

SENECA FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
December 15, 2022 Board of Education Meeting  
Robert McKeveny Board/Training Room  
6:00 PM

Deborah Corsner, Anthony Ferrara Cara Lajewski, Denise Lorenzetti, Joseph McNamara, Michael Mirras,  
Joell Murney-Karsten

BOE Members Absent

Matthew Lando, Heather Zellers

Others Present

Dr. Michelle Reed. James Bruni, Jodie Verkey, Faith Lewis, Breana Mullen, Kevin Rhinehart, Kevin Korzeniewski, Amy Hibbard, Chief Stu Peenstra, Sgt. Michael Poole, Lt. Timothy Snyder, Investigator Chris Denny, Bob McKeveny Michael Ferrara- Town Supervisor, Deena Swenson, Ellie Wirth, Noah Markel, Bill Reigel, Jared Federman.

Joseph McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum of the Board of Education was present; the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Approval of Agenda

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the revised agenda as listed:  
Remove: 2023 Costa Rica Trip resolution;  
Remove: HUNT, Engineers, Architects, Surveyors Contract resolution;  
Add: Jada Buck Appointment-Bus Monitor  
Joell Murney-Karsten made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.  
Yes    7            No    0            Abstain    0            Motion carried

Approve or Amend  
Board of Education Minutes  
November 17, 2022

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education Minutes dated November 17, 2022.

Discussion: The District Clerk informed the Board that the arrival time of Board member Anthony Ferrara was added to the November 17, 2022 meeting minutes.  
Joell Murney-Karsten made the motion, seconded by Anthony Ferrara.  
Yes    7            No    0            Abstain    0            Motion carried

Treasurer's Reports

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the following Treasurer's Reports as listed.  
February 2022, July 2022, August 2022, September 2022 and October 2022  
Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.  
Yes    7            No    0            Abstain    0            Motion carried

Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report  
October 2022

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report for October 2022.  
Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.  
Yes    7            No    0            Abstain    0            Motion carried

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations  
Recognition  
Seneca Falls Police Chief Stu Peenstra

Chief Stu Peenstra, Seneca Falls Police Department was present. Robert McKeveny, former Superintendent, was also present to recognize Chief Peenstra and congratulate him on his retirement. Mr. McKeveny worked closely with Chief Peenstra and the police department. Mr. McKeveny lauded his passion for school safety. Chief Peenstra was instrumental in bringing the School Resource Officer program to the school district. Dr. Reed presented Chief Peenstra with a plaque. Chief Peenstra collaborated with the school district on the School Safety Plan. Chief Peenstra had all officers have access to on-site drills for each school building-which is not common for most school districts. Mr. McKeveny added that Chief Peenstra has always had the best interest of students, staff and the district in mind. Joseph McNamara stated that the Chief has done a remarkable job working with the school and the community. The Chief has provided quality services and attention to detail. On behalf of the Board of Education and school community, the Board President thanked Chief Peenstra.  
Dr. Reed presented Chief Peenstra with a plaque for all the work and collaboration he has done with the school district and wished him well in his retirement.

Presentation  
2023 Costa Rica Trip  
Deena Swenson

Deena Swenson was in attendance and shared a powerpoint regarding the 2023 Costa Rica Trip. Students, Ella Wirth and Rowan Markle were also present to share their experience on the Costa Rica trip last year.  
After many conversations with parents, students, the Athletic Directors, (past and present), and several colleagues, we decided to move the trip to another date and we settled on November 22-29, 2023.

- Fewer instructional days missed
- Beginning of warm and dry season in Costa Rica
- More student athletes able to participate at the beginning of the winter sports season.

December is the most expensive time to travel.

- The budget was originally \$2500, but prices have increased
- The current price is at just above \$2800 with 40 students participating.
- December would be more expensive.

February Break is historically been the time when the Costa Rica trip is scheduled.

- Great weather in February.
- Prices in February and November are similar, depending on availability of flights
- Very few instructional days missed (only 2 in the past).
- Approximately 90 students participate in winter sports and they are the students that are impacted by Sectionals for basketball, wrestling, and indoor track.
- Difficult decision for families to make.

Spring Break 2024 (March-April) the c trip would be competing with MA baseball trip.

- Approximately 160 student athletes participate in spring sports, affecting almost double the number of students.
- Prices are about 30% higher than November and February as many Costa Ricans travel for the Easter holiday.
- Far more students seem to travel during this time with their families.

June 2024, many students will have graduated and holding them accountable for their behavior becomes much more difficult.

