



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 31 Review and Preview

April 25, 2023



Good morning Sayreville! We wish all our Muslim staff, students, and their families a belated Eid Mubarak or Happy Eid! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter.



As they always do, our Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) students who were inducted into the 2023 Hispanic National Honor Society (HHS) last Friday evening, had a wonderful time. If you have never been to this very unique and special occasion, not only do our students partake in a ceremony rich in tradition, but they also have a ton of fun after it dancing on stage and in the cafeteria to the uplifting and cultural tunes played by an authentic mariachi band. We congratulate all the students who were inducted and thank them for a very entertaining evening.



Likewise, we commend and thank Mr. Hugo Alcolea, Spanish Teacher and HHS Advisor, along with all our high school Spanish Teachers who devoted their time to once again make this very special activity so memorable for all who attended, including me.



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 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. Esposito expressed his opening remarks, as did Mrs. Bloom, who also shared some district highlights. During the presentation portion of the meeting, Ms. Sicola, the Director of School Counseling Services, provided a presentation on the college and career planning services that we provide our students with, particularly in the middle school and high school. To view her presentation, click [here](#).

The Board then held a Second Reading and public hearing on a resolution authorizing the district to refund all or a portion of the outstanding callable Refunding School Bonds, Series 2013, of the School District issued in the original principal amount of \$28,725,000 and dated February 21, 2013. After that, it 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

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portion of the agenda, the BOE approved a resolution authorizing the law firm of McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC, Roseland, New Jersey to provide specialized legal services necessary in connection with the capital program and the authorization and the issuance of bond obligations of the Board. Likewise, the Board approved a resolution authorizing the sale of all or a portion of the Outstanding Callable Refunding School Bonds, in one or more series and in an amount not to exceed \$19,200,000. It also approved bid specifications for Student Transportation Services for the 2023- 2024 school year and authorization of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to advertise for bid for Student Transportation Services for the 2023-2024 school year. In addition, the Board of Education approved a resolution authorizing the Spiegle Architectural Group Inc. to submit to the Department of Education on behalf of the district the Transportation Complex construction project for review and Department approval as an “other capital project” with no state funding and for amendment of the Long-Range Facilities Plan to be consistent with the project requirements. Furthermore, the BOE approved a contract with Direct Flooring for replacement flooring in the lower level at Project Before at Selover School in the amount of \$71,404.36. Finally, the Board of Education awarded a new three-year contract beginning July 1, 2023 with a termination date of June 30, 2026 to Lightpath for Internet services, and approved the purchase of student Chromebooks, staff lap tops, docking stations and other related accessories from CDW Government/CDE Direct LLC through ESCNJ/APEA-22G in the total amount of \$552,916.00 using ESSER II funding.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the BOE approved the long-term suspensions of a student, as well as a Yoga Club at SWMHS, with Angela DiPaulo as the advisor. Likewise, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved a Memorandum of Agreement between the Sayreville Administrators Association and the Sayreville Board of Education spanning the 2023-2024 through 2027-2028 school years and authorized the Superintendent and Business Administrator to finalize and execute the 2023-2028 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Sayreville Administrator Association and the Sayreville Board of Education. It also approved a Paraprofessional Bus Duty Extra Time Compensation Sidebar Agreement with the Sayreville Education Association. In addition, the Board approved Mrs. Napolitano to serve on the Representative Assembly of the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey from June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024. Lastly, the BOE approved the revised 2022-23 School District Calendar, which essentially eliminates the three additional days of instruction built into it in anticipation of school closures due to hazardous weather and therefore ends the school year for students on June 20th and for 10-month faculty on June 21st. To take a look at it, click [here](#).

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirements of Christopher Beagan, Physical Education Teacher at SWMHS, and Barbara DeSantis, District Technology Integration Trainer, 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 staff for the 2022-23 school year. In addition, the BOE appointed faculty to perform summer IEP work. Finally, the Board appointed advisors and their stipends for the 2023-24 school year.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, a parent and several high school students from the Sayreville War Memorial High School Theatre Society expressed their concerns about the program and

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some of the deficiencies that adversely impacted the spring musical. The parent also expressed the need for a parent group to assist in supporting the program financially. During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Ms. 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 shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association, as did Mr. Fernandez regarding the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club.

The next meeting will take place at **7:30 pm** on **Tuesday, May 2nd** in the **SUES Board Room**. During this meeting, the district will present the 2023-24 School District Budget and hold the required public hearing before voting on it. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on Friday, April 28th. A complete copy of the **April 18th 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 **May 2, 2023**.

