



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 40 Review and Preview

June 18, 2018

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a happy Father's Day and relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup Review and Preview*.

As you should know from the broadcast email and phone call that I sent out yesterday, today (**June 18th**) we will exercise an **early dismissal** due to the oppressive heat predicted. Please accept my sincere apologies for any inconvenience, undue stress, or frustration that this decision may cause you or your family. However, we cannot risk someone becoming ill, and as you know, the safety of our students and staff is and will always be our highest priority.

Speaking of the weather, Thursday and Friday look to be perfect days for the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) Promotion and Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) Graduation Ceremonies, which will be held at 6 pm respectively in the SWMHS Stadium. Please remember that we have implemented new security procedures for both events that **prohibit spectators from bringing into the stadium air horns and bags, including pocketbooks.** Thus, Sayreville Police Officers and district campus security monitors, who will be equipped with metal detection wands, will be stationed at each gate to screen spectators. Thanks to the suggestion made by a parent, we will be simulcasting the ceremony in the SWMHS auditorium for any spectators that due to their age and medical fragility need a climate controlled environment to watch the ceremonies. As a result, we will also have at least one police officer and campus security monitor stationed there as too.



Last Wednesday evening I attended the SWMHS Senior Awards Night. As always, it was a wonderful program filled with the tradition and elegance necessary to honor, recognize, and celebrate all our incredible seniors at SWMHS for their outstanding performances this year in and out of the classroom. This year, once again, more students received more

awards, which are sponsored by the Sayreville Board of Education and a plethora of local, state, and national organizations and companies. In fact, many of the awards were monetary in the form of post-secondary education scholarships. Thus we cannot possible thank enough all these amazing organizations for their generosity. It is inspiring to know that parents and organizations in our greater community value the importance of collaboration, charity, and community; and to that end are willing to sacrifice time, funds, and/or property to benefit our students and staff. Furthermore, we would like to thank Mr. Brown and the high school administration, as well as the faculty and support staff at SWMHS, who took the time to meticulously plan this amazing event, which I am sure will be yet another indelible memory for our students and their parents.



Last Thursday, I attended the Bombers Unified Track and Field Meet in the SWMHS Stadium. During it, I was both impressed and inspired to watch our students with intellectual disabilities compete with and against their typically developing peers in traditional and nontraditional Olympic track and field events. Moreover, I

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was moved to see the comradery and friendship between our student athletes, which undoubtedly evolved during the process of practicing and preparing for the tournament together. Additionally, I was overwhelmed with joy to witness the amount of staff members, parents, and students who came out to assist and support these incredible student athletes. In

fact, throughout the entire meet, the Bomber Cheerleaders from the middle and high school cheered on all the student athletes. Thus, we thank and commend Mr. Knaster, his administrative team, and all the Bombers Unified Sports advisors and coaches, particularly Mr. Ivy, as well as our amazing Bombers Cheer Team coaches, Sara Krainski and Nicole Lynch, and the public announcers Christopher Howard and Mary Fallon, for making this event so successful and memorable for the students who competed in it and their families. Go Bombers Unified!



While I was unable to attend, on June 8th, the cadets from SWMHS Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corp (AFJROTC) held their first annual awards ceremony. The program commenced with the Cadet Color Guard presenting the Colors during the National Anthem. Cadet Brianna Kovach, master of ceremonies for the evening and organizer of the event, welcomed the cadets, family and friends in attendance. She then described the criteria for each award and announced the Cadet(s) receiving awards. Some awards, like “Good Conduct and Academic Achievement” had multiple winners while others only recognized individual cadets. Different national organizations sponsored these prestigious singular awards to recognize significant contributions in areas such as leadership, citizenship, character, patriotism and other demonstrations of admirable qualities. These organizations include the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Retired Enlisted Association, the National Sojourners, and the Sons of the Union of the Civil War. They offer their awards annually to ROTC and JROTC units in order to recognize the significant accomplishments of high achieving cadets. In addition, last Saturday Colonel Jonathan Spare and Master Sargent (MSgt.) Marcus Knowlton took the cadets to McGuire Air Force Base for an orientation flight on a KC-135 Stratotanker, which is basically a flying gas station. During their flight, the cadets were actually able to observe an actual air-refueling mission. Finally, in other AFJROTC news, congratulations to Cadet Captain Connor McCabe and Cadet 1st Lieutenant Khess Vital, who were recently awarded scholarships to