- Many students do not want to be away right after graduation.
- Many families begin their summer vacations the week after graduation.
- The drinking age in Costa Rica is 18 and many students will be of age at this time.
- The weather is very unpredictable and there are threats of hurricanes and torrential rain on a weekly basis.
- Tours and activities often get cancelled at the last minute, leaving us with large amounts of unstructured time.
- Chaperones lose a week of their own vacation and go without compensation.

Insurance information;

- Prometour Peace of Mind Program Student Group Insurance Program covering group dates of travel Coverage includes:
- Trip Cancellation, Interruption and Delay
- Baggage & Personal Effects;
- Damage Loss & Delay Emergency Medical & Dental Expenses Emergency Evacuation/Repatriation
- 24 hour Accidental Death & Dismemberment
- Travel Assistance & Concierge
- The State of New York does not allow for Cancel for Any Reason travel insurance. For the last trip, participants had the highest level of travel insurance Prometour provides. Individuals are welcome to purchase their own travel insurance.
- Prometour is the Canadian travel company the district has been using for the past 10+ years.

Questions raised were: the time of the trip-during a holiday; number of instructional days missed; And BOCES students out for a week of instruction.

Michael Mirras suggested that a survey be sent out to parents and ask which date they preferred. Dr. Reed said that could be done. Dr. Reed will bring the results of the survey to the January 5, 2023 Board of Education Meeting.

#### Public Comment

The Seneca Falls Board of Education welcomes public comment. Speakers may comment on matters related to agenda items specifically or district matters generally. No speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than three (3) minutes. All speakers and observers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, defamatory statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated. In the unlikely event the meeting becomes unruly, the board will recess the meeting and return once order has been restored.

Persons addressing the Board of Education during public comment should not expect to engage in discussion with the Board. The Board will not permit any comments involving specific individual personnel or students.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be referred to the Superintendent. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2342, Agenda Preparation.

#### Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed reported on the following:

- Recognized Breana Mullen on attaining her PhD.
- Informed the Board that the contract with Hunt, Architects, Engineers & Surveyors has been removed from tonight's agenda. The districts legal counsel are still reviewing it.
- Experienced "It's a Wonderful Life" weekend for the first time. Dr. Reed enjoyed it very much and made some new community connections.

#### Committee Reports Policy Committee

Cara Lajewski reported that the committee had met on November 29, 2022. There are two policies on tonight's agenda for revision.

Policy-6741-Contracting for Professional Services-the committee clarified some language.  
Policy 9620-Child Abuse in an Educational Setting-has two changes. Exhibits have been added to the policy and additional wording was added to the

Information

Aimee Bennett -Leave of Absence (School Bus Driver)

Warrants

08/01/2022- 08/31/2022

Warrant #26(A)	\$ 662,244.93
Warrant #28(A)	\$ 24,233.66
Warrant #31(A)	\$ 19,855.97
Warrant #32(A)	\$ 489,073.75
Warrant #12(C)	\$ 15,847.60
Warrant #13(C)	\$ 4,133.59
Warrant #14(C)	\$ 7,559.56
Warrant #7 (F)	\$ 75,817.56
Warrant #8 (F)	\$ 12,375.00
Warrant #9 (F)	\$ 8,722.76
Warrant #5 (H)	\$ 1,832.85

Business Administrator Report

James Bruni reported on the following:

- Items that went to auction brought in about \$22,500 total.
- The Classroom Audit was received (Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>). That will be reviewed by the audit committee. It is due Jan. 10, 2023.
- The appointment for Dispatcher is on the agenda. It will be filled from within the district.

BOE President Report

Joseph McNamara discussed the 2023 NYSSBA Legislative and State Budget Preview that was held on Dec. 14. The Superintendent will share the link to the presentation in the Board memo.

BOE Member Comments

Cara Lajewski attended the Winter RSA Conference and reported that it was a well-rounded conference. Doug Jones (MA Social Studies teacher and SFEA President) presented at the conference and did a wonderful job.

Important Dates to Remember

December 15 & 16, 2022-Parent Teacher Conferences (Gr. K-5)  
December 23, 2022 through January 2, 2023-Winter Recess  
January 5, 2023-BOE training-SuperEval (5:15 pm)  
BOE Meeting (6:00 pm)  
January 9, 2023-Facilities Committee Meeting (4:00 pm)  
January 16, 2023-Martin Luther King Day-no school  
January 19, 2023-BOE Meeting/ECS Roundtable (cafeteria)  
February 10, 2023-Virtual Capital Conference  
February 15, 2023-Capital Conference and Lobby Day for 2023

Consent Agenda  
Retirements/Resignations  
SFEA  
None at this time.

SFSSA

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education does hereby accept the following resignation:

Name: Keara Filoso  
Civil Service Position: Bus Monitor  
Effective: 12/06/2022

Appointments  
Professional Appointments  
None at this time.

