

Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Talk Sup Week 19 Review and Preview

January 24, 2022

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup.

Over the weekend, it was reported to us that seven individuals from the high school, five from the middle school, five from the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES), three from the Arleth School, three from the Wilson School, two from the Eisenhower School, one from the Project Before at Cheesequake School, and one from the Project Before at the Samsel School have tested positive for COVID-19. After conducting contact tracing in accordance with New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) guidelines, individuals from each school, with the exception of Project Before at the Samsel and the middle school were determined to be in "close contact" with the infected people. At this time, all have been notified and directed to quarantine. For more information on infections, click <u>here</u> to review our <u>Student</u> and <u>Staff</u> COVID-19 Dashboards.

With the recent and very large spike in COVID-19 cases, we continue to implore that parents:

- Do <u>not</u> send their child(ren) to school if they are symptomatic.
- Report to the administration and nurses at their child(ren)'s respective school(s) if their child(ren) are symptomatic, have tested positive, or were in close contact with an infected individual outside of school.
- Diligently complete the daily health screener for their child(ren) every morning.
- Provide their child(ren) with a mask and remind them to wear it appropriately in school.
- Remind their child(ren) to practice appropriate hand hygiene
- Strongly consider participating in the school district's testing and vaccination programs.

That being said, please remember that, as part of our district's <u>Safe Return Plan</u>, this Wednesday, January 5, 2022 we will resume voluntary staff/family and student/family COVID-19 testing with Back to School Solutions from 2:30 – 5 pm and voluntary vaccinations with the Parlin Pharmacy from 4 -7 pm in the Sayreville War Memorial High School Cafeteria. Please also note that the pharmacy is also providing Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson <u>booster</u> shots. Likewise, they are now also providing vaccinations for children <u>5</u> years of age and older. However, in accordance with the CDC and NJDOH it is recommended that parents <u>consult with their child's pediatrician prior to getting them vaccinated, especially those under that age of 12</u>. Below, please find the tentative dates for both of these services throughout the fall. With regard to testing, since we do not test people who are demonstrating symptoms, if you are symptomatic, you should ask your healthcare provider for an appropriate testing location. If you are a staff member or the parent of a student who is interested in learning more information about how you and your residing family members can participate in this vital virus spreading prevention activity, click here. Please note that if you have already participated in testing with us, you only need to conduct a telemedicine appointment. If you have never tested with us in the past, you would need to register using the following link <u>https://backtoworksolutions.com/SayervillePSD.html</u>. Once you have conducted your telemedicine appointment, you will receive a prescription for the PCR test.

As mentioned above the Parlin Pharmacy will once again administer Flu and COVID-19 Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson vaccine shots to anyone 5 years of age and older, as well as Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J booster shots, in the Sayreville War Memorial High School Cafeteria. Naturally, any individuals under the age of 18 will need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian, who will need to provide signed consent for the vaccination. Therefore, anyone interested in receiving the vaccine must register online in advance by clicking here

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or by going to the **Parlin Pharmacy** website (<u>www.parlinrx.com</u>). Unfortunately, for safety purposes, no "walkins" will be permitted into the school. In fact, with in-district COVID-19 testing, all registered participants must report to Door 22 of the high school cafeteria (adjacent to the dumpsters), where they will be screened by our security team before being allowed into the vaccination room. Below please find the tentative dates and times.

