



Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools
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Talk Sup Week 3 Review and Preview

September 27, 2021

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a most relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup. Please remember that we will hold **Virtual Back to School Night** at each school this **Wednesday, September 29th**.

As you may or may not know, thanks to a very wise and responsible student who posted an alert on our website and provided a screen shot of a social media post in which a person made an indirect threat of gun violence about an unknown school, the district and Sayreville Police Department were able to swiftly identify and address the persons who posted the threats and appropriately resolve the matter. Along with the very courageous student, we must also commend and thank Ms. Sicola, our Director of School Counseling, who regularly monitors all our alert and notification mediums, for immediately forwarding the alert to building and central administration and Mr. Sprague, our School Safety and Security Specialist. Likewise, we thank and commend Mr. Sprague, who immediately contacted the Sayreville Police Department and began a joint investigation with them. In fact, within hours of the alert, they identified the persons who posted the threat and took appropriate action. Thus, we must also commend and thank our incredibly supportive community partners at the Sayreville Police Department for their quick and precise response.

Over the weekend two individuals from the high school, two from the Eisenhower School and one from the middle school, Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES), and Project Before at Samsel School tested positive for COVID-19. After conducting contact tracing in accordance with Center for Disease Control (CDC) and New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) guidelines, individuals from the middle school, Eisenhower, SUES, and Project Before at Samsel were determined to be in "close contact" with the infected people. All have been formally notified and directed to quarantine.

With that said, please remember that, as part of our aforementioned [Safe Return Plan](#), please remember that this Wednesday, 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 individuals 65 years of age and older, as well as those 18 years of age and up with complicated middle conditions or those who work in a high transmission risk occupation, including all school district employees, are now eligible for a Pfizer booster shot if they were previously vaccinated with the Pfizer vaccine.** 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://bactoworksolutions.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 **Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson** vaccine shots to anyone **12 years of age and older**, as well as **Pfizer booster shots** to applicable people (see above), in the **Sayreville War Memorial High School Cafeteria**. Naturally, any individuals **under the age of 18** will need

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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. Unfortunately, for safety purposes, **no “walk-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, September 29, 2021
- Wednesday, October 6, 2021
- Wednesday, October 13, 2021
- Wednesday, October 20, 2021
- Wednesday, October 27, 2021
- Wednesday, November 3, 2021
- Wednesday, November 10, 2021
- Wednesday, November 17, 2021
- Wednesday, November 24, 2021
- Wednesday, December 1, 2021
- Wednesday, December 8, 2021
- Wednesday, December 15, 2021
- Wednesday, December 22, 2021

COVID-19 and Flu Vaccinations with the Parlin Pharmacy

- Wednesday, September 29, 2021
- Wednesday, October 6, 2021
- Wednesday, October 13, 2021
- Wednesday, October 20, 2021
- Wednesday, October 27, 2021
- Wednesday, November 3, 2021
- Wednesday, November 10, 2021
- Wednesday, November 17, 2021
- Wednesday, November 24, 2021
- Wednesday, December 1, 2021
- Wednesday, December 8, 2021
- Wednesday, December 15, 2021
- Wednesday, December 22, 2021

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, September 21st, 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 Superintendent reviewed the district’s Emergency Virtual Instruction Plan. To see the presentation, click [here](#). To see the plan, 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 this meeting, click [here](#). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the BOE approved a very generous donation of two wheelchairs and two walkers valued at \$5,000 from The Sayreville Lions Club. In addition, the Board of Education approved the submission of the amended Securing Our Children’s Future Bond Act for Alyssa’s Law Compliance and School Security Grant in the amount of \$347,785. The funds will be used for the purchase of equipment to make the district compliant with Alyssa’s Law, particularly the purchase of additional two-way radios and light strobes. The Board also approved an amendment to the Power Purchase Agreement for Solar Photovoltaic Systems to EZNergy LLC and Greenskies Clean Energy as negotiated by the Board Attorney and reviewed by the district’s energy consultants. Furthermore, it awarded the bid for Renovations and HVAC Upgrades at Selover School to Unitemp, Inc. as the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$1,940,000.00 for the base bid and \$356,000 for alternate bid AB-01 for a grand total bid amount of \$2,296,000. Likewise, it approved the withdrawal from Capital Reserve \$546,000 to pay for this. Finally, the BOE approved a settlement agreement in the matter of M.V. vs. Sayreville Board of Education, et als., docket number MID-L-1333-20.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the Board approved the 2021-2022 Memorandum of Understanding with Rider University’s Tomorrow’s Teachers Program; and the 2021-2022 Memorandum of Understanding with Middlesex County College for the High School Scholars Dual Enrollment Program. It also approved of a new UNICEF Club at Sayreville War Memorial High School for the 2021-2022



