



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 23, 2023

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter.



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, January 17th, here is what you missed. Gianna Pesci from Sayreville War Memorial (SWMHS) and Morgan Koonce 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, as did Mrs. Bloom, who also shared a few district highlights. During the presentation portion of the meeting, the Board resumed publicly reviewing and discussing the 2023-24 School District Budget with the following budget presentations: Individual Schools and Athletics. To see their presentations, click [here](#). In addition, the 2022-23 Cycle 1 School Safety Data was presented to the Board. To see that presentation, 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 see all attachments, 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 a professional services agreement with the Spiezle Architectural Group, Inc., in which the Board will pay them \$48,450 for professional services related to the renovation of the stadium gateway at Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS); and approved to withdraw those funds from Capital Reserve. Likewise, it approved another professional services agreement the Spiezle Architectural Group, Inc., in which the Board will pay them \$35,750 for professional services related to parking lot additions at the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES); and approved to withdraw those funds from Capital Reserve. The Board also approved substitute teacher rate of pay increases for the 2022-2023 school year, effective January 1, 2023, and the new Bombers Beyond Cafe menu price list for 2022-2023 school year. In addition, the Board of Education approved Dr. Eric Milou to provide four professional development workshops to the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) and SWMHS mathematics teachers at total cost of \$7,400, which will be paid for through the Title IIA Grant; and New Jersey Teacher to Teacher to provide twenty full-day professional development workshops from January through June 2023 to K – 5 teachers at a total cost of \$30,000, which will also will be paid for through the Title IIA Grant. Lastly, the BOE approved the purchase of 70 Dell Optiplex computers with 80 video adapters purchased from CDW Government/CDW Direct LLC through the ESCNJ Cooperative Purchasing Pricing System Technology Supplies and Services ESCNJ/AEPA-22G in the amount of \$41,955.90.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the BOE approved the following new or revised curriculum guides: [Grade 11 Health](#) and [Grade 12 Health](#). To review each, click on them.

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



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In addition, the Board approved a new textbook to be used in the middle school health curriculum. Lastly, it approved a new Human Anatomy & Physiology Honors course for the 2023–2024 school year at SWMHS. The course is part of the Biomedical STEM Academy 2023-2024 school year.

Likewise, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved revisions to BOE [Policy](#) and [Regulation](#) 5530 Substance Abuse; and [Regulation 5600 Student Discipline/Code of Conduct](#) for a Second Reading and Adoption. Click on each to read them. It also approved revisions to the District Satellite Cafeteria Manager job description. To see it, click [here](#).

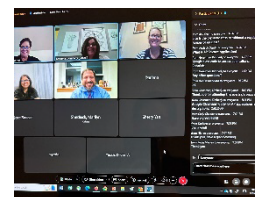
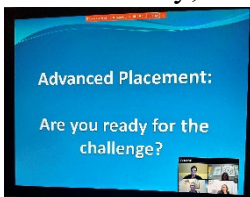
On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirements of Ilene Link, Paraprofessional at SMS; Lori Shouldis, Junior Bookkeeper for the Food Services Department; and Douglas Zink, Lead Custodian at the Cheesequake School, effective July 1, 2023. It also appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2022-23 school year. Likewise, the Board approved the transfer of certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2022-23 school year.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, a parent questioned the efficacy of the New Jersey Start Strong Assessment and expressed her concerns about social and emotional learning and student behavior in school, especially the high school and middle school.

During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Mrs. Pabon reviewed what was discussed during the last Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting, as did Mrs. Pieloch for the last Personnel Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association and Mr. Fernandez did the same with regard to the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club.

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday, February 7th at 6:30 pm in the SUES Board Room**. During this meeting, the Board will resume publicly reviewing and discussing the 2023-24 School District Budget with the following budget presentations: Curriculum and Instruction, Special Education, and Technology. The district will also present the 2022 Start Strong Assessment results. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **February 3rd**. A complete copy of the **January 17th Business 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 7, 2023**.