COVID-19 Testing Schedule Via Back to School	COVID-19 and Flu Vaccinations with the Parlin
<u>Solutions</u>	<u>Pharmacy</u>
• Wednesday, January 26, 2022	• Wednesday, January 26, 2022
• Wednesday, February 2, 2022	• Wednesday, February 2, 2022
• Wednesday, February 9, 2022	• Wednesday, February 9, 2022
• Wednesday, February 16, 2022	• Wednesday, February 16, 2022
• Wednesday, February 23, 2022	• Wednesday, February 23, 2022
• Wednesday, March 2, 2022	• Wednesday, March 2, 2022
• Wednesday, March 9, 2022	• Wednesday, March 9, 2022
• Wednesday, March 16, 2022	• Wednesday, March 16, 2022
• Wednesday, March 23, 2022	• Wednesday, March 23, 2022
• Wednesday, March 30, 2022	• Wednesday, March 30, 2022
• Wednesday, April 6, 2022	• Wednesday, April 6, 2022
• Wednesday, April 13, 2022	• Wednesday, April 13, 2022 (Ends at <mark>6 PM</mark>)
• Wednesday, April 27, 2022	• Wednesday, April 27, 2022
• Wednesday, May 4, 2022	• Wednesday, May 4, 2022
• Wednesday, May 11, 2022	• Wednesday, May 11, 2022
• Wednesday, May 18, 2022	• Wednesday, May 18, 2022
• Wednesday, May 25, 2022	• Wednesday, May 25, 2022
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- Wednesday, June 1, 2022
- Wednesday, June 8, 2022
- Wednesday, June 15, 2022
- Wednesday, June 22, 2022
- Wednesday, June 29, 2022

- Wednesday, June 1, 2022
- Wednesday, June 8, 2022
- Wednesday, June 15, 2022
- Wednesday, June 22, 2022
- Wednesday, June 29, 2022

As we mentioned back in December, 2021-22 <u>Virtual</u> Parent Teacher Conferences were rescheduled and will take place all next week from January 31, 2022 through February 4, 2022. See the complete schedule below. In our continuing effort to encourage and reinforce communication between parents/guardians and the schools, we have scheduled five days of <u>virtual</u> or <u>remote</u> parent/teacher conferences next week. During each day of conferences, we will dismiss students early from school so that our faculty members can be available to discuss the progress of students in individual classes. Thus, parents can schedule conferences with multiple teachers.

Grades	Monday 1/31	Tuesday 2/1	Wednesday 2/2	Thursday 2/3	Friday 2/4
K – 3	1:50 - 3:35	6:00 - 8:00	1:50 - 3:35	1:50 - 3:35	1:50 - 3:35
4 – 5	1:15 - 3:00	1:15 - 3:00	6:00 - 8:00	1:15 - 3:00	1:15 - 3:00
6 – 8	1:15 - 3:00	1:15 - 3:00	1:15 - 3:00	6:00 - 8:00	1:15 - 3:00
9 - 12	6:00 - 8:00	12:45 - 2:30	12:45 - 2:30	12:45 - 2:30	12:45 - 2:30
Pre-K	1:45 - 3:45	1:45 - 3:45	1:45 - 3:45	6:00 - 8:00	1:45 - 3:45

Tomorrow our teachers will begin emailing the parents of their students the links to sign up for their conferences. Each school website will also have all the teacher websites and the conference links posted on them. To learn more information on how to schedule and participate in this year's virtual conferences, click on the following links: **Parent slide deck**, **Parent Video**.

Next Monday, January 31, 2022, the district will officially open registration for our free Full-Day Project Before Preschool and Kindergarten Programs. Therefore, parents of ALL eligible (must be 3 for preschool and 5 for



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kindergarten by September 30, 2022) preschool and kindergarten students will be invited to visit our website in order to register via Oncourse Connect, our online registration software. The link to student registration will be clearly identified on our district website homepage (<u>www.sayrevillek12.net</u>) as "<u>Student Registration</u>". Once on this registration page, you can obtain pertinent information regarding the registration of all students including preschool and kindergarten students, and you can begin completing the online registration application by clicking on one of the following links noted in the 2022-2023 Project Before and Kindergarten text box: <u>New Student Registration</u> or <u>Returning Student Enrollment Update for students entering grades PreK and Kindergarten during the 2022-2023 school year</u>.



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, January 18th, here is what you missed. Stephanie Castellitto from Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) and Jayda Ronquillo from the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) began the meeting by providing their respective Student Council Representative to the Board of Education Reports. Next, Mr. Esposito expressed his opening remarks and Mr.



Walsh shared a few district highlights. During the presentation portion of the meeting, the district resumed publicly reviewing and discussing the 2022-23 School District Budget with the following budget presentations: <u>Sayreville</u> <u>War Memorial High School (SWMHS)</u>. <u>Sayreville Middle School (SMS)</u>, <u>Samsel Upper Elementary School</u> (<u>SUES</u>) and all K-3 School, and <u>Curriculum and Instruction</u>. After each building principal and Dr. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, gave their respective presentations, they answered questions by the Board about them, particularly their budget needs and wants. Click on each presentation to view them. To see all the information presented and/or provided thus far on the 2022-23 Budget, click <u>here</u>.

