



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 27 Review and Preview

March 21, 2022

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

As you know, in Sayreville, ensuring the safety, security, and comfortability of the environments that our students and staff learn and work in is the highest priority of the Board of Education and administration. However, the average age of our school buildings is approximately 60. Furthermore, due to being underfunded by the state of New Jersey and the very lean budgets over the past two decades, the facilities in the district are in desperate need of renovation and refurbishment. In fact, although the school district has made major strides in improving its facilities through recent budgets, Elementary and Secondary Education Relief (ESSER/CARES) Grants, and our very successful energy savings improvement program (ESIP), which included a solar power purchase agreement, there is still much more work to be done, which is why the Sayreville Board of Education recently agreed to pay its architect of record to prepare a **Facilities Improvement Bond Referendum**, which is scheduled to be voted on by the Sayreville community on **September 27, 2022**, in order to make the desperately needed improvements to the working and learning environments of our students and staff.

Essentially, the projects within the referendum will be for the purpose of substantially upgrading all school buildings, particularly the **electrical grid infrastructures, windows, doors, roofs, and the installation of central air conditioning in every space within every school, especially on second floors.** In addition, plans include the renovation of the Selover School, which this fall will become the school district's second preschool building, so that it can meet all school building code requirements for a preschool, and so that we can construct a secure retention vestibule in it. Thus, we will soon be mobilizing our special **Blue-Ribbon Community Committee** for the purpose of introducing and gaining community support for our “Cool the Schools” facilities improvement referendum. In addition, from now until **September 27, 2022**, we will be making presentations on the referendum to faculty, staff, and parents.

With that said, last Monday evening, I kicked off the “Cool the Schools” promotion of the **September 27, 2022 Referendum Vote** during an Arleth PTO Meeting. To see my presentation, click [here](#). However, along with presenting and answering questions on the referendum, I also responded to questions about the pandemic, transportation complex, and courtesy busing. I am forever grateful to the Arleth PTO for giving me the time to present the referendum and to answer parent questions about it and any other issue or concern that they may have about the school or the district. This week I will resume its promotion during a Wilson PTO Meeting this Tuesday evening. Below please find the remaining PTO and faculty meeting dates thus far that I will be promoting the referendum.

PTO Meeting Dates and Times

- Project Before – April 12th at 7 pm
- Truman – May 12th at 7 pm
- **Wilson – March 22nd at 7 pm**
- Eisenhower – April 13th at 7 pm
- SUES – April 27th at 7 pm
- SMS – May 10th at 7 pm

Faculty Meeting Dates and Times

- Project Before – April 5th at 3:45 pm
- Arleth – May 10th at 3:40 pm
- Truman – June 7th at 3:40 pm
- Eisenhower – May 10th at 8:00 am
- Wilson – April 26th at 3:40 pm
- SUES – May 17th at 3:00 pm
- SMS – May 10th at 3:00 pm
- SWMHS – May 9th at 2:40 pm

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders

Over the weekend, it was reported to us that one individual from the Samsel Upper Elementary School tested positive for COVID-19. After conducting contact tracing in accordance with New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) guidelines, no individuals were determined to be in “close contact” with the infected person. For more information on infections, click [here](#) to review our [Student](#) and [Staff](#) COVID-19 Dashboards.

We continue to request that parents:

- **Do not 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.**

Please remember that the Parlin Pharmacy is graciously offering all **Sayreville Public Schools staff, students and family members COVID-19 home rapid test kits** for no or little out of pocket cost. While most insurances cover home rapid test kits at no cost, unfortunately we have learned that there are certain insurances which may not. However, if your insurance policy does not cover them, the pharmacy is offering our staff, students and family members a special price of **\$9.99 per kit**. Furthermore, while some policies may not immediately cover the cost of the kit, they may provide full reimbursement upon the submission of a receipt, which will be provided by the pharmacy. Use the links below to order a test kit. All **student and family** test kits will be available for pick up in the **cafeteria** at the **Sayreville War Memorial High School on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00 – 4:30 pm**. As previously reported by me, **staff** test kits **will be delivered to the school designated in orders**. If you have further questions, please contact the pharmacy via the following email: ParlinRx@Gmail.com. Click on the appropriate link below to order the test kits.

