Passaic Valley Volunteer Math Peer Tutors Program**

The Superintendent recommended approval of Passaic Valley Student Volunteers for math peer tutoring, off site (i.e. local libraries) and outside of school hours.

**3. Approval / Part-time Paraprofessional Termination**

The Superintendent recommended acceptance of the termination of the following Part-time Paraprofessionals:

Id	As of
#4880	09/29/2022
#4924	10/07/2022

**4. Approval / Freshman Class Field Trip**

The Superintendent recommended approval for the freshmen class to attend Berkeley College 10/12/2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Transportation to be provided by PVRHS. No cost to BOE.

**5. Approval / Field Trip**

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

	Department	Teacher/ Advisor	Event	Date/Time/Location	Purpose
1	Gymnastics	Agosta	Corrado's Haunted Hay Ride	10/14/22 3:45-9:45pm 671 Mt. Bethel Rd. Hackettstown, NJ	Team bonding Approx 11 students, 2 staff No cost to BOE
2	Gymnastics	Agosta	Medieval Times	11/18/22 6:15-10:00pm 149 Polito Ave Lyndhurst, NJ	Team bonding Approx 11 students, 2 staff No cost to BOE
3	SAC	Morris	Passaic County Teen Summit	10/21/22 8:30am-1:00pm William Paterson University 300 Pompton Rd. Wayne, NJ	Empower students to make positive decisions, to resist peer pressure and to be active in the community Approx 10 students, 2 staff Cost to BOE – 1 substitute

**Education Committee**

**6. Approval / Fundraiser(s)**

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

	<b>Department</b>	<b>Teacher/ Advisor</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Date/Time/Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
1	Student Senate	Grande	Carnation Sale	2/ 8-10/22 (delivery) 2/14/22 In school	Raise funds for Student Senate
2	Gymnastics	Agosta	Can Shake	10/22/22 or 10/29/22 TBD ShopRite-Little Falls, NJ	Raise funds for end of year dinner
3	Class of 2023	S. Iobst/Feo	Senior Sunrise & Bagels	10/14/22 At Sunrise In school	Raise funds for prom

**7. Approval / 2022-2023 Behavior Analysis Home Programming Consultation**

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education retroactively approve the following behavior analysis home programming consultation:

Student ID	Location	Cost
19018	Bergen County Special Services Educational Enterprises Division 540 Fairview Ave Paramus, NJ	\$14,100.00

**8. Report of HIB**

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

<b>Incident #</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Consequences</b>	<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Other Action</b>	<b>Determination</b>
2223-01	Library	None	None	None	Not HIB
2223-02	Field, Social Media	Saturday Detention	Meetings with Mr. Settembre. and with Ms. Pasquariello	None	HIB

**9. Approval / Nicole Pirolo, ABA Part-time Paraprofessional**

The Superintendent recommended approval of Nicole Pirolo as a Part-time ABA Paraprofessional at the rate of \$18.00/per hour; Part-time Bus Aide \$18.00/per hour; edo benefits; up to 29 hours per week. Start date pending receipt of paperwork and criminal history.

**Education Committee**

**10. Approval of Shared Services Agreement Bergen County Special Services Addendum 2022-2023 Revised**

WHEREAS the Passaic Valley Board of Education and Bergen County Special Services School District are parties to a Shared Services Service Agreement providing for BCSS’s provisions of services for the BCSS/Passaic Valley Collaborative Program for pupils with similar intensive educational, behavioral and other needs related to their disabilities; and

WHEREAS the parties wish to continue the services of and renew the above-referenced Agreement through the 2022-2023 school year and seek to amend certain portions of the Agreement per the attached addendum.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Passaic Valley Board of Education ratified and approved the Addendum for the 2022-2023 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator be and is hereby authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

**11. Approval / 2022-2023 William Paterson University Academic Transition Program Tuition Revised**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the revised shared times program tuition for the following student.

- ID 20159 (CK) Original Tuition \$8,600.00 (\$4,300.00 per semester) M-F to Tuition \$ 7,000.00 (\$3,500.00 per semester) M-F

**12. Approval / 2022-2023 Out of District Placement - Rescinded**

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education approve to rescind the following out of district placement:

	Student ID	Location	Cost
1	0549	Randolph Township BOE 25 School House Rd Randolph, NJ	Tuition: \$70,000.00

**13. The Superintendent reported the following attendance for September 2022:**

School days included	19.00
Possible days attendance	19.00
Possible number of days school has been open	19.00
Possible number of days attendance	19,602.00
Days absent	841.00
Percent of attendance	95.7%
Average daily attendance	1,031.68

**Education Committee**

**14. Approval of Superintendent District Goals 2022-2023**

The Superintendent presented the 2022-2023 Superintendent District Goals for approval.