This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We begin by congratulating and commending Jayden Prestholdt, who was



recently selected by the Sabert Corporation to receive their four-year scholarship in which Jayden will receive \$5,000 for tuition each of her four years in college. We also congratulate SWMHS student athletes Janai Negroni and Wade Guerra who were recently honored because they were selected to be the Sayreville 2022-23 Greater Middlesex Conference Sportsmanship Award winners. In addition, we commend Tyrrell Ragland for the amazing carpentry skills that he demonstrated in making a

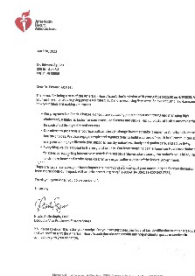


Woodshop 2 project. Furthermore, we commend and thank the Sayreville Police



Benevolent Association for their very generous donation of \$500 for our Bombers Beyond Café. Likewise, we thank and commend our wonderful staff who in conjunction with the district Culture and Climate Committee raised and donated \$415 to the American Heart Association. Finally, we commend district Physical Therapist Beth DeMaio who joined 200 other people in

plunging into the cold Atlantic Ocean waters of the Jersey Shore to help raise over \$75,000 for three different Autism organizations. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!





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Thanks to our magnificent teachers and instructional staff, our students had a ton of fun learning last week. At the high school, Peer Leadership coordinated and facilitated a blood drive that was well-attended by both students and



staff. Students in Ms. Ferraro's and Ms. Amato's math classes sliced their way through a factoring review using "building a thinking classroom" techniques. Likewise, students in Ms. Donnelly's class also participated in a unique and formative lesson on "building a thinking classroom" where her "thin slicing" lesson on circles was mind-blowing and a big hit with her students. At the middle school, students in Ms. Purcell's math class worked on quadratic equations, where they used square roots and compared them to



factoring with thin slicing too. In addition, pediatric intensive care unit

Registered Nurse Danielle Schiavone visited to share information about healthcare careers. Likewise, Bill Kerwood, an environmentalist turned magician, shared his journey



on how he blended his passion and profession.



At the Samsel Upper Elementary School, 123 members of the Middle School band and chorus visited to perform for students during their recess with the goal of encouraging more students to sign up for



these activities, especially next year's 6th graders. Staff, students, and their families also had a blast during



ASI Family Night. At the Arleth School, the chorus, led by Mr. Zorner, performed at the Sayreville Senior Center. At the Truman School, 1st and 2nd grade students celebrated Earth Day by designing projects and apparel from recycled goods. The 2nd grade students even put on a fashion parade for their peers. Likewise, In Project Before, students in Ms. Mihaela's class at the Selover School created compost and learned what happens to plastic when it is thrown in the trash rather than being



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fun preparing their garden and planting some vegetables. They also went on a nature walk, read a story outside, and got their hands dirty in the garden. Prior to that, a guest reader visited students right after delivering the mail. After he finished reading to them, they wrote letters to their friends, added a stamp, and gave them to their guest to mail.

recycled, as well as the difference in food waste when it is composted in soil with and without worms. In addition, students at Garden Friends had so much



In athletics, the SWMHS Baseball Team defeated Perth Amboy and Colonia High Schools (HS) last week to increase their record on the season to 8-3. They scored 15 runs in both games. The SWMHS Boys Golf Team also advanced to a season record of 7-4 with three consecutive match wins over Calvary Christian, St. Tomas Aquinas, and New Brunswick High Schools last week. The SWMHS Softball Team beat Perth Amboy HS last week to improve its record to 5-3.



Additionally, both the SWMHS Girls and Boys Lacrosse Teams won consecutive matches last week over John P. Stevens and Edison High Schools, as well as Union Catholic and North Brunswick High Schools respectively, to improve their records to 4-3 on the season. Furthermore, the SWMHS Boys Track and Field Team defeated John P. Stevens HS last week to improve its record to 2-0. Finally, the SWMHS and SMS Competition Cheer Teams celebrated their championship seasons last week during their JERZday Banquet. 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](#).



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As per the [2022-23 School District Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on it, there will be **BOE Business Meetings** on **May 2nd** and **May 16th**. Please also remember that we will **dismiss students early on Monday, May 15th** so that our staff can participate in professional development. Likewise, please note that our schools will be **closed** on **Monday, May 29th** in observance of Memorial Day. Finally, please remember that **4th Marking Period Progress Reports** for students in grades **6-12** will be issued on **May 17th**.

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 (www.sayrevillek12.net) as "[Student Registration](#)". 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 [2023-2024 Project Before and Kindergarten](#) drop down menu: [New Student Registration Preschool and Kindergarten](#) or [Returning Student Enrollment Update for students entering grades PreK and Kindergarten during the 2023-2024 school year](#).

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