

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education Workshop Meeting held on Tuesday, April 5th, here is what you missed:

During this meeting the Board of Education (BOE) and Central Administration were joined by more than a dozen 5th graders from the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES) as part of the annual “Let the Children Lead” program. During this very popular and unique activity, the 5th grade students who participated actually applied to perform in the capacity of a specific board of education member or administrator. Thus, except for a few occasions, the 5th grade representatives for each, including Ms. Maher, Principal of SUES and Mr. Nurnberger, Assistant Principal of SUES, voted and commented publicly on behalf of the BOE member or administrator who they represented.

During the presentation portion of the meeting, the representative for Ms. Maher introduced Mrs. Mahieu, the Talented and Academically Gifted (TAG) Teacher at the SUES. Mrs. Mahieu asked several of her TAG students to assist her in making a presentation to the board describing the current litter problem at SUES. After speaking, showing the Board and public impressive and inspiring videos that they produced with the help students in the Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) video production program, and after singing a song about littering; Mrs. Mahieu and the TAG students asked the Board to assist them in resolving the littering problem by purchasing two signs that will be posted along Ernston Road.

Dr. Labbe’s representative then asked the Board to separate the agenda item for the signs from the Superintendent’s report so that each board member could comment and vote separately on it. After a motion to separate the item was made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of the signs via a roll call vote.

If you would like to view the meeting and each of the above mentioned PowerPoint presentations, see them below or click [here](#). To view the meeting video, click [here](#).

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 of Dr. Labbe, Superintendent, to attend the NJASA/NJSPA Spring Leadership Conference from Wednesday, May 11 through Friday, May 13, 2016 in Atlantic City. In addition, the BOE approved of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to advertise for: Transportation bids for in/out of district students for the 2016-2017 school year; Sayreville Middle School drainage improvements; and for the bidding cafeteria food and supplies. It also approved to use School Climate Student Activity Account funds to pay Jersey Bubbleball for the use of Bubble Soccer Balls during the first “bubbleball” competition between classes on April 27th, 2016 at Sayreville Memorial High School; and it approved a contract with JMC Environmental Consultants, Inc., for additional services – soil samples – for site remediation at the Truman Elementary School. Furthermore, the Board accepted a donation from the Estate of Wanda M. Blaska in the amount of \$10,000, approved the purchase of two “No Littering” signs for SUES, and approved to pay for five students from the Sayreville High School DECA and one teacher to attend the New Jersey DECA International Career Development Conference in Nashville, TN. Finally, the Board of Education approved a retroactive tuition contract for a

student in the Interim Alternative Education Program at the NJ Educational Services Commission, bedside tutoring for a hospitalized student, a psychological and speech-language evaluation for a hearing impaired student, and paraprofessional support for several students participating in a co-curricular activity at the Sayreville Middle School.

On the Vision 2030 Student Achievement portion of the agenda the Board accepted the enrollment of a new Kindergarten student and approved several co-curricular activities.

On the Vision 2030 Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the March 2016 HIB Report, including any investigations and/or recommendations for action provided by the Superintendent. In addition, it approved the second and final reading of Policy 5111 – Admission.

On the Vision 2030 Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the resignation of the district Business Administrator/BOE Secretary, effective June 30, 2016, and the Sayreville Middle School Spring Track (Girls) Coach, effective April 22, 2016. Furthermore, the Board of Education approved several leaves of absence (LOA) for 2015-16 and 2016-17. It also approved of a teacher to work in the Special Education Literacy Academy at the Truman Elementary School on an as-needed basis depending on student enrollment for the 2015-16 school year. Additionally, it appointed a Sayreville Middle School Spring Track Coach and a volunteer coaching aide for the SWMHS Golf Team, along with a Lunchroom/Playground aide at SUES for the 2015-16 school year. Finally, the Board approved the hiring of a certified substitute and several professional days.

During the public comment portion of the meeting a band student from SWMHS spoke passionately about the band program and his concerns related to the impact on it if the district were to change the middle school related arts program, which will slightly augment the number of days per week students will be able to participate in the band class. After that, a community member cautioned the Board about the potential dangers of having students participate in bubbleball. He also inquired about whether the Board had or would be taking action about the naming of fields on property leased to the Sayreville Athletic Association. Finally, a community member thanked Mr. D'Andrea for his service to the district and wished him well in his new school district.

During open discussion Mr. Macagnone and the entire Board commended Ms. Maher. Mr. Nurnberger and all the SUES teachers and students that participated in this year's Let the Children Lead program. He also introduced and welcomed Ms. Bonnie Brady, retired Assistant Principal at SUES, and recognized her for being the originator of this activity. Mr. Ciak thanked Mr. D'Andrea for his years of service in Sayreville and wished him well in his new school district and all future endeavors. Finally, Mrs. Batko asked Dr. Labbe when the district would be meeting with the advertising consultant. Dr. Labbe stated that he and Mr. D'Andrea would be meeting with representatives from the firm on Wednesday, April 6th.

The next meeting will be a business meeting. It will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2016. During it Dr. Labbe will present the results of the School Culture and Climate Survey that school community members were asked to participate in January.

If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, please visit the [BOE Meeting Info page](#) on our website. In addition, a complete copy of these minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next Agenda/Business Meeting on April 19, 2016.