attend the 2018 Les Morris Summer Flight Academy in Houston, Texas. We commend these and all our incredible AFJROTC cadets at SWMHS. Moreover, we commend and thank Colonel Spare and MSgt. Knowlton for all the hard work and dedication that they demonstrated this year to make our first year in the AFJROTC program so successful. You Rock Colonel and MSgt!





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If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education Business Meeting held on Tuesday, June 12th, here is what you missed. Prior to the meeting, Mr. James Craft, Vocal Music Teacher at SWMHS, and the school rock band, Traffic on Washington, entertained the Board and public with several songs. After that, Ms. Atiya Conry, Computer Science Teacher at SWMHS, presented a video about the recent “Hack the Ville” Hackathon. To see it, click [here](#). Next, Mr. Esposito, Mr. Callahan, and Mrs. Bloom assisted in recognizing and celebrating the spring GMC White Division Championship Boys Golf and Girls and Boys



Track and Field Teams. In addition, on behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Ciak commended, thanked, and awarded junior John Lewis on the outstanding manner in which he served as the 2017-18 SWMHS Student Council Representative to the Board of Education.



When he concluded, Mr. Ciak proudly announced that Mr. Lewis will serve in the same capacity for the 2018-19 school year. Finally, the Superintendent made a brief presentation on “pay for play” also known as a “pay to participate,” which is a public education policy or practice that requires the parents of students to pay extra fees to participate in athletics or other extracurricular activities. To see the presentation, click [here](#) and go to slide or page 13.

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 see all the agenda attachments, click on them ([A, Director of Special Projects Job Description](#)). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the Board approved a resolution to pay CME, the district engineering company of record, \$4,500 for the purpose of evaluating and making recommendations for improvements to correct drainage problems on and surrounding the baseball field located at SWMHS. Similarly, it appointed Management International as the Board Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Designated Environmental Consultant for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 and to pay them a maximum of \$3,750 plus the standard billing rates for additional services. Additionally, the BOE approved a contract with the Center for Responsive Schools, Inc. to provide training in the Responsive Classroom® character education program from July 23, 2018 through July 26, 2018 at cost of \$21,000, which will be paid with Title IIA funds. Furthermore, it accepted a generous donation of a digital graphics drawing monitor valued at \$694 from contributions received by DonorsChoose.org from various individuals and organizations. Lastly, the Board of Education approved the 2018-19 Lunch, Breakfast, and Cafeteria Prices and the substitute rates.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved co-curricular trips and activities. Likewise, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the BOE approved a revision to the job description of the Director of Special Projects. To see it, click [here](#). In addition, it approved the below noted new times for the Project Before Preschool Program.

	REGULAR	EARLY DISMISSAL	DELAYED OPENING
Full Day	9:20-3:00	9:20-1:00	10:50-3:00
A. M	9:20-11:50	9:20-10:50	10:50-12:30

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P.M	12:30-3:00	11:30-1:00	1:20-3:00
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Finally, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education it appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years. Likewise, the BOE approved the Middle School Credit Completion Summer School personnel, part-time secretaries to work after school session has concluded and during the summer, nurses and school counselors to work during the summer, and staff for the Camp XL, the district extended school year program. In addition, the Board hired new Directors of Food Services and Transportation for the 2018-19 school year. Finally, it approved the transfers of two administrators and four teachers for the 2018-19 school year.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, a community member articulated that there is a need for the school district to clean up and renovate Bomber Stadium at SWMHS. In addition, a parent commented about the amount of money that her family provides for various district fundraising initiatives annually. After that, another parent inquired about school security and expressed concerns about the fact that the school district is not hiring armed security guards. Finally, another parent inquired about high school commencement and middle school promotion security procedures, and provided the Board with commentary about a number of topics, including Unified Sports, Bomber Stadium, and our wonderful teachers.