Last Thursday, the SWMHS Guidance Department hosted the annual virtual Advanced Placement (AP) Informational Session. Department Curriculum and Instruction Supervisors and Ms. Sicola, Director of Counseling Services, led a question and answer (Q&A) session, while SWMHS Advanced Placement (AP) teachers joined in live via their links to provide students and parents with an overview of the AP program, course offerings, curriculum, expectations, and required rigor. Approximately 150 students, parents, and guardians attended. The Supervisors' Q&A recording (<https://youtu.be/qVYsVm6-HZ4>), and the AP Google Classroom Link with the AP





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Applications, are posted on the Guidance Department website under High School Counseling or directly here: <https://www.sayrevillek12.net/district/departments/counseling/high-school-counseling>.

This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We commend and congratulate the following Sayreville student musicians who performed magnificently with the 2023 Central Jersey Music Educators Association (CJMEA) Honors Symphonic Band last Saturday: Sophia Zamouzakis, Alanna Knoell, Isaiah Dehbi, Arielle Mensah, Cadence Concar, and August Macholl. In all, this year's CJMEA Band was an 89-piece symphonic



band filling the SWMHS Auditorium stage from 22 New Jersey school districts. Student musicians attended an all-day workshop/rehearsal and performed magnificently after only one rehearsal. Thanks to our beloved Dr. Caruso, SWMHS has been sponsoring and hosting this event since 2013, in which conductors have been from Rutgers University, The College of New Jersey, Montclair State University, Rowan University, and the New Jersey Institute of Technology. This year's conductor, Barbara Santoro, has enjoyed a varied career in music performance as well as music education. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock! Bomber Nation salutes 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 had a ton of fun learning last week. In the Bombers Beyond 18-21-Year-Old Program, our students performed a “soft” opening of the Bombers Beyond Café located at 132 Main Street, so that they can



practice and prepare for the “Grand Opening” for the public on February 2nd. In Project Before, at the Cheesequake School, our preschool students had a blast reading and “propping” for their next creative play theme, which will be Health and Medical. At the Selover School,



preschoolers used magnifying glasses to observe ice melt. At Kidzland, our students had a blast participating in their new “Doctor’s Office” creative play center. At SMS, students who visited the media center participated in a raffle where the winner received a signed copy of BSC #13 from the “Awesome Balloon Creator”. They also had a fun and formative time discussing balloon creations, graphic novels, and art, as well as writing

thank you letters. Students from SMS and SWMHS also had a striking time bowling together at Majestic Lanes. Finally, at SUES, students and staff had a great time participating in the “Dynamic Duo” school spirit day.





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In athletics, we commend and congratulate the SWMHS Girls Indoor Track and Field Team, which won its 7th consecutive Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) White Division Championship last Saturday. Sophomore Molly Logan placed 5th in the 1600 Meter Race. The Boys Indoor Track and Field Team also performed



impressively in the GMCs, as Sophomore Will Lewis won the Pole Vault, and senior Amir Elkholy placed 2nd in the 800 Meter Race while running a personal best time. The SWMHS Wrestling Team improved its season record to 13-8 with match wins over Metuchen and Notre Dame High Schools (HS) last week.



Likewise, the SWMHS Boys Basketball Team defeated North Plainfield HS last week to earn its 3rd win of the season. Sam Omokeji scored 21 points and grabbed 7 rebounds, while Sam Jones chipped in 16 points and collected 11 rebounds. Finally,



alumni of the SWMHS Boys Basketball program had a blast participating in the annual Alumni Game, which this year honored and was played in the beloved memory of the late John Wojcik Senior. 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 [2022-23 School District Calendar](#), and the [January Activities Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on each, please remember that the 2nd Marking Period for students in **grades 6-12** will end on **January 30th** and the **Report Cards** for those students will be viewable in [Oncourse Connect](#) on, **February 6th**.

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