

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education Workshop Meeting held on Tuesday, May 2nd, here is what you missed:

Dr. Labbe began the presentation portion of the meeting by asking Mr. Ciak to assist him in recognizing and honoring the below 2016-17 Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) Top Ten (based on grade point average) 12th Grade Students.

Michele George Philip	- Valedictorian
Rahi Parikh	- Salutarian
Ankitha Harish Dindigal	
Jinal Desai	
Quratulain Annie Butt	
Michael Brandao	
Victoria Isabelle Pusung	
Sarah Squillace	
Rhea Soman	
Jonathan Kong	

Next, Mrs. Bloom assisted Dr. Labbe in honoring Christopher Colucci and Bianca Kuzma, the SWMHS 12th and 11th grade students who back in March were honored by the Middlesex County School Boards Association/Middlesex County Association of School Administrators during their 2017 Student Recognition Dinner. Finally, Mr. Esposito assisted Dr. Labbe in recognizing the SWMHS Odyssey of the Mind Team students on Problem 2 Team, who were recently crowned State Champions and now have an opportunity to represent Sayreville and New Jersey at the World Finals in Michigan.

During this meeting, the Board of Education also held its mandatory public hearing for the 2017-18 School District Budget. Prior to giving his budget presentation, Dr. Labbe commended Ms. Hill, the school district Business Administrator, and the Board of Education Finance Committee for once again working collaboratively with the Sayreville staff and community to develop a budget that was fiscally responsible and in alignment with Vision 2030 and the rigorous student achievement and business efficiency goals that have been established in pursuit of it. He also expressed that although Sayreville continues to operate about \$19,000,000 below state adequate funding levels, as set forth in the current school funding formula, the district will remain vigilant in allocating the necessary monies to promote the optimum outcomes for its students and is hopeful that a change will eventually be made in Trenton.

During his slide show presentation, which can be viewed by clicking [here](#), Dr. Labbe communicated that despite the aforementioned state funding fiscal challenges, as well as increases in student enrollment, rapidly aging facilities, and potential salary wage increases due to the fact that the Board is currently in collective bargaining with each unit of employees in the district, the District and Finance Committee was able to prepare and present to the Board a fiscally responsible budget that addresses the needs of the district and the goals approved by the Board of Education earlier in the school year. He concluded by indicating that this year's \$91,582,253 budget, which includes a 2.0% tax levy increase, will result in a \$78.90 tax increase for the average Sayreville home assessed at \$144,000. Click [here](#) to see the User Friendly

Budget and [here](#) to see all the information and presentations pertaining to the development of 2017-18 Budget.

The Board then moved action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda.

Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the Board approved a resolution adopting the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 for the School District General Fund Budget of \$85,890,544.00, including a local tax levy \$60,289,602. In addition, the BOE approved a resolution authorizing to pay the DI Architectural Group to update the district's Long Range Facility Plan and it approved the 2017-18 Horizon medical, CVS/Caremark prescription, Delta Dental, and Healthplex Dental insurance coverage rates. It also approved a resolution authorizing the sale of surplus property through GovDeals pursuant to its state contract; several building permits, some for a fee in accordance with the district Use of Facilities Fee Schedule; several student trips with transportation costs; a tuition, related services, and bussing contract with the Newark Board of Education (sending) for a preschool child with a disability to attend the Preschool Disabilities Full Day Program at Samsel Upper Elementary School for the 2016-17 school year; and it approved bid specifications for student transportation services for the 2017-18 school year. Furthermore, the Board accepted donations from the Samsel Upper Elementary School PTO for the purchase and installation of window blinds for classroom doors and from Carpets & More for preprinted t-shirts carrying the Sayreville War Memorial High School logo. Finally, the Board of Education approved the renewal of general and special education transportation routes at a 0% increase for school year 2017-2018, an OOD tuition contract for a student with a disability, bedside tutoring, Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired services, and the purchase of an Amigo transmitter and Amigo Star for a student with a hearing impairment.

On the Vision 2030 Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board approved resolutions commending and honoring the 2016-17 SWMHS Top 10 Students and MCSBA/MCASA Student Recognition Recipients, as well as several co-curricular activities.

On the Vision 2030 Governance portion of the agenda, the Board approved the April 2017 HIB Report, including any investigations and/or recommendations for action provided by the Superintendent. In addition, the BOE approved the Teamsters Local 469 Holiday Schedule for the 2017-2018 school year. It also approved a Memorandum of Agreement with the Sayreville Principal Association and authorized the central administration to finalize the collective bargaining agreement between the Sayreville Board of Education and the Sayreville Principals' Association covering the period from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020. Finally, the Board of Education approved for a second reading and adopted Regulation 5141.21 –Administration of Medication.

On the Vision 2030 Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirements of Joseph Abruscato, School Counselor at SWMHS and Joanne Young, a secretary in the Transportation Department. Likewise, the BOE approved several leave of absences (LOA) for 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years, and appointed a retired United States Air Force commissioned and non-commissioned officer to teach and work for 11 months in the Air Force Junior ROTC Program at Sayreville War Memorial High School for the

2017-18 school year. In addition, the Board hired a certificated and non-certificated substitute, approved of several teachers to work as Sayreville University presenters, and appointed the #2 Assistant Band Advisor for the 2017-18 school year. Finally, the Board of Education amended class coverage rates for several teachers who are covering for a mathematics teacher at SWMHS, who is currently on an approved LOA, and approved several professional days.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, a community member provided feedback to the Board on the proposed Administration of Medication Regulation that was read for a second time by the BOE during the meeting. Another community member reported a concern to the Board about an HIB investigation that involved his child. Finally, another community member expressed her support for the 2017-18 School District Budget and commended the high school administration for consistently updating the school's information on its electronic sign in front of the school.

During open discussion, Mrs. DePinto reviewed what was discussed during the last BOE Student Achievement Committee Meeting, as did Mr. Walsh with regard to the last BOE Personnel Committee Meeting. The Board then engaged in dialogue about the 2015-16 graduation rate and state percentile ranking reported in the SWMHS NJ Performance Report, which can be found on the district website (click [here](#)). After that, Mrs. Bloom commented about the staff morale survey response she recently received from the Sayreville Principals' Association. Similarly, Mrs. Batko elaborated on the Sayreville Supervisors' Association survey response that Mrs. Bloom reported during the April 18th BOE Meeting. Finally, upon the request of Dr. Labbe and Ms. Hill, the Board approved a motion to hold a special BOE meeting on June 13th so that the district could award the bid for the Truman Elementary School Partition Project.

If you would like to view the meeting PowerPoint presentation, click [here](#). Likewise, to see the video of this meeting, click [here](#).

The next meeting, which is scheduled to take place on **Tuesday, May 16, 2017**, will be a business meeting. If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, please visit the BOE Agenda page on our website when it is posted in the evening on **Friday, May 12th**. In addition, a complete copy of the May 2nd meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next Business Meeting on **May 16, 2017**.