Civil Service Appointment

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following civil service position(s) (*All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared*).

Name: Aimee Bennett  
Civil Service Position: Dispatcher (Provisional Appointment)  
Effective: 12/16/2022  
Probationary 12/16/2022 through 12/15/2023  
Hours/day: 8.0  
Hourly rate: \$19.31

Name: Jada Buck  
Civil Service Position: Bus Monitor  
Effective: 12/16/2022  
Probationary 12/16/2022 through 12/15/2023

Hours/day: 3.5  
Hourly rate: \$14.54

Substitute Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following substitute position(s) (*All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared*).

Name: Michelle Lynn Bonano  
Civil Service Position: Long Term Substitute Teacher II (ENL)  
NYS Certification: Spanish (Gr. 7-12) Permanent Certification  
Childhood Education (Gr. 1-6) Professional Certification  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Robert Cline  
Civil Service Position: Long Term Substitute Teacher II (8<sup>th</sup> Gr. Math)  
NYS Certification: Math (Gr. 7-12) Permanent Certification  
Effective: To Be Determined  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teaching Assistant  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Alison Shaw  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teacher  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Kathleen Ferrara  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teacher  
Substitute Teaching Assistant  
Tutor  
Substitute School Monitor  
Substitute Sr. Typist  
Senior Typist  
Substitute Teacher Aide  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Domenic Bruni  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teacher  
Substitute Teaching Assistant  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Brian D. Edwards  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teacher  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Sydney Haust  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teacher  
Substitute Teaching Assistant  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Connor Swenson  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teacher  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Colleen McElduff  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teacher  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Name: Cassidy Adams  
Civil Service Position: Substitute Teacher Aide  
Effective: 12/16/2022

Increase in Hours

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education does hereby approve the following increase in hours.

Employee	Current Hours	New Hours
Sonya Jesmer, Bus Monitor	M-F 4.75 hrs./day	M-F 5.75 hrs./day

Probationary to Permanent

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education does hereby approve the following probationary to permanent appointment.

Employee	Position	Permanent Effective Date
Peter Eisenberg	School Bus Driver	12/17/2022

Nathan Wood	Building Maintenance Mechanic	01/03/2023
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CSE Minutes

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following CSE Minutes:

10/28/2022, 11/03/2022, 11/07/2022, 11/08/2022, 11/09/2022 (1), 11/09/2022 (2), 11/09/2022(3), 11/10/2022 (1), 11/10/2022 (2), 11/14/2022 (1), 11/14/2022 (2), 11/15/2022, 11/17/2022, 11/18/2022, 11/28/2022, 11/30/2022

Gifts and Donations

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following gifts or donations

Donor or Gift	Amount/Item	Account	To be used for:
Anonymous	\$1,000.00	C2705	To be applied to unpaid breakfast/ lunch accounts in District cafeterias.

Transportation Requests

None at this time

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed.

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Joell Murney-Karsten.

Anthony Ferrara abstained from this vote.

	Yes	No	Abstain
Deborah Corsner	X		
Anthony Ferrara			X
Cara Lajewski	X		
Matthew Lando	Absent		
Denise Lorenzetti	X		
Joseph McNamara	X		
Michael Mirras	X		
Joell Murney-Karsten	X		
Heather Zellers	Absent		

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 1 Motion carried

Old Business

None at this time

New Business

Surplus-Library Books

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to dispose of following as listed through sale, donation, disposal or auction according to Board Policy #6900.

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Policy-1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, the Board of Education approves the first reading of the following policies:

Policy-6741-Contracting for Professional Services

Policy 9620-Child Abuse in an Educational Setting

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Seneca Falls CSD Purchasing Manual

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the Seneca Falls CSD Purchasing Manual as presented.

Deborah Corsner made the motion, seconded by Anthony Ferrara.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Federal Funds Procedure Manual

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the Federal Funds Procedure Manual as presented.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Joell Murney-Karsten

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

2023-2024 Budget Workshop

Dr. Michelle Reed and James Bruni

Executive Session

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to move into Executive Session at 7:22 pm to discuss the following:

1. Matters that would jeopardize public safety if disclosed, and
2. The employment history, and promotion of particular persons.

Deborah Corsner made the motion, seconded by Anthony Ferrara.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Monica Kuney, District Clerk

The regular meeting resumed at 7:35 pm.

Mr. McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Seneca Falls Central School District and Northeast College of Health Sciences and to make the MOU a part of the 2022-2023 Seneca Falls CSD Confidential District Emergency Response Plan.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes    7            No    0            Abstain            0            Motion carried

Adjourn

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.

Yes    7            No    0            Abstain            0            Motion carried

Joseph McNamara, Board President