[STUDENT/FAMILY HOME COVID-19 RAPID TEST KIT REGISTRATION LINK](#)

[STAFF HOME COVID-19 RAPID TEST KIT REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Please also remember that, as part of our district’s [Safe Return Plan](#), this **Wednesday, March 16, 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 booster** shots. **Likewise, they are now also providing vaccinations for children 5 years of age and older.** **However, in accordance with the CDC and NJDOH it is recommended that parents consult with their child’s pediatrician prior to getting them vaccinated, especially those under that age of 12.** 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 <https://backtoworksolutions.com/SayrevillePSD.html>. 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](#) or by going to the **Parlin Pharmacy** website (www.parlinrx.com). Unfortunately, for safety purposes, **no “walk-**



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ins” 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

Solutions

- Wednesday, March 23, 2022
- Wednesday, March 30, 2022
- Wednesday, April 6, 2022
- Wednesday, April 13, 2022
- Wednesday, April 27, 2022
- Wednesday, May 4, 2022
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022
- Wednesday, May 18, 2022
- Wednesday, May 25, 2022
- Wednesday, June 1, 2022
- Wednesday, June 8, 2022
- Wednesday, June 15, 2022
- Wednesday, June 22, 2022
- Wednesday, June 29, 2022

COVID-19 and Flu Vaccinations with the Parlin

Pharmacy

- Wednesday, March 23, 2022
- Wednesday, March 30, 2022
- Wednesday, April 6, 2022
- **Wednesday, April 13, 2022 (Ends at 6 PM)**
- Wednesday, April 27, 2022
- Wednesday, May 4, 2022
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022
- Wednesday, May 18, 2022
- Wednesday, May 25, 2022
- Wednesday, June 1, 2022
- Wednesday, June 8, 2022
- Wednesday, June 15, 2022
- Wednesday, June 22, 2022
- Wednesday, June 29, 2022



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, March 15th, 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 honored and celebrated the 2022 Sayreville Middle School (SMS) Cheer Team for winning the New Jersey Cheer and Dance Coaches Association (NJCDCA) Championship. In addition, we presented the 2020-21 Annual Comprehensive Fiscal Report (ACFR) and Audit Mangers Report. Click [here](#) to see the presentation. Finally, the BOE voted on the Tentative 2022-23 School District Budget. To see all the information presented and/or provided on the 2022-23 Budget, click [here](#).



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 the meeting, click [here](#). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the BOE approved the Tentative 2022-2023 School District Budget, along with the submission of the 2022-2023 Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) Enrollment and Budget Workbook, in the amount of \$9,879,768. It also approved the aforementioned Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the 2020-2021 school year and the recommendations made in it, as prepared by Suplee, Clooney & Company; along with the Corrective Action Plan for the said audit recommendation. In addition, the BOE awarded the bid for HVAC upgrades at multiple schools to Preferred Mechanical as the lowest responsible bidder for bids opened on March 15, 2022 in the amount of 3,798,000 for the base bid, alternate bid SMS-01 in the amount of \$352,000 and alternate bid WMHS-01 in the amount of \$325,000 for a total bid amount of \$4,475,000, to be paid utilizing ARP-ESSER and CRRSA-ESSER II funds. Likewise, the

Board awarded a contract to US Bancorp Government Leasing & Finance, Inc. to provide lease purchase financing to the Board for seven school buses in a principal amount up to \$706,682.03 and an effective interest rate of 2.621% for the principal amount of \$706,682.03 over a five-year period.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the Board approved several new and revised curriculum guides. Likewise, among other motions, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved several new and revised BOE [policies](#) and [regulations](#) for a Second Reading and adoption. Click on each of them too in order to read them. To view any Sayreville Board of Education by-laws, policies, and regulations, click [here](#) to access our new public portal.

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirements of Ronald Heaney, Custodian, effective April 1, 2022; and Antala Shah, Paraprofessional at the Samsel Upper Elementary School, effective July 1, 2022. It also appointed new non-certificated staff for the 2021-22 school year. Likewise, the Board approved the transfer of non-certificated staff members for the 2021-22 school year. Finally, the BOE appointed Camp XL Extended School Year Program and Learning Acceleration at Camp XL Program personnel from July 5, 2022 through August 4, 2022.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, a community member expressed his appreciation for the manner in which the Board has worked collaboratively and transparently with the Borough to find an alternative location for the transportation complex. Likewise, another community member inquired about if and/or when the district will be moving the buses located at the high school. Finally, several other community members from the Crestview Apartments expressed concern about the change in a bus stop location there.