**15. Report of Suspensions**

The Superintendent reported and requested approval of suspensions for September 2022.

**16. Review and Approval of the HIB Grade for the 2021-2022 School Year**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the HIB Grade for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

**17. Approval / 2022-2023 Clinical Fieldwork Experience**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following clinical placements:

- Carolynn Hidalgo, Caldwell University. Observation, 2 hours by 1/23/23. J. Feinstein supervising
- Shannon DiCristina, Fairleigh Dickinson University. Observation: 60 hours or 10 days by 1/23/23. C. Joseph supervising
- James Nelson, William Paterson University. Clinical II. 1 semester, 5 days/week 1/23/23 - 5/12/23. M. DeLuccia supervising

**18. Approval / New Course Curricula for Adoption**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following courses as per DOE guidelines to begin by fall 2023:

- Intro to Dance (1005)
- Intermediate/Advanced Dance (1006)

**19. Approval / Public Health related Closure Preparedness Plan**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the Public Health-related Closure Preparedness Plan: Virtual/Remote Instruction.

**20. Approval / Instructional Supplies – ESEA Title I**

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following Instructional Supplies for Assessment and Curriculum Platforms through ESEA Title I. Account # 20-237-100-600-007600-050.

Edulastic	\$12,375.00
Zip Grade	\$594.00
EdPuzzle	\$2,450.00
All Things Algebra	\$ 1,390.00

**Education Committee**

- 21. Approval / Peter Biddiscombe, ABA Instructional Support**  
The Superintendent recommended the approval of Peter Biddiscombe, as a Part-time ABA Instructional Support, \$22.00/per hour, not to exceed 29.5 hours, no benefits for the 2022-2023 school year. Start date 10/12/22.
  
- 22. Approval / Travel Expense - 2022 NJSBA Annual Workshop**  
The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, recommended the Board approve the travel expense for the 2022 NJSBA Annual Workshop in Atlantic City for Ms. Brigati, and Dr. Healy.

Ms. Luker made a motion to move Education items 1 – 22; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Roll Call:

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

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

**XI. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**23. 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:

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Check #</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Pomptonian	Inv#671090922	1290	\$11,350.43
Pomptonian	Inv#671091622	1291	\$14,647.78
Pomptonian	Inv#671092322	1292	\$2,492.75
Pomptonian	Inv#671093022	1293	\$26,359.06

**24. 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 Districts’ dental benefits from November 1, 2022 through October 31, 2023.

**25. 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, 2022 to October 31, 2023. There will be a zero percent increase in the rate during this time period.

Mr. Yodice made a motion to move Finance items 23 - 25; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Roll Call:

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

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

## **XII. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

### **26. Approval Use of Facilities**

The Superintendent recommended the following use of facilities requests:  
All outside organizations (not school related) must file proof of insurance with Passaic Valley High School before the commencement of their designated event, including any preparation before if necessary.

- **Passaic Valley Jr. Hornets Travel Baseball**

*Sunday October 16, 2022 - (7pm - 8pm)* - Use of Turf and Lights for presentation of awards for several championship teams from the 2022 baseball season. Press Box & Microphone will be used. PVHS Director of Athletics will be the point of contact for all set up and access.

- **Passaic Valley Jr. Hornets Wrestling**

*Sunday October 23, 2022 - (9am - 11am)* - Open House style question/answer period to help promote registrations. 9-11am in the PVHS Wrestling Gym. PVHS Director of Athletics will be the point of contact for all set up and access.  
Regular practices Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the PVHS Wrestling Gym from 6-8:30pm. November 10, 2022 - February 28, 2023. Schedule to be coordinated with PVHS Director of Athletics. All PVHS events will hold preference when scheduling.

- **Woodland Park Recreation Dept. Basketball**

Boys & Girls Youth Basketball practices 2 nights per week from 6-9pm starting December 5, 2022 and running through February 28, 2023. Schedule to be coordinated with PVHS Director of Athletics. All PVHS events will hold preference when scheduling.

- **Little Falls Recreation Dept. Basketball**

Boys & Girls Youth Basketball practices 2 nights per week from 6-9pm starting December 5, 2022 and running through February 28, 2023. Schedule to be coordinated with PVHS Director of Athletics. All PVHS events will hold preference when scheduling.

- **Little Falls PBA 346 Annual Breakfast**

Little Falls PBA 346 to hold annual pancake breakfast using the PVHS cafeteria December 10, 2022, their ovens, coffee makers and tables. Approximately 200 persons from 7am-12pm.