The Board then moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved them all. To see the Agenda, click here. To see the Agenda Addendum, click here. To view the video of this meeting, click here. Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the BOE graciously accepted donations of an Everlast Climbing Industries River Rock Traverse Wall and accessories valued at \$9,525.77 from the PTO of the Eisenhower Elementary School, and a grant from Dupont to support the district by providing two of our science teachers with registration fees of \$370 each, airfare, and hotel expenses to travel to the National Science Teachers Association Science Teachers Convention on March 31, 2022, through April 3, 2022, in Houston, TX. Likewise, it approved a contract with US Bancorp Government Leasing & Finance, Inc. to provide lease purchase financing to the Board in a principal amount up to \$201,684.34 and an effective interest rate of 2.0887% for the principal amount of \$201,684.34 over a five-year period, in accordance with the terms of the quote documents for security/technology equipment; and to purchase said equipment from Dell through the State Contract award for NASPO Computer Equipment. It also approved a 36-month contract with Aspire, the district's phone service, beginning February 7, 2022, through February 6, 2025, for the Collaboration Flex Plan through the State Contract Award for NASPO ValuePoint. Similarly, the Board approved a 60-month contract with Active Internet Technologies LLC (DBA: Finalsite) beginning July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2027, for the hosting of the new district website and related support services at an annual cost of \$34,100. Furthermore, the BOE approved a contract with New Jersey Teacher to Teacher to provide 30 full days of sustained professional development training and coaching for teachers in grades K - 5. The cost is 1,450/day. The topic areas will be Fountas and Pinnell Classroom and the Balanced Literacy Instruction (Grades K - 5). The program is funded through Title IIA and ESSER funds. Finally, the Board of Education approved the revised spring 2020 rates for Jay's Bus Service and George Dapper, Inc. for services not rendered due to the closure of schools because of the pandemic.

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On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the Board approved of 29 middle school students and six high school students to participate in the 2022 Virtual Arts Middle School and High School Programs. Likewise, among other motions, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the revised Director of Human Resources and Professional Development job description. It also approved the English Language Learner Three Year Plan for the 2021 – 2024 school years.

Finally, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirement of Margaret Fallon, Social Studies Teacher at the Sayreville Middle School, effective July 1, 2022. It also appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2021-22 school year. Likewise, it appointed staff for the elementary and middle school Special Education Math and Literacy Academies and Tier 3 Tutoring. In addition, the Board approved the transfer of certificated and non-certificated staff members for the 2021-22 school year. Lastly, it approved staff to work in the Unified Sports Program, as well as in the Willabees Program.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, residents from the Morgan section of Sayreville expressed their opposition to the possible construction of a transportation complex on the Selover School property in Morgan. In addition, a parent expressed her opposition to the Governor Murphy's extension of the executive order that requires masks to be worn in schools, and asked that the Board and Superintendent comply with the request emailed to the Superintendent and Board earlier, asking for them to pass a resolution denouncing the executive order.

Likewise, during the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, the Superintendent answered all questions posed by the members of the public who spoke during public comment. Furthermore, several BOE members, commented about the construction of the transportation complex. After that, Mr. Fernandez reviewed what was discussed during the last Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting, as did Mr. John Walsh for the Personnel Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association and Mr. Fernandez provided an update on happenings with the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club. Finally, Mrs. Pabon requested that the Board approve several verbal motions, which were ultimately tabled after a brief discussion.

The next meeting will be **Tuesday, February 1st**. During this meeting the district will make presentations on the proposed 2022-23 Athletics, Special Education, and Early Childhood Budgets. In addition, we will present the district's 2021 Start Strong Assessment results. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **Friday, January 28th**. A complete copy of the **January 18th** meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next BOE Meeting on **February 1, 2022**.