Likewise, during the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, the Superintendent provided an update on the land exchange agreement between the BOE and Borough. In addition, Mrs. Pabone reviewed what was discussed during the last Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting, as did Mr. Walsh for the last Personnel Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association. Finally, Mrs. Bloom commented about the proposed potential plans to construct an attic ladder in the Bomber Stadium press box.

The next meeting, which will be our Special “**Let the Children Lead**” Business Meeting, will take place on **Tuesday, March 29th**. During this meeting, the BOE and Central Administration will be joined by almost two 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 selected 5th grade students will actually 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. Coglianese, Principal of SUES, and Mr. Tola, Assistant Principal of SUES, will vote and comment publicly on behalf of the BOE member or administrator that they will represent. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **Friday, March 25th**. A complete copy of the **March 15th** meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next regular business meeting on **April 26, 2022**.

Last week our students, staff, and community members continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. We begin by congratulating the below members of the SWMHS Future Business Leaders of America club who competed in and placed at the NJFBLA State Leadership Conference in Atlantic City.

Overall Chapter Honors	
Outstanding Chapter (101+ members) 2 nd Place	Gold Seal Chapter of Merit 3 rd Consecutive Year
Chapter Community Service (101+ members) 1 st Place	Chapter Website Award of Merit 1 st Place
Passport of Progress Award Recipient	Stories for Success Award Recipient
Chapter Competitive Event Honors	



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Anoop Dindigal, Vihaan Easwar, and Joshua Gorniak American Enterprise Project 1 st Place – State Champion	Shriya Patel, Aaryan Parikh, and Jai Desai Partnership with Business Project 1 st Place – State Champion
Aayush Mehta, Aameeka Patel, and Amoli Patel Local Chapter Annual Business Report 4 th Place – National Qualifier	Ananya Kondur, Shreya Patel, and Kisha Patel Community Service Project 4 th Place – National Qualifier
Asha Amin and Mahi Patel Scrapbook 5 th Place	
Individual/Group Competitive Events	
Ismail Dar, Vedant Koli, and Pranay Roni Computer Game and Simulation Programming 1 st Place – State Champion	Trischelle Afihene and Triscia Afihene Graphic Design 1 st Place – State Champion
Aameeka Patel, Amoli Patel, and Shriya Patel Introduction to Social Media Strategy 1 st Place – State Champion	Isabella Cianci, Gianna Gittlitz, and Jessica Sasso Open Event: Service Video 1 st Place – State Champion
Nicholas Schabilon Job Interview 2 nd Place – National Qualifier	Aaryan Parikh and Phillip Pazdur Sales Presentation 2 nd Place – National Qualifier
Anoop Dindigal, Masharib Imran, and Aayush Mehta Social Media Strategies 2 nd Place – National Qualifier	
Joshua Gorniak, Saaim Khan, and Vraj Patel Coding and Programming 3 rd Place – National Qualifier	Phillip Bassuk and Luke Vasquez Publication Design 3 rd Place – National Qualifier
Kristy Garcia Client Service 4 th Place – National Qualifier	Shakil Ashrafi, Jai Desai, Shrikar Gandhesiri, Ronit Luthra, and Rohan Vaidya Parliamentary Procedure 4 th Place – National Qualifier
Top 10 Place Winners (Individual/Group Competitive Events)	
Aidan Kenny and Brian Zapoticzny Broadcast Journalism	Alejandra Harvey and Victor Ortega Business Plan
Arjun Merchant, Arsi Muda, and Aadi Patel Computer Game and Simulation Programming	Ryan Donnataria Digital Video Production
Sean Donnataria Entrepreneurship	Ananya Kondur and Shreya Patel Graphic Design
Diya Kadakia, Aneri Shah, and Aryan Shah Hospitality and Event Management	Oro-Oluwatoromo Ade-Festus Job Interview
Osei Bonsu, Denzel Osa, Luis Reyes, and Zaimer Wright Education PowerPoint	Jake Kelly and Raphael Pereira Progress Video
Riley O'Keefe and Talia Schiena Education Video	Derrick Abban, Edwin Morales, Khage Stephenson, and Vladimir Val Service PowerPoint