### **27. Approval Dispose of Textbooks**

The Superintendent recommended the approval to dispose of the following outdated and obsolete Health Text Books:

- 61 Drive Right Text Books 10th Edition
- 16 Drive Right Text Books 9th Edition
- 128 ARC - First Aid Participant Manuals (Copyright 2011)
- 22 ARC - First Aid Participant Manual (Copyright 2016)
- 28 ARC - Responding to Emergencies (Copyright 2012)

**Operations Committee**

**28. Approval of PPE Supplies – ESSER II**

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator, recommended the Board retroactively approve the purchase of PPE supplies in the amount of \$104,166.58 through the grant period of September 2021 to June 2022. These monies have been approved through the school district's ESSER II Grant, Account # 20-483-200-600-007600-050.

**29. Approval of Water Cooler Stations – ESSER II**

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Business Administrator, recommended the Board approve to transfer the amount of \$5,225.00 from Account #11-000-263-610-00600-050 to Account #20-483-720-00600-050 (ESSER II) for the purchase of four water cooler stations from General Plumbing Supply Inc.

**30. Approval Of Athletic Equipment**

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Athletic Director, recommended the purchase of Track and Field Equipment in the amount of \$30,260.00 from Richey Athletics. This equipment is being replaced due to the September 1, 2021, flood. Monies reimbursed to the district through FEMA will be used to purchase this equipment.

**31. Approval of Furniture – ARP ESSER III**

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary recommended the Board retroactively approve the purchase of classroom furniture (Student Stools) in the amount of \$1,637.48 from Lee Distributors Inc. The monies will be charged to ARP ESSER III Acct # 20-487-200-600-007600-050.

**32. Approval / Emergency Exit Drills**

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended authorization to conduct Emergency Exit Drills with First Student and Trans-Ed for all Passaic Valley High School bus routes. Also, to include Passaic Valley Busses and buses from various boards of education participating in the PV/ABA Program. Drills will be scheduled in accordance with NJAC:6:21-11.4 at dates in October to be determined based on weather conditions.

**Operations Committee**

Mr. Damiano made a motion to move Operation items 26 - 32; seconded by Ms. Brigati.

Roll Call:

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

Mr. D'Angelo - Yes  
Mr. Doell - Yes  
Ms. Luker - Yes  
Dr. Varcadipane - Absent  
Mr. Yodice - Yes

**XIII. ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

**33. Approval / Revision, 2022-2023 Schedule B Stipend**

The Superintendent recommended approval to revise the 2022-2023 Schedule B stipend retroactive to September 1, 2022, as follows:

**FROM**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Marching Band Assistant Director	C. DeWilde	\$5,155.00
Marching Band Arranger	J. Butcher	\$2,400.00

**TO**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Marching Band Assistant Director	J. Butcher	\$5,155.00
Marching Band Arranger	C. DeWilde	\$2,400.00

**34. Approval Volunteer 2022-2023 Wrestling Coach**

The Superintendent recommended the approval of Volunteer Wrestling Coach Lou Racanelli pending all paperwork and background checks.

**35. Approval Fall 2022 Stipends**

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator recommended the Board approve the following stipends:

All approvals are pending completion of criminal history.

Mike Yesenosky	Fall Play Sound Technician	\$1,500.00
Nick Marmo	Fall Play Lighting Designer	\$1,500.00

Mr. Damiano made a motion to move Athletics and Activities items 33 - 35; seconded by Ms. Luker.

Roll Call:

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

Mr. D'Angelo - Yes  
Mr. Doell - Yes  
Ms. Luker - Yes  
Dr. Varcadipane - Absent  
Mr. Yodice - Yes

**XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Policy Committee**

Ms. Brigati stated the Policy Committee met earlier that evening before the Board of Education meeting and they reviewed the Use of Facilities policy.

Mr. Monahan stated he is going to add verbiage regarding the window of opportunity for Class I users; discussion and potential approval for the next board meeting.

Mr. D'Angelo stated there are three (3) different priority classes for rental of the field and/or facilities. There will also be a timeframe for rental requests for scheduling.

**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**

Mr. Monahan stated the District will be posting for an additional part-time security officer and a full-time custodial position.

**XV. CALL FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

None

**XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Reddin stated there is one (1) legal item for Executive Session.

Mr. Monahan stated there is one (1) personnel item for Executive Session which should take approximately 10 minutes.

Mr. D'Angelo asked for a motion to enter Executive Session.

Ms. Brigati made a motion for Executive Session; seconded by Ms. Luker.

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**  
**Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

---

Roll Call:

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

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

Return from Executive Session:

Roll Call:

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

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

**XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. D’Angelo asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Yodice made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Luker.

Regular Meeting:  
Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.  
Adra Suchorsky Library  
Passaic Valley High School  
East Main Street  
Little Falls, New Jersey