Last week our students, staff, and community members continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. We commend and congratulate Samantha Ritter, middle school math teacher and six-year veteran of the New York Jets Flight Crew Cheerleading Team, who was named a Pro Bowl Cheerleader and will be representing the Jets and Flight Crew during the 2022 NFL Pro Bowl in Las Vegas on February 6th. In addition, we commend and congratulate the students in the SWMHS Distributive

Education Clubs of America (DECA) chapter for earning recognition in the recent 2021-2022 DECA Chapter Campaign Program, which focused on empowering emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for college and career success. Bomber Nation salutes these and all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



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Thanks to our magnificent teachers and instructional staff, our students continued to progress in learning and had a ton of fun doing so this past week. In Project Before, our preschoolers celebrated Martin Luther King Day by reading a story about love and peace,

handprint poems. In addition,

they continued with their restaurant creative play by participating in Mexican restaurant, McDonald's, and

pizzeria centers. Finally, they celebrated Friendship Week by making Friendship Treats. After discussing what it takes to be a good friend, they



each added something special to the ingredients. At the middle school, the Unified Club met to create beautiful snowflakes for their Winter Wonderland. Likewise, at the high school, students in Peer Leadership and the Unified Club enjoyed a trip to

Majestic Lanes for some food.

fun, friendship, and bowling, of course. In addition, students in in Ms. Walsh's Child Development class made "flour babies." Furthermore, students in Ms. DiPaolo's Human Anatomy class dissected

pigs. Likewise, students in Ms. McCabe's Marine Biology class dissected sharks. Lastly, students in Mr. Fisher's Chemistry class participated in a lab that

demonstrated the reactivity of metals to oxygen and water. Finally, at the Samsel Upper Elementary School students and staff had a ball participating in Decades Day.



In athletics, we begin by commending SWMHS Wrestler Connor Walsh, who was named the Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) Wrestler of the Week. He is currently 10-1 on the season. He and the SWMHS Wrestling Team improved its record on the season to 10-6 with match wins over Notre Dame, Metuchen, and Kinnelon High Schools (HS) last week. The SWMHS Boys Basketball Team

the Silver in the 55 Meter Hurdles, Bronze in the High Jump, and 4th in the 55 Meter

improved its season record to 5-8 with a thrilling quadruple overtime win over GMC and crosstown rival Woodbridge HS last week. The SWMHS Boys Swim Team won its first match of the season by out swimming North



Brunswick HS last week. Kyle Barreiro, Chetan Dutta, Henry Lynch, Jesse Graham, Dylan Mackie, and Brody Cannan won their respective races. Although the Girls Swim Team fell just short of victory, Bridget Broncales, Caroline Astarita, Laila Abbassi, Leah Barreiro, and Kailyn Koonce won their races. Finally, during the South Jersey Track Coaches Association Meet last week, Anthony Voto won a Gold Medal in the Shot Put and Leah Williams-White won

Dash. Win or lose, all our amazing student athletes continued to compete fiercely and demonstrate the teamwork and sportsmanship that makes us all proud to be Bombers. Thus, we thank them and their



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coaches for their hard work, dedication, and the manner in which they represent SWMHS and our community. Please remember that you can see all athletic team schedules and view all the action by watching them on the live streaming links posted on the Athletics page of our website or by clicking <u>here</u>.

As per the <u>2021-22 School District Calendar</u> there will be **BOE Business Meetings** in February on **Tuesday**, **February 1st and Tuesday**, **February 15th**. Also, please note that as previously mentioned, we will be **dismissing** <u>students</u> early January 31st through February 4th so that parents and our faculty can participate in conferences, as well as on February 7th so that our staff can participate in professional development. Please also remember that our schools will be closed for instruction on, Monday, February 20th in observance of Presidents' Day. Finally, please note that the First Marking Period for students in <u>grades 6-12</u> will end on February 2nd and that report cards for those students will be populated in Oncourse Connect on February 9th.

If you or someone you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click <u>here</u> and submit an inquiry with *School Revenue Partners*. Naturally, we will continue to Bomber Blast activity information and community service announcements for our schools and the greater community at no cost. Likewise, if you would like to advertise on our **buses**, click <u>here</u>.

Have a great day and wonderful week.

Dr. Labbe