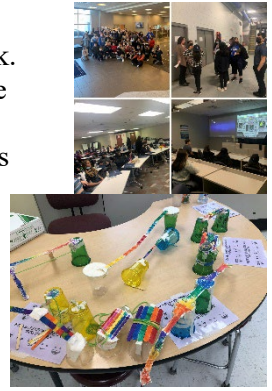
Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



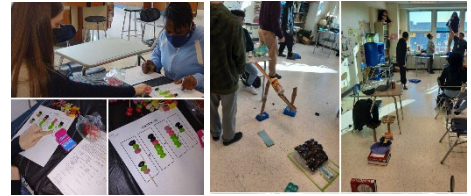
In addition, we commend and thank the SWMHS Air Force Junior ROTC Cadets, who over the weekend collected humanitarian aid and monetary donations for the courageous people in Ukraine. In total, they collected over 100 boxes filled with baby essentials, medical supplies, hygiene products, toiletries, nonperishable goods, clothing, and much more. They also received \$914 in donations to pay for the shipping costs. Furthermore, we commend and congratulate the SWMHS Winterguard Team for placing 3rd at their competition last Saturday in Monroe. Finally, we commend SWMHS student William Meyer who surprised his parents with breakfast served on the incredible food serving tray that he constructed in Mr. Gliddon's Woodshop class. Bomber Nation salutes these and all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



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. At the middle school, some students had an uplifting and enriching day at the Teterboro Airport where they learned about so many different career paths within the aviation field. At the Arleth School, Diva Patel from Ms. Jackson's class, taught a few kindergarten students about the Hindu Holi celebration, which is the festival of colors. Similarly, at SUES, students in Ms. Bartko's 4th grade class created a rainbow by shining a light through a jar of water. Likewise, students in 5th grade constructed rainbow bridges to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Speaking of St. Patrick's Day, at the high school, students in Ms. Giorgianni's class learned about the holiday during a gallery walk through the school.



In other happenings at the high school, Mr. Ganu's class assisted the office in sorting mail. Students in Mr. Knott's science class created Rube Goldberg projects, illustrating how a whole lot of little chaotic steps can lead to a helpful end result. Likewise, students in Ms. Goldstein's chemistry class practiced balancing chemical



equations using jelly beans of different colors. In addition, students in Dr. Caruso's music classes were visited by world renown percussionist Greg Giannascoli and pianist Sung Ho Yang. Their lectures covered topics like audition preparation, practicing for mastery, repertoire for solo instruments, and developing as a young artist. Finally, last Wednesday students in the Tomorrow's Teachers class spent the entire day at Rider University for the New Jersey Future Educators Association Conference, where they engaged in discussions about the importance of being an educator. In fact, our teachers and students met with fellow educators from across the state and attended seminars centering on topics related to careers in education and their experiences this year as junior teacher cadets. We commend and thank Ms. Charmello and Ms. Scarpari, our amazing Future Educators Academy advisors and Tomorrow's Teachers teachers, along with senior Amaya Holon, SWMHS Ambassador of the program, for all they did to make this event such a transformative and special day for all our aspiring educators who attended.





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In athletics, the SWMHS and SMS Cheer Team welcomed their younger proteges and participated with them in the first ever first Bomber's Cheer Clinic. 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 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 [here](#).

As per the [2021-22 School District Calendar](#), and the [March Activities Calendar](#), there will be a special **Let the Children Lead** BOE Meeting this **Tuesday, March 29th**. Please also remember that the **2nd Trimester Marking Period Report Cards** for students in **grades K-5** will be populated in Oncourse Connect on **March 25th**.

On January 31, 2022, the Sayreville Public Schools officially opened 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 kindergarten by September 30, 2022**) preschool and kindergarten students are 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 (www.sayrevillek12.net) as "[Student Registration](#)". 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: [New Student Registration Preschool and Kindergarten](#) or [Returning Student Enrollment Update for students entering grades PreK and Kindergarten during the 2022-2023 school year](#).

If you or someone you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click [here](#) 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 [here](#).

Have a great day and wonderful week.

Dr. Labbe