During open discussion, Ms. Esposito reviewed what was discussed during the last BOE Finance and Infrastructure and BOE/District School Security Committee Meetings. Mrs. Rubio did the same with regard to the last BOE Student Achievement Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom proudly shared that the Sayreville Public Schools are fulfilling the 14 critical points for school security that she learned at a recent New Jersey School Boards Association workshop on school security. Mr. Ciak expressed his concern about the manner in which some parents of students in the district comment about staff. Likewise, he expressed confusion pertaining to how some members of the Board vote on personnel agenda items, particularly with regard to administration. Lastly, the BOE approved a motion to sponsor a student athlete from SWMHS in high gymnastics competitions next year.

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 will be on **Tuesday, June 26th**. If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, it will be posted in the evening on our website on Friday, June 22nd. In addition, a complete copy of the **June 12th** 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 **June 26, 2018**.



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This week our students continued to amaze us with their incredible accomplishments in and out of the classroom. We would like to congratulate and commend Joshua Verma, a 5th grade student from the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES) who recently competed in the National History Bee Championship in Atlanta, Georgia. After competing and winning at Samsel and then the New York Regional Competitions, he defeated most of the 630 students from across the nation that he competed against and qualified for the championship round with the top 100 students. Amazingly, we are so proud to inform you that he finished as the 56th best student historian in the United States. He also competed in the US Geography Olympiad and ranked very high in the nation in it too. In addition, On June 10th several 3rd grade Eisenhower Elementary School students from Ms. Schwartz's class participated in the iPlay America Science Fair. We are proud to announce to you that Lauren Jennings earned Third Place for her project on circuits, in which she created an alarm for her hair accessory box. Finally, the SUES *Happy Bags* project that we reported to you two weeks ago, in which led by 5th grader Edward Ott and the SUES Ambassadors, over 2,500 items for the homeless in Middlesex County were collected and donated, made the regional news. To see the article, click [here](#). We are so proud of you Joshua, Lauren, Eddie, and the SUES Ambassadors! Thank you for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner.



We would also like to commend Dr. Edward Aguiles, our Director of Human Resources, for his outstanding display of citizenship a couple of weeks ago when he assisted first responders in rescuing children from a bus that overturned on the New Jersey Turnpike in Elizabeth, NJ. To read more about this story, click [here](#). Bomber Nation salutes Dr. A for his incredible display of courage and caring.



As per the June Head of the Class Calendar, please note that on **Tuesday, June 19th** there will be a **Parent University workshop entitled "Summer Reading: What Parents Need to Know" in the SWMHS Cafeteria at 7 pm. To register for it, click [HERE](#)** In addition, please mark on your calendar that **students will be released early from school on Thursday, June 21st and Friday, June 22nd**. Furthermore, please remember that the **last day of school in the 2017-18 school year for students will be Friday, June 22nd**. Lastly, please note that on

July 16th we will perform the annual **student enrollment information update** for **ALL** students who will be entering **1st through 12th grade** during the **2018-19** school year. As in the past, parents will be required to update their enrollment information in Oncourse, our new student information system, by the end of the day on **Sunday, August 19th** or they will not be permitted to receive their child(ren)'s schedule or bus information when it is released in the parent portal and emailed on **Thursday, August 23rd**.

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](#). Lastly, if you or someone you know wants to **lease our facilities**, contact Deborah DeVico at deborah.devico@sayrevillek12.net.

Have a wonderful week.
Dr. Labbe

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