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school year, with Ms. Attardi as the advisor. Among other motions, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the district Emergency Virtual Instruction Plan. To review it, click [here](#). In addition, the Board approved a revision to the Assistant Director of Food Services Job Description, which essentially just changed it from a 10-month position to twelve-months. To view it, click [here](#).

Finally, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirement of Joan Ueland, Bus Aide, effective September 1, 2021. It also appointed a new Assistant Director of Food Services, along with new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2021-22 school year. Additionally, the Board approved the transfer of certificated and non-certificated staff members for the 2021-22 school year. Lastly, the BOE denied Sayreville Education Association (SEA) Grievance 2020-21 #5.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, members of the public expressed concerns about the high school Cooperative Education Program and offered a potential temporary solution to it. In addition, another member of the public expressed concern about the fact that the SEA and Board of Education have yet to approve a new collective bargain agreement.

During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Mr. Balka 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, Mr. Fernandez provided an update on happenings with the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club.



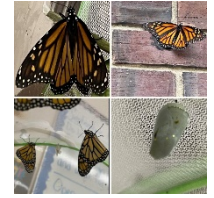
Thanks to our magnificent teachers and instructional staff, our students continued to progress in learning and have a ton of fun doing so this past week. In our Project Before preschool program our students had so much fun learning how to draw the nature they saw outside and then painting their creations with watercolors, while others worked on gross motor skills by



picking up and throwing leaves. At the Arleth School, students had a blast participating in Hello Week. Likewise, the



students at Truman had a great time celebrating International Day of Peace. At the high school students in the Structured Learning Environment had a cool time researching potential careers, including but not limited to culinary, auto and computer occupations. Finally, at the middle school students in Ms. Minnuies' class learned the importance of the Monarch Butterflies to the environment, as well as their stages of metamorphosis. They actually observed them from the caterpillars- chrysalis- butterfly stages and then released them after observing their total transformation.



This past week our students, staff, and community members continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. We congratulate and commend SWMHS student Mayameen Huda who was recently awarded a 2022 National Merit Scholarship. We also commend and congratulate the SWMHS Marching Band and Color Guard for winning 2nd Place in a band competition at Metuchen High School this past weekend. Bomber



Nation salutes these and all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In athletics, the SWMHS Boys Soccer Team won its fourth game of the 2021 season with a win over Carteret High School (HS) and evened its record to 4-4. Likewise, SWMHS Football Team recorded its second win of the season with a thrilling win over Edison HS. Speaking of Bomber football, we commend and congratulate Zaimer Wright for earning Central Jersey Player of the Week honors for his performance two weeks ago against North Brunswick HS. Finally,



the SWMHS Girls and Boys Cross Country Teams also ran well again during the Garret Invitational Meet this past weekend. Please visit the district website and click athletics for all schedules.



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 [September 2021 Monthly Activities Calendar](#), we will hold **Virtual Back to School Night** at each school this **Wednesday, September 29th**. In addition, please note that there will be a **BOE Business Meeting** on **Tuesday, October 19th**. During it, the district will present the annual State of the Schools Address. Finally, please remember that we will **dismiss students early** on **Monday, October 11th** so that staff can participate in professional development.

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 **busses**, click [here](#).

Have a great day and wonderful first week!

Dr. Labbe