

P.O. Box 997 Sayreville, New Jersey 08871 Phone: 732-525-5200 Fax: 732-727-5769



Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent

#### Talk Sup Week 22 Review and Preview

February 13, 2023

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. Please remember that next Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, our schools will be **<u>closed</u>** in observance of Presidents' Day.



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, here is what you missed. Gianna Pesci from Sayreville War Memorial High School (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. Fernandez led the Board in a moment of silence and tribute to



deceased Borough Councilwoman Eunice Dwumfour. After that, Mr. Esposito expressed his opening remarks, as did Mrs. Bloom, who also facilitated another moment of silence and tribute for a staff member who recently passed away. 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: Curriculum & Instruction, Special Education, and Technology. To see each presentations, click on them. In addition, the district reviewed the 2022 Start Strong Assessment results. 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 accepted the donation of an interactive whiteboard depicting a basketball court valued at \$1,400 from Touchboards.com for the gymnasium at Wilson School. Likewise, the Board accepted a grant from Dupont to support Sayreville Schools by providing two teachers with registration fees of \$380 each, airfare, and hotel expenses to travel to the NSTA Science Teachers Convention on March 21, 2022, through March 25, 2022, in Atlanta, GA. In addition, the Board of Education approved the purchase of five 2024 IC 54 passenger buses with gasoline engines at a cost of \$158,140.40 each for a total of \$790,702.00; two ENDRA 29 passenger buses at the cost of \$98,282.40 each for a total of \$196,564.80; and one 2025 Collins 20+1 wheelchair passenger bus at a cost of \$116,467.20.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the BOE approved the following new or revised curriculum guides: Grades 9-12 Sports & Entertainment Marketing, Grade 5 Science, Grade 7 Musical Theatre, and Grade 6 Theatrical Arts. To review each, click on them. In addition, the Board approved a new Unified Music course for the 2023-2024 school year at the Sayreville Middle School. Likewise, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the 2024-25 School District Calendar. To see it, click here. Additionally, the Board approved the abolishment of the

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following board of education policies: P 1648.11 The Road Forward COVID-19 – Health and Safety, and P 1648.13 School Employee Vaccination Requirements.

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirements of Lori Pacansky, Technology Teacher at the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES); and Angela Kyriacou, Paraprofessional at SUES, 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 Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Mrs. Napolitano reviewed what was discussed during the last Governance Committee Meeting, as did Mr. Fernandez for the last Student Achievement 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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: Buildings and Grounds, Transportation, and Personnel. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on February 17<sup>th</sup>. A complete copy of the February 7<sup>th</sup> 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 21, 2023.



This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We congratulate and commend Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) students Jayda

Ronquillo (9th grade), Dylan Mackie (10th grade), Angelika Pena (11th grade), and Shaeel Jaffrey (12 grade), who were selected by the faculty to be the December Students of the Month.



Compliments of the "Where Are They Now" Committee at the high school, we commend SWMHS Class of 2014 graduate

Megan Aucone. After graduating from SWMHS, Megan attended Middlesex County College where she attained a culinary and pastry arts degree. She has worked for the House of Cupcakes, Confections of a Rock Star, was the main

baker at Whole Foods, and even worked for the Cake Boss. She has created cakes for musicians and famous artists. She also teaches baking and cake decorating courses. Most recently she opened her own cake business. Cinnabunbunn. Likewise, we commend SWMHS Class of 2011 graduate Chris Drabik. After graduating from TCNJ in 2015, Chris has made a career working in sports. Early on, he worked for the Somerset Patriots, an affiliate

of the New York Yankees, and the Fredericksburg Nationals, an affiliate of the Washington Nationals. He then took a job with the NBA in broadcasting



Where Are They Now

February 2023

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and live event production, meeting the likes of Michael Jordan and traveling to the United Arab Emerites to put on the first ever professional basketball game in Abu Dhabi. He will be working his second All Star Game this month. Finally, we thank all the very generous staff members in the district who donated money during a recent "Dollar for Denim" fundraiser for the National Alliance on Mental Illness, in which the District Culture and Climate Committee donated to them \$454. 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. At the high school, students in Ms. Moran's US History II class decorated butterflies that were matched with a victim of the Holocaust via the *IRemember* Wall through



Yad Vashem. After being matched and decorating their butterfly, the students then wrote a short summary to remember their victim of the Holocaust. In addition, students in Ms. Giorgianni's, Mr. Ganu's, and Mr. Gliddon's classes created eye-catching artwork. Likewise, students in Mr. Coleman's class studied angular momentum where they experienced how spinning speed increases as arms come closer to the body.



At SUES, I visited with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and spoke with them about the "Let the Children Lead" program where students will take on the roles of Board of Education members during the business meeting on Tuesday, March 28th. In



addition, select students enjoyed the Character Ed Café and other students, who were the highest sellers in a recent fundraiser, participated in an acrobat assembly that was hosted by the PTO and fundraising



company. Lastly, students dressed up like 100-year-old people to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school this year. At the middle school, students in Mr. Lampkin and Mrs. Reisner's class celebrated African American Heritage Month and shared their rich knowledge of African American history through an amazing display that they created. In addition, in preparation for Valentine's Day, Mr. Howard, Social Studies Teacher, read a story on love to Ms.

Ciampa's class and then created a fun craft together with them.



At the Arleth School, thanks to the wonderful Arleth PTO and some incredible athletes from the high school, students, staff, and families had a blast during the Valentine's Day Social. Likewise, thanks to the wonderful PTO at the Truman School, students at the Truman School had phenomenal time during their Valentine's Day Dance. At the Eisenhower School, staff,



students, and families had a ball collecting soup cans and predicting the winner of the upcoming Super

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Bowl during their annual "Souper Bowl," in which 162 soup cans were collected this year and the students and staff predicted that the Eagles would win the Super Bowl. Finally, in the Project Before preschool program, students at Kidzland discovered another way of learning letters, which was by stopping by their local eye doctor. In addition, students at the Selover School wore pajamas and read the story

*There Was a Cold Woman Who Swallowed Some Snow*, and then participated in fun winter science experiments and activities.

In athletics, the SWMHS Wrestling Team defeated North Brunswick High School last week to earn its 16<sup>th</sup> win of the senser. In addition, we congretulate Will Lewis from the SWMHS Boys Indeer

win of the season. In addition, we congratulate Will Lewis from the SWMHS Boys Indoor Track and Field Team for advancing to the Group Round of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Indoor Track and Field Championship. 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 <u>2022-23 School District Calendar</u>, which you can view by clicking on it, please remember that there will be a **BOE Business Meeting** on **Tuesday**, **February 21**<sup>st</sup>. Please also note that **our schools will be <u>closed</u>** on **Monday**, **February 20**<sup>th</sup> in observance of Presidents' Day.

On January 30, 2023, the district 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, 2023**) 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 (<u>www.sayrevillek12.net</u>) as "<u>Student Registration</u>". 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 <u>2023-2024 Project</u> <u>Before and Kindergarten</u> drop down menu: <u>New Student Registration Preschool and Kindergarten during the 2023-2024 school year.</u>

If you or someone you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click <u>here</u> 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 <u>here</u>.



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#### Have a great day and wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe